



Report 09.716
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Committee Catchment Management
Author David Cameron, Manager, Land Management

Wairarapa Hill Country Advisory Committee - meeting update

1. Purpose

To provide a summary of the Wairarapa Hill Country Advisory Committee meeting held on 5 October 2009.

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Background

The Wairarapa Hill Country Advisory Committee (WHCAC) met on 5 October 2009 to consider matters relating to the Wairarapa Landscape Evaluation project, an introduction to the Wairarapa Moan project, a presentation on the development of the Natural Resource Management Plan and updates on the National Pest Management Strategy.

Minutes from the meetings are attached.

4. Comment

Key outcomes from the 5 October meeting were:

- Scott Ihaka, Policy Advisor, Policy Implementation presented an outline of the Wairarapa landscape Evaluation project. The framework for the project was to identify outstanding natural features and amenity landscapes under Section 6 and 7 of the RMA. Scott made it clear that it was not intended to prevent change but to ensure any change is appropriate to the values identified in the process.

Members were invited to present ideas on the engagement process with particular reference as to who should be consulted and how this consultation should be managed. Details of comments are contained in the minutes.

- Murray Waititi, Manager Parks gave a brief history of the Wairarapa Moana project from its inception more than ten years ago. Members were particularly interested in the goals and vision for the project and saw a fully functional regional ecological park as a huge asset for the region, one that would face a number of significant challenges in the future.
- Cr Buchanan outlined the process for the review and development of the new regional Natural Resource Management Plan. Members were keenly interested in the consultation process and indicated their willingness to support any engagement with stakeholders in the Wairarapa hill country.
- Wayne O'Donnell reported that a review of the National Pest Management Strategy for Bovine Tb **was** gazetted on 1 October 2009. There are implications in the strategy around regional funding as Greater Wellington only has provision for funding to the end of 2010/11. Future relationships with AHB and funding arrangements will be a key part of any future strategy.

Members were keen to view a draft of Greater Wellington's submission and make comments on that document rather than preparing their own submission.

5. Communication

Communication issues noted were;

- The most recent publication of Our Region had a feature on Land Management, highlighting the benefits of the regional programmes.
- WRECI was now underway and the opportunity should be taken to provide local publicity.
- Preparation of a Communications Plan for the Landscape Evaluation Project.

6. Recommendations

That the Committee:

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

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

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Manager, Land Management

Wayne O'Donnell
Divisional Manager, Catchment Management

Attachment 1 – WHCAC Minutes 5 October 2009