

## **Biosecurity Manager's report**

### **For period ending 3 March 2006**

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#### **1. Pest Plants**

##### **1.1 RPMS Review**

The current Strategy is due for review prior to September 2007. The review process has begun with staff meetings being held to discuss eradication and containment category pests. All staff are participating to ensure maximum understanding and agreement on any changes that may be proposed during the review process.

Staff are working towards the production of a public discussion document by the end of July 2006.

Meetings have also been held with Horizons Regional Council to discuss their Pest Plant Strategy review. Particular attention is being given to pest types and proposed rules. The aim is to minimise potential conflicts on the regional boundary.

##### **1.2 Vigilance Inspections**

Most vigilance inspections have now been completed. The main species located during this exercise have been monkey apple and mile-a-minute.

Staff are currently researching material to determine the status of GW's vigilance species elsewhere in New Zealand, whether suitable controls are available, and what their true pest potential is likely to be in this region. This will allow staff to make more informed decisions during the Strategy review.

##### **1.3 Eradication species**

Most of the control work for these species has gone out to contract, with the exception of isolated infestations which are being controlled by staff, ie Saffron thistle, Bathurst bur or Nodding thistle in the western zone. The initial phase of contractor control has now been completed. A further maintenance phase has been incorporated into the contracts for later in the financial year.

With the introduction of survey work the number of eradication and containment infestation sites has increased to a point where it is no longer cost effective for staff to undertake the work themselves.

Staff have recently been focussing on Eelgrass control in Kapiti and Nodding thistle inspections in the Wairarapa.

#### **1.4 Somes / Matui Island**

Work on the large Perennial nettle infestation was due to start in December 2005, but due to the removal of asbestos roofing material from buildings on the island, access was denied until this task was completed. Work on the Perennial nettle was eventually completed on 27<sup>th</sup> January, involving five GW and two DoC officers.

#### **1.5 Survey work**

During this period several new sites of Woolly nightshade, Blue passionflower, Eelgrass, Moth plant, Sweet pea shrub and Hornwort have been located.

A survey was initiated at Mt Bruce to determine the extent of Climbing spindleberry. One sizeable infestation had been located previously but a further was located adjacent to the river. As there has been difficulty with trying to detect the plant among other species it has been decided to postpone further survey work until the leaves yellow off in the autumn.

#### **1.6 Vector Electricity Network**

Concerns were recently expressed to Vector by ARC and GW regarding their brochure "Your guide to choosing suitable trees for planting near power lines". The brochure contained National Pest Plant Accord and RPMS species. The brochure has subsequently been withdrawn. About 5000 copies were distributed to customers throughout Wellington and Auckland. Vector has now been in contact to seek advice on alternatives for planting and a new list has been developed.

#### **1.7 Key Native Ecosystems**

##### ***Tauherenikau***

Further work has been undertaken at Tauherenikau for the control of Wandering jew and a variety of climbers. The Wandering jew contracts were to follow-up on work previously undertaken. Some areas had to have considerable work as the initial control was of such a poor standard.

Three information billboards were erected at the racecourse entrance and around the bush prior to year end to highlight stakeholder plans for the area.

A number of the treated sycamore trees have reached the stage where they may cause a hazard to the public. Warning signs have been erected to make people aware of the situation.

##### ***Porirua Scenic Reserve***

Initial control has been undertaken on a variety of species in the reserve. The cost of this work has been shared by PCC and GW under our Memorandum of Understanding agreement. DoC has agreed to pay for work on their small parcel of land bordering the reserve.

## 1.8 Aquatics

### *Didymo*

Large numbers of pamphlets have been distributed to various boat shops, canoe clubs, pet shops and information centres around the region.

### *Signage*

Boneseed awareness signs have been erected at all Wairarapa coastal settlements. Aquatic signage has been erected at various points throughout the region.

