# **Newsline Issue 584 – 29 November 2024**

# Local Water is taking Shape

Local Water Done Well is a phrase we’ll be hearing a lot more in the near future.

Under Local Water, all councils must submit a new water services delivery plan for drinking water and wastewater by next September. Stormwater management may be included in that plan or remain separately managed, though the details are still being worked out.

The Government is encouraging councils to collaborate for economies of scale, and we all must present our communities with at least two options for consideration in the second quarter of next year.

The three realistic options we have are:

* Status quo – where we manage our own three waters as a business unit;
* Single CCO – a council-controlled organisation manages our water services;
* Multi-council CCO – a body owned by multiple councils, in our case potentially Marlborough and Buller, manages water services for those councils.

Each choice has its pros and cons.

The reality is that delivering drinking water, wastewater disposal, and stormwater management will be more expensive, no matter which option is chosen.

We have significantly invested in providing and delivering safe drinking water to our people, including the construction of community treatment and storage facilities, but there is a great deal more to do.

We have put together a page on our Shape Tasman website to provide you with information about this process and how you can eventually have your say on it.

It also provides background about our current water and wastewater supplies right across Tasman District.

Go to shape.tasman.govt.nz/lwdw.

# Focus on vital freshwater resources

Progress will continue on the draft Land and Freshwater Plan Change to amend water and discharge rules in the Tasman Resource Management Plan.

This decision aims to address priority freshwater issues in the region, particularly those related to Te Waikoropupū Springs and the Wharepapa Arthur Marble Aquifer Water Conservation Order, which is also supported by the online release of the initial Tākaka Freshwater Action Plan.

Recent Central Government changes will delay notification of the plan change, but allow for continued development of the draft, including incorporating feedback from the community, iwi, and stakeholders. However, releasing this for public feedback in 2025 will depend on clarity from Central Government on the amended National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management and other freshwater related legislation changes.

Early in the new year, we will reassess the plan change process to decide the most efficient path for public release and notification.

Read more about this at shape.tasman.govt.nz/LFPC84.

### Tākaka Freshwater Action Plan

The Action Plan aims to identify and implement strategies to reduce nitrate levels in the Main Spring to 0.41mg/L by 2038, a target set by the Water Conservation Order. This would restore the springs to their pre-2017 water quality. The plan will also involve collaboration with mana whenua iwi, other agencies, and local landowners.

Find out more at tasman.govt.nz/takaka-freshwater-action-plan.

Local Water Done Well deals with our water infrastructure while the rules in the draft Land and Freshwater Plan are about how we protect and share our freshwater resources.

# Get up to speed on our new Navigational Safety Bylaw

Just in time for summer, our new Navigation Safety Bylaw 2024 comes into effect from 1 December.

While we have retained some of the provisions from the 2015 bylaw, the new version is set to better align Tasman with Nelson and Marlborough as well as national safer boating messaging. So, you will no longer have three different rules for life jackets between Motueka and Okiwi Bay.

The main changes are:

* Life jackets must be worn on smaller vessels, and on larger vessels if instructed to do so.
* All powered craft are to display an ID. For trailer vessels, this is the trailer rego or VHF call sign. Ask at your local service agent. Non-trailer vessels should have VHF call sign or a unique name.
* Paddle craft (kayak, stand up paddleboard or waka) that are more than 200m from the shore must be clearly visible to any other water users.
* All vessels must have two independent forms of communication – VHF radio, mobile phone, PLB, EPIRB, or flares. A whistle and your voice are fine within 200m of shore while being monitored.
* Larger vessels, and some commercial and passenger vessels, are required to transmit an accurate AIS signal when in Tasman waters.
* All smaller vessels must stay clear of large vessels (>500 gross tonnes) within three nautical miles of the Abel Tasman coast.

Our Harbourmaster team will be out and about to provide education on the bylaw and general boating safety.

