

newsline THE MAG

MOTUEKA HINTERLAND GETS HIGH-SPEED INTERNET



Rural areas surrounding Motueka now have access to high-speed broadband – the first area in the South Island to benefit from the nationwide Rural Broadband Initiative, set up to banish slow dial-up connections.

An upgraded Motueka cellphone tower was switched on recently by Vodafone, which is rolling out the technology. Rural customers need a high-performance modem, connecting wirelessly to the tower. Subscribers can also connect their home telephone service over the internet.

Pricing is “comparable” with urban centres, says Vodafone. Internet speeds of 5 megabits a second (Mbps) are also similar.

Peter Darlington, Tasman District Council Information Services Manager, says early subscribers to the new rural service will enjoy the fastest broadband.

The Rural Broadband Initiative, jointly funded by the Government, industry, Vodafone and Chorus, is focused on running fibre-optic cable to rural schools, giving them super-fast internet – up to 100Mbps. Surrounding communities can piggyback on the service.

Vodafone plans to build 154 new cell towers nationally and upgrade a further 387 as part of the six-year project.

The upgraded Motueka tower covers past Riwaka to Pah Road in the north, into the western hinterland, and south beyond Lower Moutere. Please note that this rural broadband service will not be sold into the township of Motueka.

THIS WEEK:

06. Lee Valley Dam Special

02. Rivercare Meetings

10. Pest Management Strategy

04. New Road Rules

12. Race Unity Day

MAYOR'S COMMENT

All Tasman residents will have received their Newsline Special summary of the Council's Draft Long Term Plan by now.

It is a very important document as it sets out the Council's Long Term Plan identifying what it is going to do over the next ten years and how it is going to pay for it. Reviewed every three years the plan takes into account the changes the District has undergone since it was last reviewed.

This plan acknowledges that we have experienced two natural disasters and the genesis of the biggest infrastructure project the District has seen for many years – the Lee Valley Dam.

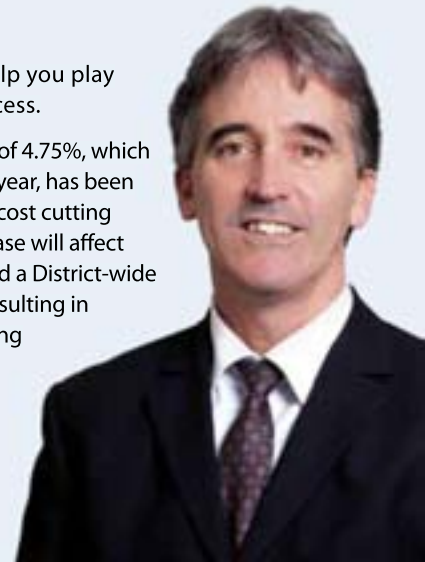
The Lee Valley Dam proposal is nearly 10 years in the development and is designed to meet the environmental, social and economic needs of the region. Very few people doubt its importance and we need to work through as a community who is going to own it, govern it and pay for it. More details are included in a special

feature within this Newsline to help you play a role in the decision making process.

The proposed general rate increase of 4.75%, which includes the dam costs for the next year, has been arrived at after some very intensive cost cutting within the Council. This 4.75% increase will affect ratepayers differently as we have had a District-wide revaluation of properties recently resulting in some rates going up and others going down depending on the change in the capital value of their properties.

Submissions on the Long Term Plan close 4.30pm on 3 April 2012.

Mayor Richard Kempthorne



TASMAN DISTRICT COUNCIL RIVERCARE GROUP MEETINGS

Owners and occupiers of land along the Tasman District Council Classified X and Y River Rated areas along the Dove, Motupiko, Tadmor, Sherry, Upper Motueka, Lower Motueka, Riwaka, Little Sydney, Brooklyn, Moutere, Takaka, Waingaro, Anatoki, Aorere and Kaituna rivers are invited to a series of public meetings.

The purpose of the meetings, hosted by the Council's river engineers and contractors, is to discuss the maintenance programme and activities for these rivers in the current 2011-2012 year as well as the draft maintenance programme for 2012-2013 year.

Enquiries to Giles Griffith, Tasman District Council, Ph. 03 543 8400; or

Rick Lowe at MWH New Zealand Ltd, Ph. 03 546 0673.

River	Meeting Date / Location
Upper Motueka, Motupiko, Tadmor and Sherry Rivers	Monday 26 March 2012, 1.30 pm at Tapawera Community Centre
Dove River	Monday 26 March 2012, 7.30 pm at Dovedale Hall
Lower Motueka, (Andersons to sea) Riwaka, Brooklyn, Little Sydney and Moutere Rivers	Tuesday 27 March 2012, 4.00 pm at the Tasman District Council Motueka Service Centre, 7 Hickmott Place, Motueka.
Takaka, Waingaro and Anatoki Rivers	Wednesday 28 March 2012, 10.30 am at Tasman District Council Golden Bay Service Centre, 78 Commercial Street, Takaka
Aorere and Kaituna Rivers	Wednesday 28 March 2012, 1.30 pm at Collingwood Tavern

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MAPUA WHARF PUMPSTATION – PROJECT UPDATE

The new Mapua Wharf Pumpstation will replace the existing sewage pumpstation, which is situated at the end of Aranui Road near the wharf. It will include the following features:

- Increased pumping capacity
- Underground storage tanks (56,000 litres)
- Standby generator (emergency power supply)
- Odour control

Increased pumping capacity is required to cater for urban development in the Mapua/ Ruby Bay area. Underground storage, emergency power supply and odour control are measures required to improve the overall environmental performance of the

pumpstation in terms of minimising the risk of overflow and odour issues.