## 1.9 Endothall Registration

Submissions for the Endothall resource consent application closed in December with 29 submissions being received. Of these five were opposed. A pre hearing meeting was held in Upper Hutt on 7<sup>th</sup> February. Only three submitters attended. Consent staff are currently working with the submitters and considering possible conditions that may be agreeable to all parties.

## 2. Bovine Tb

### 2.1 2004/05 Programme

The following operations from the 2004/05 programme remain uncompleted as at 22 February 2006.

Operation	Strata	Area	Current Progress	Operator
Featherston	HR 1	412	Rework underway	BioWorks
South East Wairarapa – Stage 2	HR 1	1,114	Monitoring underway	BioWorks

A trend monitor to confirm possum population levels is still to be completed within the Mangaroa-Kaitoke operation (aerial block). The monitor has recently been let. Due to the rugged terrain and difficult access, monitoring contractors are not particularly interested in undertaking this monitor. Unacceptable high tender prices were rejected twice before successfully negotiating with a contractor.

## 2.2 2005/06 Programme Reduction

The Animal Health Board (AHB) recently requested GW to review the remaining 2005/06 programme and defer some operations to the 2006/07 year. This is due to an over committed programme approved by the AHB. Please refer to Report 06.41.

In order to comply with this request the following changes have been made:

- Deferred control of some strata within the following operations:
  - Te Wharau 6,593 ha
  - Tinui 3,288 ha
- Extended the completion date of the following operations to the 2006/07 year:
  - Taueru-Maungaraki 18,170 ha
  - Whangaehu-Mauriceville 7,929 ha

The deferred costs above (approximately \$339,500) are currently still included within 2005/06 GW budgets for tracking.

- In addition to the above, AHB has since requested that GW defer a further \$100,000 worth of work for payment to be made in the 2006/07 year. As all tenders have now been let for the year we are in discussions with BioWorks to ascertain if they have any operations which can be deferred. This will also affect Interim Completion dates for a number of operations. Discussions will also be required with monitoring contractors to determine whether adjustments can be made to their contracts.

## 2.3 2005/06 Programme

(1) The 2005/06 programme included:

- 420,860 ha possum control
- 56,114 ha of ferret and possum surveys
- 75,135 ha of pig surveys

Pig surveys will be implemented over a wide area, samples will be provided by BioWorks, preferred suppliers (hunters) and occupiers.

(2) The following table summarises the areas let to date for the 2005/06 year:

	<b>Possum (ha)</b>	<b>Ferret (ha)</b>	<b>Survey (ha)</b>	<b>Total</b>
GWRC BioWorks (tender)	98,088	0	10,319	108,407
GWRC BioWorks (preferred supply)	119,243	0	22,812	142,055
Target Pest Control	59,619	0	0	59,619
Professional Guiding	66,084	0	17,624	83,708

J McCaslin	3,346	0	5,389	8,735
To Determine *	21,717	0	0	21,717
Carry Forward	9,881	0	0	9,881
Remove Control	42,882	0	0	42,882
<b>Totals</b>	<b>420,860</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>56,144</b>	<b>477,004</b>

\* Predominantly SE Wairarapa Stage 3 aerial

- (3) The following table details areas of the 2005/06 programme which have been completed. These areas have been assessed by performance monitor or audit of feral survey. It is also noted that there are currently many areas receiving control which are not yet ready to be monitored or assessed by audit.

	<b>Possum (ha)</b>	<b>Ferret (ha)</b>	<b>Survey (ha)</b>	<b>Total</b>
GWRC BioWorks (tender)	33,778	0	5,431	39,209
GWRC BioWorks (preferred supply)	22,417	0	0	22,417
Target Pest Control	26,962	0	0	26,962
Professional Guiding	23,322	0	0	23,322
J McCaslin	2,486	0	4,529	7,015
Carry Forward	9,881	0	0	9,881
Remove Control	42,882	0	0	42,882
<b>Totals</b>	<b>161,728</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,960</b>	<b>171,688</b>

## 2.4 Issues

### South East Wairarapa – Stage 3 (33,180 ha)

Approximately 11,463 ha of aerial and ground control has been let to BioWorks and should be completed by March 2006.