Copies of the new bylaw and a helpful flyer can be found at our service centres and online at tasman.govt.nz/maritime.

# Above and beyond at Waimea Delta

New drone imagery shows the progress of our Waimea Delta wetland enhancement project over the past two and a half years.

This multi-stage project is designed to enhance the ecological value of Waimea Delta and encompasses brackish wetland areas in a low-lying arm of the Waimea River, just east of Pearl Creek.

The site is adjacent to salt marsh and downstream from the cycle bridge along Tasman’s Great Taste Trail.

The extent of the progress in all its glory is not entirely visible from the trail at first glance. However, there’s been a heap of work put into improvements around this area and so these comparisons are a great way to see how far we’ve come in the past couple of years.

Two phases of earthworks for wetland enhancement have been completed along with the planting of native trees and wetland plants, with great growth so far.

The aim is that the area will develop into even more of a haven for marsh birds like matuku (bittern) and mātātā (fernbird).

Pest control in surrounding areas is well underway, with significant work being done near the Waimea Delta, targeting species like Tamarisk, Old Man’s Beard and Japanese Honeysuckle.

Additionally in the Waimea Inlet, several large salt marsh planting projects are in the pipeline, including further restoration efforts at Rough Island where culverts were installed for greater saltwater inundation.

These projects have been made possible by funding from the Ministry for the Environment and Tasman District Council through the Jobs for Nature – Mahi mō te Taiao scheme.

# What’s to know about wildings in our pest plan?

Our partial review of the Tasman-Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan 2019 – 2029 has been formalised, with Tasman District and Nelson City Councils adopting the recommendations of the amended plan.

The updated bylaw comes into force on 1 December 2024.

We’ve made specific changes relating to the management of Blue Passionfruit Flower, Boneseed, Vietnamese Parsley, Moth Plant, Pampas Grass, Sabella, Water Celery, Pest Conifer, and feral/stray cats across Tasman and Nelson.

In the coming months, we’ll be providing an overview of these amendments individually.

One of the more complex areas that we’ve considered is around wilding and pest conifers – to manage and help reduce the incidence of their spread, causing loss and destruction of native biodiversity as they smother native plants and reduce the habitat for native animals.

There are three region-wide rules (outside of operational areas, which are areas being managed under a recognised control programme):

* A ‘clear land rule’ – that focuses on the eradication of pest conifer seedlings before they can proliferate and spread;
* A ‘planted forest (wilding conifer spread) rule’ – to manage self-seeded spread from forest plantations onto neighbouring land; and
* A ‘pest agent conifer rule’ – to manage potential seed sources that may impact neighbouring properties and halt the spread of wilding conifers in general.

And two rules regarding operational areas under management:

* A ‘maintain the gains rule’ – to safeguard prior control and investment; and
* A ‘good neighbour rule’ – for boundary management of pest conifers that prevents an occupier’s inaction on control work impacting their neighbour.

A detailed rundown of the wilding rules can be found at tasman.govt.nz/wilding-conifer-rules.

# We’re dreaming of a green Christmas

Christmas morning is perhaps one of the most exciting times of the year! The anticipation of a stocking full of presents, the frenzy of gift opening, and the delight, generally, of Christmas surprises.

Then comes the cleanup – armloads of packaging are crumpled up and crammed into bags and bins for disposal, but much of this can be recycled so you can make it a greener Christmas this year.

Many gifts come in layers of packaging – some are recyclable, some aren’t, but with a bit of sorting you can help reduce the load going to the landfill.

Wrapping paper and cardboard can go straight into the yellow bin if it is bigger than the size of an envelope and doesn’t have a plastic coating.

Polystyrene can be taken to Mitre 10 Mega in Nelson for recycling and reuse while soft plastic wrapping can be recycled in the bins at The Warehouse or your local supermarket.

