

DATE: 26 March 2012
TIME: 7:30 pm @ Dovedale Hall

SUBJECT: Dovedale Rivercare Group Meeting
Present
Tasman District Council: Giles Griffith (Chairman) , Philip Drummond, Councillor Trevor Norris

Taylor's Contracting : Arnie Richards, Neil Donaldson

MWH: Rick Lowe

Fish & Game: Lawson Davey

Rivercare Group Members: Madge Hall, Ken Hall, Roger Nott, Evan Win, Ashley Peter, Paul Batt, Murray Silcock, James Wightlin, Caroline Wightlin, John Thorn

Apologies: Nil

DETAIL:

Item / Task	Action	By
1. Introduction Giles Griffith opened the meeting and introduced Tasman District Council staff, MWH Consultants and Taylor's the River Maintenance Contractor.		
2. Minutes of Last Meeting The minutes of the last meeting had been circulated to all that attended the previous meeting. No discussion was held on the minutes of the previous meeting.		
3. Matters Arising from Previous Meeting There were no matters raised from the previous meeting minutes.		
4. Overall Objectives 2012 Giles Griffith gave a verbal presentation outlining the overall objectives for 2012, current issues, annual operation and maintenance programmes for 2011/12 and 2012/13 financial years. Overall Objective 2012: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complete 2010 flood repair work in Aorere, Murchison and Wangapeka areas • get 2012 flood repair work underway (Motupipi to Wainui Bay area's) • crack willow mapping and riparian management plan • strong focus on revegetation work and move towards soft options • gain consent to aerial spray in selected rivers • possible formation of interagency group with LINZ and DoC • post regular information on website. 		
5. Annual Maintenance Operating Programme 2012 Rivers are dynamic high proportion of unscheduled work: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40% of all maintenance tasked completed to date not originally in AOMP • unscheduled tasks make up 34% of AOMP budget for 2011/2012. Unscheduled tasks include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • removal of dumped rubbish in river channels • high river flow damage requiring additional bank protection work and removal trees and other vegetation. AOMP is regularly revised and task re-prioritised as flood events occur.		

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<p>6. Other Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited scope for gravel removal now due to resource consent limitations, most rivers degrading (although individual reaches may be aggrading) • Challenges to Part 4 of District Plan being worked through by our policy team. • Ability for farmers to perform emergency works themselves in a defined period following a high event. • Rights of iwi to own or extract gravel. • The two recent extreme rain events, effects on livelihoods, prioritising and funding repairs and effect on existing resources. 		
<p>7. General Comments from presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ratepayers generally expressed concern at the lack of gravel able to be taken out of the river can only take small amount out of river. They did not accept the findings of council and believe there was general build up of gravel everywhere. • Trevor Norris explained that it was not straight forward to extract gravel as you have to satisfy all other parties that it was appropriate to extract gravel and that was not that easy to do so. • Philip Drummond stated that if more gravel was required from any river separate resource consent would need to be applied for. Generally Tasman District Council want to relocate gravel within the channel system and not extract. • Giles Griffith explained that council were in the process of applying for resource consent to allow the aerial application of chemical sprays for vegetation control in selective rivers. • One ratepayer expressed concern that he did not believe the River Maintenance contractor had done a good job of spraying on his property. Rick Lowe (MWH) commented that auditing of the spraying programme had shown the contractor generally had made a good job of spraying vegetation required to be controlled. • Giles Griffith stated that he wanted to carryout out more green options of carrying out river control work instead of using rockwork to the extent it had been in the past. • There was a general concern expressed with the health of the Dove River and that gravel build up had affected the river. • Fish & Game expressed concern with the clearing of crack willow but generally had no problems with gravel extraction. • Ratepayers asked as to why Crack Willow was on the unwanted organisms list as opposed to Old Mans Beard. Tasman District Council responded saying it was too costly to remove Old Mans Beard everywhere and that council where only controlling it in Buller and Golden Bay areas. Tasman District Council also confirmed that the Pest Management Strategy was up for review next year and that it was likely that the plan would be extended a further two years. • Some ratepayers believed that crack willow should not be removed from all places along the riverbank. • Tasman District Council confirmed that they would not now insist on total removal of crack willow along all frontages but would discuss the matter with each landowner. 		
<i>Meeting concluded at 9:30 pm</i>		