



Rangitaiki - Tarawera Rivers Scheme News

February 2007



You will probably have heard in the news about our proposal to shift Environment Bay of Plenty's headquarters to Tauranga in two to three years time. The Council is now investigating costs, benefits and possible locations. After that, councillors will make their decision. The results will be put down in the Draft Annual Plan, which will open for submissions soon.

If we do end up moving – and it's not decided yet – it won't diminish the level of the service we offer this scheme. Our rivers and drainage staff will remain based in the eastern Bay of Plenty, where the majority of their work is. It would not be sensible to do otherwise. Staff will continue to look for ways of improving the rivers and drainage services.

Bill Cleghorn, Chairman Operations Committee

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Edgecumbe Flood Mitigation Study

Environment Bay of Plenty and Whakatane District Council have commissioned this study which is being done by Opus Consultants. It's looking at a number of things, including:

- how to improve flood protection in Edgecumbe and the lower Rangitaiki River, and
- improving the movement of flood water through the Rangitaiki Floodway (Reids Central Canal), to lower flood levels in the main Rangitaiki River.

We are consulting with people who could be affected by the proposed works.

Update on 2004 flood repair works

The works to repair damage caused by the 2004 floods are nearly completed. We're on track to have them finished by the end of this financial year, in June 2007.

Improvements to your stopbanks

The floods in 2004 revealed areas where the stopbank foundations were not as good as they should be. These mainly consisted of areas where seepage through the stopbank foundations was excessive. Since then, we've been carrying out geotechnical investigations to find out more, especially looking at the areas that are considered to have high seepage flows. Improvement works are being carried out progressively as site investigations are completed.

Aniwhenua dam

Gravel resources in upper Rangitaiki River, Whirinaki River and tributaries (such as the Horomanga River), continue to be a concern. The raised gravel beds in the river cause the river to overflow earlier than it otherwise would, and also creates more erosion of the river banks. Staff are investigating the situation in conjunction with Bay of Plenty Electricity, who operate Aniwhenua Hydro Dam.

Do you know that you pay into this scheme with your Environment Bay of Plenty rates? When you pay your rates to the district council, they include Environment Bay of Plenty's rates. Because you live in the Rangitaiki-Tarawera Rivers Scheme area, a portion of your rate is specifically calculated for it. The amount you pay is worked out broadly in proportion to how much your property affects or is affected by the scheme. Our rates are collected by your district council on behalf of us.

Who to contact about your scheme

If you have any questions about your scheme or any item in this newsletter, please contact us on 0800 ENV BOP (368 267).

Scheme operation and maintenance

Clive Tozer
Group manager operational services

Bruce Crabbe
Manager rivers and drainage

Tony Dunlop
Principal works engineer

Bill Ingle
Works overseer

Kirsty Brown
Asset management officer

River design

Ken Tarboton
Manager technical services

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Liaison people

Environment Bay of Plenty has a network of liaison people for all river and drainage schemes in the region. You can speak to these people about your scheme as well.

Galatea

Scottie Muir 07 366 5666
Arthur Adams 07 366 4730
Colin Holmes 07 366 4850

Lower Rangitaiki

Monty Ramanui 07 323 6126
Arthur Shaw 07 304 9278
Alan Law 07 304 9536

Tarawera

Robin Barkla 07 322 6958
Catherine Bull 07 322 8280

Tarawera-Okareka lakes

Rod Stace 07 362 8523

Manawahe

John MacIntosh 07 322 1061

Regional councillors

Rotorua constituency

Bill Cleghorn 07 332 3833
Robin Ford 07 348 6889
Neil Oppatt 07 362 8424

Okurei constituency

Tai Eru 07 362 4392

Eastern Bay of Plenty constituency

Bryan Riesterer 07 315 7465
Malcolm Whitaker 07 312 4114

Kohi constituency

Tipene Marr 07 348 5494

Looking after the stopbanks

Stopbanks are the barrier between the river and your land. We need to make sure we look after them so they do their job properly during a flood. Environment Bay of Plenty's Floodway and Drainage Bylaw helps us to control and protect the stopbanks. Make sure your activities aren't damaging them. For more information about the bylaw, visit our website or give us a call.

Winter care

Stock grazing our stopbanks can be a useful way to keep the grass cover tidy and under control. This grass gives the stopbanks strength and helps prevent erosion during flooding. However as winter nears, it's important that our stopbanks aren't over grazed. Overgrazing of the stopbanks, particularly if they're wet, can quickly turn them into a muddy bog and reduce their effectiveness.

Rabbits



We've continued to carry out rabbit control along the Rangitaiki and Tarawera Rivers. They dig burrows in the sides of our stopbanks, which reduces their stability and effectiveness. For more information about rabbit control methods, check out our website www.enbop.govt.nz or phone us. We have a number of fact sheets to help you.

Have your say

From Friday 30 March 2007 until 4pm, Wednesday 2 May 2007, you can make a submission on the draft Annual Plan for 2007-2008. For more information about making a submission or to see the full draft plan, visit our website from 30 March.

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Budget

Expenditure

Routine Maintenance Account	\$ 918,400
Loan Charges Account	\$ 651,400
Projects and Investigations Account	\$ 43,400
Capital works account	\$ 1,500,000
Total expenditure	\$ 3,113,200

Revenue

Regional contribution (20%)	\$ 319,700
Rates	\$ 1,278,600
Proposed loans (for Capital works)	\$ 1,040,000
Government grant	\$ 460,000
Rents	\$ 3,500
Contribution from Trust Power	\$ 11,400
Total revenue	\$ 3,113,200

Proposed rate change = 10.2%

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