Holiday season celebrations can generate a lot more empty glass bottles than usual, all of which can go into your blue glass recycling bin – just ensure the bin isn’t overfilled. If you need a second crate for glass, you can buy one from any Council Service Centre or Resource Recovery Centre.

... And sometimes you get a gift that’s not quite right – too big, too small, not the right colour, or just plain wrong – don’t bin it, why not drop it into your local reuse store or charity shop.

# Help stop the spread of water pests

Tasman District contains numerous rivers, streams and back-country lakes we enjoy when getting out and about, particularly over summer.

When visiting these places or any new water body, it’s important to show due care and respect to ensure we neither introduce a new pest nor take away one to share elsewhere.

We’re asking anyone coming in contact with fresh water or moving between waterways, whether fishing, boating, tramping, swimming, biking or driving, to be extra vigilant about cleaning their gear.

Didymo and the microscopic algae *Lindavia intermedia* that causes lake snow have been the big names in recent years that have inspired us all to ‘check, clean, dry’.

However, there are plenty of invasive pest weeds, algae and other nasties that could take over our beautiful places if we accidentally introduce them.

Invasive freshwater weeds such as lagarosiphon, egeria and elodea, and pest fish like rudd or gambusia, can also be spread by a single plant fragment, fish egg or drop of water.

They can hitch a ride on trailers and watercraft as well as the fishing gear, clothing and boots of unknowing trampers, and become established in new lakes.

We can limit the spread by being vigilant.

Check, clean and dry any wet/damp items and be especially cautious before entering a different lake or waterway.

Soak gear in either a 10% mix of dishwashing detergent or nappy cleaner, a 2% (or 200ml in 10l of water) mix of bleach, in hot water above 60 degrees Celcius, or freeze until solid.

Together, we can stop unwanted algae and pests from spreading in our waterways.

# Tyres collected to go round again

We’ve joined a national scheme that is turning waste into opportunities.

You can now take your old vehicle tyres to any of our Resource Recovery Centres in the Tasman District and get rid of them at no cost under the new nationwide Tyrewise scheme. The collected tyres then go on to be recycled in various ways.

Some of the end-of-use tyres are co-processed alongside wood waste as an alternative fuel in Golden Bay Cement’s cement kiln.

The rubber is reconstituted and manufactured into flooring for artificial sports fields, equestrian arenas, and playground matting.

... And investigations are even underway into the use of finely shredded end-of-life tyre rubber as an additive in building foundations.

This work is funded by the tyre stewardship fee paid on newly imported tyres.

There are a few conditions that need to be followed though. Tyres must be clean and no more than five tyres can be bought in at once. We can’t take tyres on rims, nor can we accept things like bicycle tyres and pram tyres etc, and we also can’t deal with oversized tyres.

# Tasman’s 2023/2024 year summarised

Our Annual Report has been adopted, on time to meet our statutory deadlines and with a clean audit opinion.

As well as reporting our financial position, the Annual Report shows how we’ve met community outcome objectives during the 12 months.

Despite a time of economic challenges and legislative change, we continued to deliver a diverse range of services and projects to the community, including:

* Adopted the 10-Year Plan 2024 – 2034
* Launched the eBus service
* Voted in favour of a Māori Ward
* Purchased a site for the Motueka Community Pool
* Waimea Community Dam became operational
* Signed relationship agreement with the eight iwi and three Councils of Te Tauihu
* Upgraded the Motueka skatepark and constructed the Murchison pump track

Of the 109 non-financial targets that we set in Tasman’s 10-Year Plan 2021 – 2031, we fully achieved 74 and a further five were within 5% of the target.

Total Council net assets are now valued at $2.3 billion – an increase on the previous year’s total of $2.2 billion.

Our net external debt at 30 June 2024 was $247.78 million. This is below the $249.9 million forecast in the Annual Plan 2023/2024.

Total rates revenue for the year was $100.05 million, and revenue from all other sources totalled $128.35 million.