Approximately 21,717 ha is still to be let, this includes the Aorangi Forest Park.

AHB has requested that this operation be completed by 30 June 2006. This will be very difficult due to the amount of administration (including DoC, resource consent, Medical Officer of Health approvals) required beforehand; the arranging of an input contract with a contractor able to apply carrot bait with deer repellent added; sourcing 1080 carrot baits (approx 200 tonne), and completing the aerial application. The co-operation of adjacent landowners in untreated areas will also be critical.

### 3. Pest Animals

#### 3.1 KNE and Territorial Authority Reserves:

##### *Predator Control*

This work is progressing satisfactorily. The focus is currently on consolidating the maintenance programme over the 81 sites. The works are undertaken by a mix of external contractors, individual service providers, volunteers and Pest Animals Section staff. Some areas, such as Ara Harakeke (Taupo Swamp - PCC), Hongoeka Bay (PCC), Spicer Block (WCC), Long Gully (Nature Heritage Trust – WCC), Western Hills (HCC) and the Flux Covenants, have been deferred because of funding constraints. Operational costs have increased markedly over the past 18 months (e.g. labour, signage, HASNO risk management) and it is timely to reconsider priorities and reschedule some operations pending available funding.

During November and December last year all of the main reserves within the inner and outer Wellington City Town Belt were serviced. This is done on a strict three-monthly basis with most of the works contracted to GW's BioWorks.

The Hutt Escarpment operation between the Ngauranga Gorge and Korokoro has also been serviced recently. This is difficult terrain which held very high possum densities.

The Horokiwi/Granada North operation has had the service line preparation completed and baiting will commence during February. This operation adjoins the Hutt Escarpment on the northern side.

All of the sites within Kapiti District, Porirua City, Hutt City, Upper Hutt City and the Wairarapa are on schedule but the management of the schedule has been taxing at times during the establishment and increasing reliance on prescriptive service contracts.

A contract is now available for tender for the Wainuiomata West site for which Sir Roy McKenzie has made a significant financial contribution. The establishment and first 'knockdown' phase will be completed by June. This area is adjacent to and complements the East Harbour Regional Park predator control operations.

The Miramar Peninsula has had permanent 'have you seen a possum' signs installed at key entry points. There have been no confirmed sightings of a possum for over six months. All of the bait stations in the larger natural cover areas (approximately 400ha) are currently being replenished. This is to target any resident possums and also to reduce rat numbers which are a threat to tui and other native birds which are now living and breeding on the peninsula since the reduced threat of predation.

A recent QEII covenant has been established for the Solway Showground Bush in Masterton. An initial predator control programme for this site has been funded through the GW Biodiversity Condition Fund with ongoing maintenance funded under the Biosecurity Pest

Animals programme. The initial pest plant control is funded through the Lotteries Commission.

### ***GW Parks and Forests Predator Control***

The Pest Animals Section advises and undertakes or arranges predator control for Parks and Forests for forest health purposes. Works are currently being undertaken at Speedy's Reserve, Korokoro Valley (Belmont Regional Park), Whitireia Park, Wainuiomata Mainland Island and East Harbour Regional Park. The work generally entails replenishing bait stations, trapping and arranging for the establishment or clearing of service lines.

Possum carcasses were collected in early November from the Wainuiomata/Orongorongo Catchments and Akatarawa/Kaitoke West aerial sites and assayed for 1080 content by the Landcare Research laboratory in Christchurch. The baits were no longer toxic but carcasses still posed a minimal risk to dogs. The aerial operations were carried out last August.

