

DATE: 26 March 2012
TIME: 1:30 p.m. @ Tapawera Community Centre

SUBJECT: Upper Motueka Rivercare Group Meeting
Present:
Tasman District Council: Gary Clark, Giles Griffith (Chairman), Philip Drummond, Eric Verstappen, Trevor James, Councillor Trevor Bryant

Taylor's Contracting: Arnie Richards, Neil Donaldson, Murray Earwaker

MWH: Rick Lowe

Fish & Game: Lawson Davey

Rivercare Group Members: Dennis Mead, Lloyd Faulkner, Richard Hall, Louise Baker, Graham Baker, Mitch Irvine, Janet Moffit, Peter Phillips, Jo Leyland, Martin O'Connor, Bill Booth, Danny Hajdu, Roy Bensemann Warren Barry, Janet Blount

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 presented a power point 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"> Tasman District Council explained that they had a new tool for monitoring river levels by using LIDAR information that gave more ground information on rivers and could be used as a planning tool for gravel relocation. Tasman District Council are presently modelling the Aorere River using LIDAR data. LIDAR information at present is not available for all rivers. There was a general discussion about gravel extraction with most ratepayers believing there should be more of it being removed from the river system. Tasman District Council responded that gravel would be managed by pushing around in riverbed rather than extracting. Tasman District Council Rivers had to be able to prove that gravel extraction has no impact on the environment. Eric Verstappen (Scientist Tasman District Council) said that the long term management of the Rivers systems had to be considered rather than short term effects. He confirmed from cross sectional information that the Motueka River had degraded an average of 300mm over the last 40 years from the mouth to North's Bridge. Gary Clark (Tasman District Council) commented that gravel removal in the lower reaches in the Motueka River only had 0.300m effect on flood levels. Giles Griffith and Philip Drummond gave an overview of what was proposed in the AOMP for 2011 /2012 and outlined how the maintenance programme operated and associated problem and delays resulting from resource consent issues. There was a general discussion on crack willow removal with one ratepayer stating that the problem was with different types of willow that had been planted by Tasman District Council and the seeding problem associated with the species planted. Some ratepayers could not see the value in removing crack willow. Gary Clark gave an over view on crack willow removal and the reason for its removal and wanted to work with ratepayers to get the best result. There was concern expressed regarding contacting Tasman District Council and response time and wanting to contact people after 5.00pm. It was raised by a ratepayer that a some of the riparian native planting carried out in the Tadmor had been a waste of time and that 50% of some planted areas had died or been eaten by stock wandering up the riverbed. They also asked as to what Tasman District Council were going to do about stock in riverbeds. Tasman District Council replied that wandering stock in riverbeds is a Tasman District Council compliance issue and that water sampling for pollution can be carried out. Fish & Game commented that they support grazing riverbanks, do not support the removal of crack willow question the cost of managing crack 		

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<p>willow as opposed to planting native and other tree species, support the removal of gravel at selected locations. Need to be contacted when work is proposed to be carried out in rivers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some ratepayers want more notice when chemical spraying carried out. • Giles Griffith explained that aerial spraying is more effective in certain locations than ground based operations and that better designed spray nozzle are use to prevent spray drift. • Philip Drummond explained the Tasman District Council policy of Old Mans Beard and that only the Buller and Golden Bay areas were controlled. • There was a general discussion regarding river budgets and that \$2.7 million is collected annually for river purposes with River Z classified areas paying 50% of the total rate and River Y ratepayers paying 10 times the dollar of value River Z ratepayers pay. • Trevor Bryant commented that Council had considered rate review but was too hard to determine river boundaries and was too difficult to action review. • Gary Clark indicated that Council had increased River Z funding this financial year to manage the flood damage repairs. • Giles Griffith gave a brief overview of the draft programme for 2012/2013 financial year and that information would be placed on the Tasman District Council website. 		
<i>Meeting concluded at 4:15 pm</i>		