

# Hikurangi Swamp Scheme

WDC/Ratepayer Meeting

29 June 2011

# AGENDA

- Minutes of last meeting
- Resource consent requirements & Progress
- Draft Procedures
  - Emergency cutting of stopbanks
  - Access to pump stations
- Grazing License issues
- Scheme Management- Liaison/Finances
- Swamp operation feedback
- Any other business

# Minutes of last meeting

- Any issues?

# Resource Consent Requirements & Progress

- May 2011 – Floodway Riparian Management Plan- combined with Oxbow /cut-off Management Plan (due May 2012) and submitted to NRC
- May 2012
  - Complete Scheme Management Plan
  - Fisheries Management Plan

# Spillway & Stopbank Adjustments

- All spillways at length and level, Ngararatunua to be fully completed next year
- Final survey being undertaken
- NRC required mulching on 3 spillways due to the extended earthworks season.
- Any spill event will not be valid for assessment as
  - Stopbanks modifications still to be undertaken
  - No sensors on Ngararatunua until completion

# Level Sensors

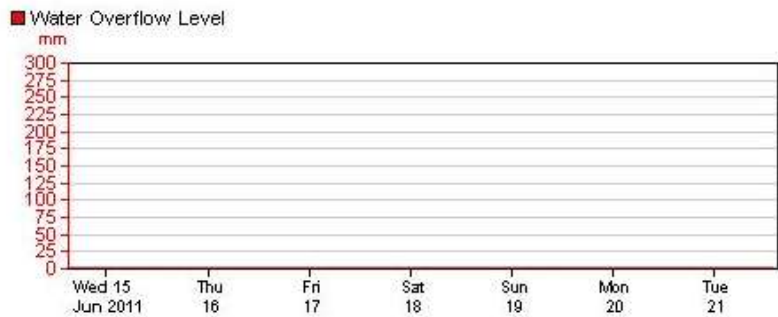
- Commissioning of installed sites nearing completion
- Web access for monitoring, for each spillway and combined scheme. Login & passwords are each spillway name (temata/temata etc) or scheme/scheme for whole lot
- Will send out web link with minutes
- Some issues with poor mounting of solar panels, being modified by McKay



Mountain Station 1 Logout 14:59:54 2.2.1

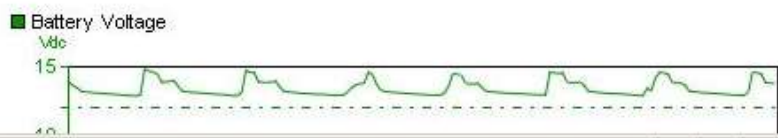
Graphs Reports

Mountain Station 1 - Water Overflow Level (click here to expand graph)



Facts & Figures

Mountain Station 1 - Battery Voltage (click here to expand graph)



Facts & Figures

# Procedures

Drafts sent out with last minutes

- Access to pump stations
- Emergency cutting of stopbanks to release impounded waters
  - Requires pre-registered list of those in pocket agreeing to cover costs for cutting/reinstatement
  - Specifies standards for work identical to contract specifications so no weak spots.



# Grazing Licence Issues

- Stock damage observed during and after works
- Reminder of the following clause:
- The Licensee shall not:
  - Do or permit or cause to be done on the land or any part thereof, anything which may in any way be **damaging or detrimental to any control bank, stopbank**, fence, drain, culvert, channel, planting of willows or poplars or other protective works now existing or which may hereinafter be established or constructed on any part of the land or adjoining land contiguous thereto.
- WDC **will** revoke licenses if this continues



# Grazing Licence Issues

- Available land in licenses will reduce through
  - Fencing of spillways
  - Riparian & oxbow/cutoff restoration
- Access to water in the river/oxbows will be restricted, in future water supply will be required.
- Licensing terms/fees will be revisited to reflect these changes

# Liaison Committee- Terms of Reference

- Very little feedback received
  - Bruce Cutforth suggested:

## Purpose;

- To provide recommendations to management team at WDC that will optimise the return on capital that all ratepayers contribute to the scheme.
- Areas of responsibility will include developing with management a five and ten year operational and development plan.
- Support the Council in meeting the requirements of the resource consent disciplines.