## **3.2 Darwin's Ants**

Darwin's ants (*Doleromyrma darwiniana*) have been found at Plimmerton. This species has not previously been officially recorded in the Wellington region although it is likely to have been present for some time. Simon O'Connor, Senior Adviser, Invasive Ant Programme, Biosecurity NZ, has arranged to do a site visit and further reconnaissance to gauge if the species is more widely spread. A GW Biosecurity staff member has been seconded to assist with the survey.

Apart from some spreading northward in the Auckland area, this species still tends to remain associated very closely with towns, cities or ports, strongly suggesting separate port invasions in some cases. Darwin's ants have been recorded in Whangarei, Mount Maunganui, Gisborne, Napier, Blenheim, Nelson and Lyttelton. The ants were first recorded as nesting in NZ at Penrose, Auckland in 1959.

Darwin's ants are similar in appearance to Argentine ants and will occasionally enter houses in large numbers foraging for sweet foods. They are known to attain large densities in urban gardens becoming a nuisance and may displace other invertebrates.

Darwin's ants are not included in the GW Regional Pest Management Strategy. Any management issues will need to be considered following the outcome of the survey and advice from Biosecurity NZ.

## **3.3 Best Practice National Guidelines for Rabbits and Rooks**

Biosecurity staff will be involved in working groups to develop updated best practice control guidelines for rabbits and rooks. Diederik Meenken, a former GW Biosecurity Department team leader has been commissioned by the National Possum Control Agencies (on behalf of most regional and unitary authorities) to generate the documents. The documents will integrate monitoring, control and toxin use aspects and provide best practice guidance rather than being highly prescriptive.

The target audience is predominantly at the field operative level with a simple style focussing on key field methodologies and ensuring that regulatory requirements are clear. This structure will assist pest management agencies develop appropriate contract standards and give contractors clear, detailed and relevant guidance on the practical and legislative aspects of getting the job done. The first drafts are now available.

### **3.4 Fostering of a Cat Colony**

A cat colony is being fostered on the outskirts of Chartwell (WCC) immediately adjacent to the Otari Native Botanic Garden (Otari-Wiltons Bush) which is a priority KNE. A large part of the area is Department of Conservation tenure but administered by Wellington City Council.

Cats in colonies in such an area pose a real threat to native wildlife and this situation can not be tolerated. A similar colony fostered by the same person was disestablished eighteen months ago in nearby Crofton Downs. This colony was a threat to the Huntleigh Park Key Native Ecosystem. The Biosecurity Department worked together with local residents, Wellington SPCA, WCC and Cats Protection League to resolve this problem. Over 50 cats were assessed by the SPCA for re-homing but unfortunately most had to be euthanized because they were too wild or had health problems.

A similar proposal is intended for the Chartwell colony but will incorporate DoC as a key interested party. More stringent measures have been commenced to dissuade the person from fostering this colony. Whilst the person is providing water, food and rudimentary shelter it is doubtful that a vaccination and parasite programme, provision of veterinary treatment, a de-sexing programme and a long-term management strategy is being provided as required by the Code of Welfare for Cats, 2005.

**Wayne O'Donnell**  
Manager, Biosecurity



## **Land & River Operations Manager's Report**

### **For period ending 3 March 2006**

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#### **1. River Management**

##### **1.1 River Works**

Flood damage repairs on the Waipoua River just upstream of Masterton (March 2005) have been completed. These works required additional funds to be obtained from the affected parties hence the delay. The river has been re aligned in two sections and three sections of stopbank have either been reinstated or moved back from the river.

The Mahaki culvert in the Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme has been upgraded by extending the box culvert inland and modifying the flood gate. The stopbank in this area was upgraded in 2000. A leak through the stopbank occurred in the floods of 2002. A peer review of these works recommended the extension of the culvert. Rip rap has also been placed at the Butcher's property.

Spraying of willow regrowth on the Whangaehu and the Taueru rivers is almost complete.

#### **2. Conservation Forestry**

##### **2.1 Tauanui**

New roading has now been formed, culverted and metalled in preparation for next winter's harvesting. Local shattered rock from the formation of two landings has been spread as base course and a layer of old slip debris has been spread as a running course. The new formation has been graded and will now be allowed to settle for several months.