We also maintained a strong credit rating score from Standard and Poor’s, reflecting robust financial management, which allows for favourable borrowing rates.

The report is now available at our service centres, libraries, and online at tasman.govt.nz/annual-reports.

# New lease of life for Tākaka’s old den

The Mohua Menzshed is planning to revamp the old Tākaka Scout Den on the Park Avenue side of the Recreation Park.

The reserve land has been occupied for many decades by the Scout Association, which had owned the building, but due to falling numbers, the local scout troop hasn’t run for some time.

Mohua Menzshed bought the building from the Scout Association and is now officially seeking a lease for part of the reserve land. Since ownership of the building has changed, a new ground lease is needed to use the site.

The plan is to re-purpose the former Scout Building for this new local Menzshed which is a place of acceptance, camaraderie and various potential projects for men. This will involve a significant upgrade of the former Scout Den – inside and out.

We want your thoughts about the lease proposal. You can have your say by making a submission at shape.tasman.govt.nz/mohua-menzshed.

Submissions close Friday 17 January 2025.

# Harbourmaster on hand on and off the water

With more crew on deck and an additional vessel covering the coastline, our Harbourmaster team will be a visible, well-equipped presence on our bays and lakes this summer.

As we have come to expect, the number of people on the water, boating, fishing or swimming, will increase across Tasman Bay, Golden Bay, the Kahurangi coast, and the region’s lakes and rivers.

As well as our new boat *Pūkāea* accompanying the Harbourmaster vessel *Sentinel*, an additional two maritime officers have been employed for the summer to ensure we’re doing all we can to keep everyone safe on our waters. Their focus will be on education around maritime rules and bylaws.

The extra resources will be helpful as we help get everyone up to speed on the new rules in our new Navigation Safety Bylaw.

The team will also keep in touch with the community at various events on shore too. If you haven’t spotted us around the place already, give us a wave or come and say hi to our team at the Motueka A&P Show on 2 and 3 December, the Motueka Starlight Parade on 6 December, plus Santa Parades in Richmond on 8 December and Tākaka on 14 December.

# Your guide to summer fun is out now

It’s often said that summertime is the best time in Tasman and Nelson, and if this edition of the Summer Events Guide is anything to go by, this year, it’s even better.

Our stunning weather and landscape mean there are few better places to be, and this year’s Summer Events Guide is your ticket to the best entertainment and activities the entire region has on offer.

Many of your favourite events from previous years are back – who doesn’t love taking the little ones to the Teddy Bears’ Picnic, grabbing something crafty at one of the many markets, checking out the outdoor movies, seeing Santa on his sleigh at the local Christmas parades, or exploring the many different music, food, cultural and sports events.

There’s something for everyone – the old, the young, the active, the creative, and everything in between!

Keep an eye out for a copy in your letterbox, pick one up from one of our service centres or libraries, or download a copy from our website, tasman.govt.nz/summer-events-guide.

# Mārahau leverages a benefit for itself and the region

It has been two short years since the launch of the Mārahau Pledge and already the benefits are showing.

Since October 2022, the $25,000 investment through the Council’s Special Grants Fund has seen an idea grow into a fully-fledged regenerative tourism model, returning benefits to the local community and environment.

In this time, leveraging funding from tourism companies in the area, several local projects have, and continue to be, delivered, including the Mārahau Halo Trapping Project, a locally led public artwork, native plantings and essential equipment for the Otūwhero Wetland Restoration Project, the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust’s upgrade of the Tinline Nature Walk, and the establishment of a māra kai (food gardens) and native nursery project.

In addition, ongoing funding has been made available to the Mārahau Sandy Bay Residents Association for placemaking improvements such as weeding and track improvements to ensure the village of Mārahau is well maintained and cared for.

The Marāhau Pledge is a model of the Council and community working together to further develop a unique future for generations to come.

Moving forward, the Pledge is an enduring operation looking to cater for a growing visitor sector through placemaking and infrastructure that goes hand in hand with meaningful enhancements to the local environment and community.