# Terms of Reference- B Cutforth

Proposed Committee structure;

- Seven elected representatives elected annually.
- The makeup of the committee shall be
  - Four A class ratepayers elected by A class ratepayers. They can be selected from anywhere in the swamp
  - Two B class ratepayers who do not pay A class rate. Elected by qualifying B class ratepayers from any area.
- One C D E or F ratepayer who do not pay A or B class rates. Elected by qualifying C,D,E or F ratepayers

# Terms of Reference- B Cutforth

- The committee shall meet at least quarterly with swamp management personnel and report to a annual swamp ratepayers meeting
- At this meeting all committee members will be elected for a twelve month term after which the committee will elect a chairman

# Terms of Reference – NRC model

Ben Smith suggested using NRC TOR for their schemes as model

- One District Councillor
- One iwi representative.
- Five representatives of the ratepayers of the river catchment
- One representative of the Kerikeri-Waipapa business community.
- One representative of BayCare.
- One representative of the Department of Conservation.
- And any other person that the Environmental Management Committee may from time to time appoint to the Committee because of their particular skills or knowledge.

# Terms of Reference – NRC model

- The Kerikeri-Waipapa River Liaison Committee is an advisory committee of the Northland Regional Council and has no delegated authority or specific powers. Its functions are to:
- Provide a stakeholder forum for the development of policies and plans for the reduction of river flood risk within the Kerikeri-Waipapa catchment.
- Enable stakeholders to participate in the ongoing management of river flood risk reduction within the Kerikeri-Waipapa catchment.
- Facilitate communications between the Northland Regional Council, which is ultimately responsible for the development and implementation of Management Plans to reduce river flood risk, and the residents and landholders within the Kerikeri-Waipapa catchment.
- Advise the Northland Regional Council on all matters relating to the development and implementation of the Kerikeri-Waipapa river management plan.



# Alternative rating ideas

- WDC examined a scenario that had two rating systems:
  - Operational expenditure (power, pump station maintenance etc) was covered by pockets and
  - Mandatory expenditure was covered by Major Scheme and Drainage District rates (insurance, rates, etc)
  - Some splits assumed e.g. 50/50 engineering fees
  - Initially assumed operational expenditure covered by A&B ratepayers
  - Payment of scheme debt in 10 years through Major Scheme and Drainage District rates only

# Alternative rating ideas – Two rates

## Existing rate mechanism

- Alter existing rate
- Includes all rateable areas (scheme and district)
- Pro rata based on area as per current system
- Covers overhead type costs and loan repayment
- Includes resource consent related capital work(e.g. bank adjustments)

## New Operational Rate

- Would only apply to land that directly benefits from pump operation (possibly A and B)
- Each pocket would set a budget for the year to cover consumables, opex costs and capital
- Annual programme managed by an operations manager for scheme
- A rate would be struck to cover forecast annual expenditure on each pocket – 100% repayment per year.
- Pocket members could have input into pump run times, pump replacement, spraying.

# Alternative rating ideas

- Reduces Major Scheme rates to
  - \$23.19/Ha (A) and \$20.83/Ha (B) in 2013,
  - annual increase of 18.75% required to pay off debt
  - rising to \$129.33/Ha (A) and \$116.15/Ha (B) by 2023
  - Scheme in positive equity by then so would be re-evaluated.
- “Pocket Rates” using same A/B differential as existing
  - \$107.74/Ha (A) and \$96.76/Ha (B)
  - Much of this is discretionary (power, spraying, drain cleaning)- could be decided on pocket by pocket basis, so potential for reduction

# Operations & Maintenance

- Mountain pump repaired and reinstalled
- Small pleuger at Flowserv, estimated repair 40-45K, delivery 8-10 weeks
- Flap gate at Te Mata repaired
- Any issues?