Two major landings have been constructed for harvesting the timber in the area serviced by the new road and a small landing at the end of the formation for the next section of roadlining. Landings are currently being bunded and sedimentation ponds are being installed.

Maintenance metalling on the balance of the access road will complete the programme.

##### **2.2 Works Unit**

The works unit have been busy supervising four contract silviculture crews working through the Land Management silviculture programme and in the second rotation at Hiwinui. Silviculture work is slow at the moment due to staff changes within the Land Management Section.

Inspections to determine river clearing works in the Whareama and Uriti along with inspections for the Awhea Scheme have been completed.

### **3. Land Management**

#### **3.1 Akura Nursery and Conservation Centre**

There has been a high level of activity in the last quarter at the Centre. The buildings have been repainted, resulting in a very smart appearance to the facility. The irrigator has been operating since Christmas, concentrating on new plantings and blocks that contain one year old poles. A very even growth pattern is emerging and with the recent prolonged spell of fine weather excellent tree heights are evident. The natural rainfall over the last two months has tallied 51mm in January and 52mm in February highlighting the importance of the irrigation system.

A new spray rig was commissioned before Christmas to control the various fungal rusts that attack poplars and willows through their growing season. The very good growth rates can also be attributed to the spraying programme, and the additional benefit of foliar feeding of nitrogen which is applied at the same time as the rust spray.

The stopbank along the Waipoua River which was removed in the floods of February 2004 has been reinstated on a new alignment. The funding was shared between Akura and the Waipoua River Scheme.

#### **3.2 Farm Environment Awards**

The first round of judging the 17 entrants was completed by the end of January. During February that list was shortened to six properties. These properties will be judged again to determine category winners and the Supreme winner. This round of judging will be completed by mid-March.

The Awards ceremony is to be held on Thursday 13 April 2006.

#### **3.3 Catchment Management Schemes**

Two of the Schemes, Awhea and Mataikona Whakataki are currently undergoing a rating classification review. In light of a change in focus from catchment works to road protection works it has been necessary to review the rating classifications of both Schemes. Discussions are currently being held with affected parties and Advisory Committees.

The Kaiwhata Catchment Scheme Advisory Committee has voted to increase its community rate by 50%. The catchment suffered considerable damage in the March 2005 floods and has taken the action to restore storm damage reserves to post flood levels. The rates will be reviewed on an annual basis until the next Scheme review in 2010.

The three other Schemes are currently completing their annual works programme, and as each Scheme comes up for review the opportunity will be taken to assess the ongoing validity of the existing rating classification.

### **3.4 Integrated Catchment Management**

Staff continue to participate in a group of interested parties facilitated by Go Wairarapa. This group includes Professor Ross Tillman from the Natural Resources Dept at Massey University.

Early in December Greater Wellington funded a series of presentations by Gretchen Robertson. Gretchen is the facilitator of an integrated catchment project in the Taieri River Catchment in Otago. She is also a regional councillor. Gretchen made presentations to the Go Wairarapa group, Sustainable Wairarapa, and the Papawai Care Group. She highlighted how important the community was in identifying issues to be considered.

At a recent meeting of the Go Wairarapa group Professor Ross Tillman offered to fund a post graduate student to develop an issues document in GIS on the Ruamahanga River valley. He has requested support from Greater Wellington and this is currently being discussed.

There is also the possibility that Massey University could be involved in the preliminary investigations of the Regional Park based at Lake Wairarapa. Funding has been earmarked in the LTCCP to complete investigations. Tentative discussions have occurred between Phillipa Crisp (Ecologist, Parks & Reserves) and Massey University

## **4. Technical Services**

### **4.1 Technical Services Activities**

Annual river bed monitoring surveys have been completed for most major Wairarapa rivers around road bridges. Contact will be made with the relevant roading authorities regarding the Gladstone and Waihenga bridges as deeper than normal degrades around bridge piers has been measured in this latest survey.