Pledge signatories will continue to work closely with the Council, community, mana whenua, and visitor sector partners, to progress important upgrades to the local infrastructure of Mārahau.

# Motueka Community Board

On Friday 8 November, Board members joined a well-attended event to open the refurbished playground at Decks Reserve, which has been well-utilised since opening.

Many thanks to all those involved in this significant project that encourages exploration and is sure to bring joy to many in our community and visitors alike.

We acknowledge the history and people who connect to the area and appreciate the growth of relationships with every project between the Council, iwi, and community.

Collaboration with iwi representatives on the design depicts the movement of the river from the mountain to the moana. The native planting surrounds were specifically chosen to link to Te Maatu – the big forest.

Chair Terina Graham and Mayor Tim King planted a well-established Totara at the entrance to commemorate the event.

Some of the new items include basket swings, carousel, hardwood drums and a 3v3 basketball court with height adjustable hoop. We were fortunate to have former basketballer Tony Strange on the project adding valuable input into how these spaces will be utilised.

The Board remains focused on key issues facing our community, including housing concerns, and continues to be engaged in supporting solutions.

The Board wishes David Armstrong well in his retirement after he resigned at the start of this month. We would like to acknowledge his contribution over the years, not only on the Board, but also advocating for the best interests of the Motueka community.

# eBuses give way to Santa’s sleigh

Santa Claus is coming to town, so we need to make a few changes to some bus routes.

The jolly old man in the red suit arrives in Motueka on Friday 6 December, so to let his parade use High Street, the eBus won’t be able to use the middle part of High Street. This means the Wallace Street bus stop will also be closed from 3.00 pm.

On Sunday 8 December, Santa brings his parade to Richmond. To make way for him, there will be a detour in place all day.

Buses will travel down Talbot Street instead of Queen Street, where a temporary bus stop will be set up on Talbot Street opposite Pak’nSave.

Route 1, to and from Berryfields, will travel from Lower Queen Street to temporary stops on Talbot Street, then on to Salisbury Road to Main Road Stoke. It won’t travel on Queen Street, Hill Street or Champion Road.

Route 2 will start and finish at the temporary Talbot Street stops. It won’t travel along Queen Street, Wensley Road or Bateup Road.

There are also eBus detours on Monday 30 December to make way for Richmond Market Day. Route 1 will not travel along Queen Street, Hill Street or Champion Road as it usually does, and Route 5 will not use Queen Street. Both routes will travel along Salisbury Road into Talbot Street and McGlashen Ave, and then continue as normal. Route 6 and 2 won’t be affected by Richmond Market Day.

See detour maps at ebus.nz/news/santa-parades-and-market-days.

# What’s On in Tasman

### Karaoke and lip-sync night

Saturday 30 November, 6.00 pm, Motueka Rec Centre.

The Motueka Youth Council invites you to a free karaoke and lip-sync night. There will be prizes up for grabs for singing, dancing, and lip-syncing. Visit @motuekayouth on Instagram to find out more and sign up.

### Journaling for well-being

Wednesday 4 December, 11.00 am – 12.00 pm, Tākaka Library.

Local author Dr Stephanie Dale will speak about her latest book and host a journaling workshop and Q&A session on all things writing and publishing. Books will be available to purchase for $30, cash only.

### Law for lunch – trusts

Wednesday 4 December, 12.00 pm – 1.00 pm, Motueka Library.

Trevor Irwin from Nelson Bays Community Law will talk about trusts in this informative lunchtime session. Are you involved in a family trust or want to set one up? You need to find out how they work and about changes to New Zealand Trust Law.

### Outdoor movie night – *Barbie*

Saturday 7 December, 7.00 pm, Washbourn Gardens, Richmond.

The Waimea Youth Council invites you to enjoy a fun evening outdoors. There will be food available from 7.30 pm, live music and games from 8.00 pm, and the movie Barbie will kick off at 9.00 pm.