A start has been made on Huangarua River 5 year resurvey from Ruamahanga River to Hikawera Bridge.

Flood mapping of the Kopuaranga River 2004 flood event from the Ruamahanga River to Hastwell has continued and is near completion following meetings with landowners along the river. The flood extents have been mapped to GIS coverage.

Three Troll water level recorders and housings have been placed on the Kopuaranga River to collect travel time and height data from the next flood.

**Ian Gunn**

Land & River Operations Manager

## Acting Planning and Resources Manager's Report

### For period ending 3 March 2006

#### 1. Resource Investigations

##### 1.1 Rainfall

In November rainfall was well below average from the eastern hills to the Tararua Ranges.

In December the eastern hills continued to be dry with around half average rainfall although average rainfall was recorded in the western ranges and the valley.

Conditions changed in January with above average rainfall in the western ranges and the eastern hills. At the Tararua site the rainfall recorded was the third highest since records began. This was the result of a more spring like situation with a series of north-westerly fronts passing through. High intensity rainfall events occurred on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of the month. In contrast rainfall in the valley was three quarters of average.

Statistics for 2005 indicate that at the three representative Wairarapa sites, rainfall was between 85% and 90% of average.

The table below shows rainfall statistics for 3 representative rainfall sites.

##### *Rainfall Totals*

	November		December		January	
	Mm	% of average	mm	% of average	mm	% of average
Angle Knob (Tararuas)	244	40	644	104	674	145
Alloa (middle valley)	58	64	96	118	49	76
Tanawa Hut (eastern hills)	61	81	54	58	72	113

##### 1.2 Rivers

River flows in November were well below monthly mean values with around a quarter of the normal flow in both the Waiohine at the Gorge and the Ruamahanga at Waihenga. Although flows increased in December they were still significantly less than the monthly mean.

As a consequence of the increased rainfall in January flow at the two representative river sites increased to above the monthly mean values.

The table below shows river flow statistics for the two representative sites.

*River flows*

	November		December		January	
	m <sup>3</sup> /s	% of average	m <sup>3</sup> /s	% of average	m <sup>3</sup> /s	% of average
Waiohine	6.5	23	21.3	76	22.3	130
Waihenga	21.4	28	49.5	70	53.9	119

**1.3 Floodwarning**

Minor floods occurred on 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> January, but the Ruamahanga River at Waihenga remained below the thresholds for the Lower Valley floodways to operate.

Lake Onoke remained open during most of the November to January period apart from a 14 day period of closure in November.

**2. Policy and Planning****2.1 District Plans**

Statutory resource management work is the subject of a separate report to the Committee. As will be noted, subdivision activity in the Wairarapa is continuing apace requiring a large input into this area of planning work. Also, the combined district plan is due to be notified around the end of March which will give us the opportunity, through submission, to ensure that regional policies and plans are given effect to.

**2.2 Appeals**

A submission was made to a hearing on applications to the South Wairarapa District Council for a coastal subdivision at Tora. The substance of the submission was that five lots between the coastal road and the coast should not be allowed. This submission was consistent with the objectives of the Wairarapa Coastal Strategy. The decision allowed the subdivision in part excluding the five lots we submitted on.

This decision has been appealed by the applicant, who wants the five lots included, and D Riddiford who opposes the subdivision.

This appeal could become a “test case” for the coastal strategy and it is therefore important that we take a strong stand as a party to this appeal in continuing to oppose the five lots under dispute.

### **3. Consents and Compliance**

#### **3.1 Consent Statistics**

Application numbers for the financial year to date are similar to last year, 117 compared with 118.

To date 90 non notified consents have been issued compared with 91 in the same period last year. A summary of non notified consents issued since the last Committee meeting is included as a separate report.

Applications that have been notified are detailed below:

- Martinborough Coastal Developments Ltd: A 24-lot subdivision at Tora with a community wastewater scheme. A joint hearing with South Wairarapa District Council was held on 2nd and 3rd of November. The Hearing Committee granted consent but this has been appealed (details of appeals below)
- J A Bicknell: To take water from Tilsons Creek. Following a pre-hearing meeting the applicant and submitters agreed on conditions and consent was granted.
- R I & C V Scott: To take ground water from the Greytown aquifer. No submissions were received and consent was granted following the applicants agreement to conditions.
- A E & S W Benton Partnership: To take groundwater in the Battersea area, specifically from the Kahutara aquifer which is subject to a moratorium. A hearing in front of two commissioners was held on 11 October. Council staff recommended that the application be declined. The hearing was adjourned for the applicant to provide additional information to the commissioners and submitters. Comment on this information and a further right of reply for the applicant has taken place and the decision is expected in early March.
- N & E E Reid: An application to renew consents for the discharge of piggery effluent to land and odours to air. 29 submissions have been received. A prehearing meeting is being planned for mid March. This is a large piggery with discharges equivalent to a large town.

#### **3.2 Appeals**

##### *Masterton District Council*

Masterton District Council have been granted a stay in proceedings in their Environment Court appeal against the decision to decline consent for the proposed stage two of the Castlepoint seawall. This is to allow them to prepare an integrated foreshore management plan. The district council have contracted Opus Consultants to develop the plan and have included us as a party being consulted.

*LARO – Scadden's Stopbank*

John Barton has appealed this decision. This matter has gone to mediation but no further progress has been made to date.

*Martinborough Coastal Developments*

The decision granting consents for a community wastewater scheme servicing a proposed coastal subdivision at Tora has been appealed by the applicant and D Riddiford. While no decisions have been made it is assumed the first step in resolving the matters being appealed will be mediation. (Refer also to the Policy and Planning section of this report.)

### 3.3 Compliance

*Prosecutions*

The prosecution against Lansdowne Development Ltd and Bruce Buchanan Ltd in regards to an unauthorised discharge of silt laden water in March 2005 is scheduled to take place in the Environment Court in Wellington on 18th and 19th July. Delays in setting the date, including the non-appearance of the defendants at the first hearing has led to the process becoming longwinded and costly.

*Infringement Notices*

An infringement notice was served on K Barnes for illegal works in a wetland.

*Incidents*

The following list record incidents reported and dealt with to 27 January.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Complaint</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
10 November	Concern at amount of water being taken at subdivision development, rural Carterton	Water system found to be designed to meet permitted activity rule. No further action necessary
11 November	Dust from industrial site, Masterton	Company found to be using dust suppression. Not considered offensive or objectionable.
14 November	Alleged blockage in waterway, Martinborough	Not considered significant. No further action taken.
21 November	Concern at level of flow from Masterton oxidation ponds.	Investigated. Found to be within normal flow. Complainant has been written to.
23 November	Abandoned vehicle in Waingawa River	Disposed of by Council

1 December	Spray drift alleged to have damaged orchard, South Wairarapa	Investigated. No evidence found of spraydrift. Letter to complainant.
5 December	Freezer full of rotten meat dumped in riverbed, Featherston.	Disposed of by Council.
5 December	Concern over lead paint dust from stripping operation, Greytown	Person responsible is to make changes to the way they operate.
12 December	Low flow in stream, rural Carterton	Investigated. Found to be caused by abnormally low groundwater levels. Unable to take action.
14 December	Dairy effluent flowing into stream through field drains, South Wairarapa	Dairy farmer has been asked to change management of the effluent in affected paddocks.
6 January	Foul odour from dumped fish, rural South Wairarapa	Offending fish buried. Letter to person responsible.
9 January	Low flows in stream, rural Masterton	Found to be caused by dam. Dam has subsequently been consented.
10 January	Low flow in Masterton urban stream	No specific reason found. Thought to be natural occurrence.
11 January	Excessive smoke from industrial site, rural Carterton	Letter to company involved.
23 January	Bore ran dry, rural South Wairarapa	Caused by irrigation on property next door. Still being worked on by Council staff.
24 January	Dairy cows on popular recreational beach Ruamahanga river, Martinborough	Farmer written to asking him to keep cows off beach. Still being worked on by Council staff.
27 January	Bore ran dry, rural Martinborough	Still being investigated by staff. Consent being processed for major irrigation system in the area.