### Christmas parades

Motueka Christmas Parade
Friday 6 December, entertainment from 5.00 pm, parade starts at 7.00 pm, High Street, Motueka.

Richmond Santa ParadeSunday 8 December, 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm, Queen Street, Richmond.

Golden Bay Santa Parade
Saturday 14 December, 10.00 am, Commercial Street, Tākaka.

### Christmas escape room

A fun Christmas-themed escape room for ages 10+. On various days and times from Friday 13 – Thursday 19 December, at the Richmond and Tākaka Libraries. Visit our website for more information and to book your time: tasmanlibraries.govt.nz.

### Christmas by Candlelight

Saturday 14 December, entertainment from 6.00 pm, carols 8.00 pm – 10.00 pm, Washbourn Gardens, Richmond.

Join us for a magical Christmas in the park! Sing your favourite carols together with the choir, enjoy live performances, and share a picnic with your whānau on a cosy blanket. Santa will be making a special appearance to spread holiday magic!

# Newsline Notices

### Publicly notified resource consent application

Tipple Staircase – RM240000

D Tipple, T Tipple and M Tipple, have applied to the Tasman District Council for retrospective resource consent for a deck and associated stairway at 38 Kaiteriteri-Sandy Bay Road, Kaiteriteri, that also extends down the hillside across an unformed legal road to access the beach below the property.

The structure is located within a Residential Zone, the Coastal Environment Area (CEA), and a Cultural Heritage Precinct, as defined by the Tasman Resource Management Plan.

This is a summary notice only. On our website, you will find the full public notice, the application with details of the specific resource consent applied for, the assessment of environmental effects and supporting information. Visit tasman.govt.nz, search “Tipple Staircase”.

Any person may make a submission on the application under section 96 of the Resource Management Act 1991. You will find submission forms on our website and at our offices. Details of how to lodge a submission are also on our website.

Submissions close 5.00 pm Wednesday 29 January 2025.

### Proposed temporary road closure

Applicant: Nelson Car Club
Event: Dovedale Hill – Phil Fiddymont Memorial Rallysprint
Location: Pigeon Valley Road / Dovedale Road
Date and time: Saturday 22 February 2025 between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm
Postponement date: 23 February 2025

Objections close 5.00 pm, Friday 10 January 2025. Please send any objections to tania.brown@tasman.govt.nz.

### Motueka Community Board public notification

Pursuant to Section 119 Of the Local Electoral Act 2001, public notice is given that at its 19 November 2024 meeting the Motueka Community Board resolved in agenda item 8.3:

4) confirms that the extraordinary vacancy created by the resignation of Board Member David Armstrong be left vacant for the remainder of the 2022 – 2025 triennium, as per clause 117(3)(b) of the Local Electoral Act 2001; and

5) notes that this decision be publicly notified, in accordance with section 119 of the Local Electoral Act 2001.

Please contact Gavin Dawson, Governance Advisor, for more information.

### Alcohol applications

Visit tasman.govt.nz/alcohol-notices to see the latest alcohol licence applications.

### Council hui

Meetings will take place in person and via Zoom. For details, the Zoom link and recordings of previous meetings visit tasman.govt.nz/meetings-calendar. Unless otherwise stated, all meetings will be held at Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond.

Community Awards Subcommittee
Tuesday 3 December, 10.00 am. No public forum.

Creative Communities Subcommittee
Wednesday 4 December, 10.00 am. Motueka Library Community Meeting Room, Wallace Street. No public forum.

Joint Nelson Tasman Regional Transport Committee
Friday 6 December, 1.00 pm.

Submissions Hearing (Proposals to Classify Reserves)
Tuesday 10 December, 9.30 am.

Tasman District Council
Wednesday 11 December, 9.30 am.

Audit and Risk Committee
Thursday 12 December, 1.00 pm.