**Ted Taylor**

Acting Manager, Planning & Resources



## Divisional Accountant's report

## Financial report for the Seven Months to 31 January 2006

<b>Wairarapa Division Funding Impact Statement 7 Months Ended 31 January 2006</b>	<b>YTD Actual \$000</b>	<b>YTD Budget \$000</b>	<b>YTD Var \$000</b>	<b>FY Forecast \$000</b>	<b>FY Budget \$000</b>	<b>FY Var \$000</b>
Rates & levies	5,395	5,395	0 U	9,249	9,249	0 U
Government grants & subsidies	0	0	0 U	0	0	0 U
External revenue	4,236	5,038	-802 U	8,604	10,254	-1,650 U
Investment revenue	104	62	42 F	106	106	0 U
Internal revenue	2,834	3,221	-387 U	5,953	5,456	497 F
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>12,569</b>	<b>13,716</b>	<b>-1,147 U</b>	<b>23,912</b>	<b>25,065</b>	<b>-1,153 U</b>
Personnel costs	3,683	3,826	143 F	6,603	6,559	-44 U
Materials, supplies & services	1,275	1,118	-157 U	2,082	1,886	-196 U
Travel & transport costs	196	158	-38 U	326	271	-55 U
Contractors	2,934	4,194	1,260 F	6,741	8,007	1,266 F
Consultants	241	260	19 F	168	510	342 F
Grants and subsidies	20	49	29 F	85	84	-1 U
Internal charges	3,066	3,510	444 F	6,092	5,890	-202 U
<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>11,415</b>	<b>13,115</b>	<b>1,700 F</b>	<b>22,097</b>	<b>23,207</b>	<b>1,110 F</b>
<b>TOTAL INDIRECT EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>1,320</b>	<b>1,288</b>	<b>-32 U</b>	<b>2,285</b>	<b>2,267</b>	<b>-18 U</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>12,735</b>	<b>14,403</b>	<b>1,668 F</b>	<b>24,382</b>	<b>25,474</b>	<b>1,092 F</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>-166</b>	<b>-687</b>	<b>521 F</b>	<b>-470</b>	<b>-409</b>	<b>-61 U</b>
Add back non cash items	248	205	43 F	428	410	18 F
Less capital expenditure	-176	-319	143 F	-587	-634	47 F
Less investments movements	-121	-123	2 F	-232	-232	0 U
Less debt repayments	-301	-319	18 F	-548	-548	0 U
Plus debt additions	332	660	-328 U	1,249	1,281	-32 U
Plus reserve movements	107	148	-41 U	224	254	-30 U
<b>FUNDING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>-77</b>	<b>-435</b>	<b>358 F</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>-58 U</b>

At the end of January the Division's funding position was \$358,000 under budget with revenue being \$1,147,000 below budget and operating expenditure \$1,668,000 below budget. Capital expenditure at January was \$142,000 below budget due to the timing of vehicle purchases.

Significant components of this favourable variance are as follows:

(1) *Biosecurity \$628,000 Favourable*

Bovine Tb savings due to reductions in control area following low pre-control monitoring results, and the timing of control contracts.

(2) *BioWorks \$380,000 Unfavourable*

Due to the timing of Bovine Tb contracts. Several large operations are scheduled for completion during the March – June period.

(3) *Planning & Resources \$84,000 Favourable*

Due to savings in personnel costs and the timing of contract costs for the Resources and Investigations activity.

**Stephen Hill**  
Divisional Accountant