All new structures will be below ground except for the electrical control panels, the standby generator and the odour control unit. The existing pumpstation will be decommissioned.

The pumpstation site is on remediated land belonging to Tasman District Council and is part of the former Fruit Growers Chemical Company site. All excavated material will be tested for residual contamination and disposed to Eves Valley Landfill. Pumped ground water will be discharged to the existing sewage system.

Site establishment commenced on Monday 27 February 2012 and construction started on 1 March 2012. Commissioning of the new pumpstation will be completed by the end of June 2012. Hours of work will be 7.00 am to 6.00 pm on weekdays excluding Public Holidays.

There will be some changes to the pedestrian path from the new carpark area but disruption to traffic and parking in Aranui Road is expected to be minimal.

For further information please contact Robert Workman at Tasman District Council on Ph. 03 543 8400 or Email robert.workman@tasman.govt.nz

NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE 2012 GREEN RIBBON AWARDS

Do you know someone who deserves recognition for their contribution to New Zealand's environment? We would love to have your nominations for the 2012 Green Ribbon Awards.

The Awards recognise the outstanding contribution of individuals and organisations to sustaining, protecting and enhancing New Zealand's environment. The Awards will be presented by the Minister for the Environment in June 2012.

The Awards are open to individuals and organisations in New Zealand who are making a difference for our environment.

You can nominate yourself, your organisation, community group, service or product or you can nominate someone else you think deserves recognition.

An information sheet showing the award categories and how to make a nomination is available at <http://www.mfe.govt.nz/withyou/awards/green-ribbon-nomination.html>. Nominations close 5.00 pm Friday 23 March 2012.

For more information please email green.ribbon@mfe.govt.nz or visit our website www.mfe.govt.nz/greenribbon.



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LEARN ABOUT THE CHANGES TO NEW ZEALAND'S GIVE WAY RULES

At 5.00 am on Sunday 25 March 2012, two of the give way rules are changing to make New Zealand's roads safer.

Whether you drive, walk, cycle or ride, you'll need to know about the changes to stay safe on the roads. Until 25 March 2012 the current rules apply, and for obvious safety reasons it's important not to use the new rules too early.

Change 1: The left-turn versus right-turn rule

This new rule will require all traffic turning right to give way to all vehicles coming from the opposite direction and turning left. (The red car with the dotted arrow in the example diagrams below will need to give way to the green car with the solid arrow).

Facing no signs or signals



Vehicle turning right has to give way

Facing the same signs or signals



Vehicle turning right has to give way

This new rule will apply at cross roads, T-intersections and driveways where:

- both vehicles are facing each other with no signs or signals (as shown above)
- both vehicles are facing give way signs
- both vehicles are facing stop signs (as shown above)
- both vehicles are facing green traffic signals.

Think: If you're turning right, give way.

Change 2: Uncontrolled T-intersections

The new rule will require all traffic turning right from a terminating road (bottom of the

T) with no signs or signals, to give way to all vehicles on the continuing road (top of the T).

The red car with the dotted arrow in the diagram below will need to give way to the green car with the solid arrow.

Think: Top of the T goes before me.



Vehicle turning right from terminating road has to give way

This change will bring it into line with T-intersections where there are Stop or Give Way signs on the terminating road.

This change will also apply at driveways including public driveways such as at a supermarket or hospital.

All vehicles entering or exiting a driveway should continue to give way to pedestrians on a footpath, or cyclists and pedestrians on a cycle path or shared path. Drivers should

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not pull out to block the footpath in front of pedestrians and cyclists.



Vehicle turning right from driveway has to give way

Other give way rules remain the same

Not all of the give way rules are changing – only the two we've mentioned. Traffic signs and signals are placed at intersections to show road users what they need to do so you should continue to obey these signs and signals.

Here's a snapshot of the give way rules that won't change, provided by the NZ Transport Agency (NZTA):

1. If you are at an intersection controlled by a Stop sign, you must stop and give way to all other vehicles.
2. If you are at an intersection controlled by a Give Way sign, you must give way to all other vehicles except those controlled by a Stop sign.
3. If you are turning, give way to all vehicles not turning. Note: If the road is marked with a centre line, you are deemed to be

turning if you leave the path of the centre line. If you follow the path of the centre line, you are deemed to be not turning.

4. If all other give way rules do not determine who gives way, give way to vehicles coming from your right. (An example of this is at cross roads controlled by traffic signals when the signals have failed and all approaches have a flashing yellow light.)

Roundabouts

No. You should continue to give way to all vehicles that will cross your path from your right as you enter the roundabout.

Why are the rules changing?

A change to the give way rules was identified as a road safety priority in the Government's road safety strategy to 2020, Safer Journeys. It's estimated that changing New Zealand's give-way rules will result in a reduction of about seven percent of relevant intersection crashes.

Overall, the give way rule changes will reduce the level of judgement needed in complex and dynamic traffic environments, and are expected to promote smoother traffic flow and improve pedestrian and cyclist safety.

Bearing in mind a driver's overall responsibility to drive safely, drivers of left-turning vehicles will only need to check whether there are pedestrians crossing the road into which they are turning, and whether there are any cyclists or motorcyclists on the left of their vehicle.

The driver of a right-turning vehicle will need to assess only whether there is a sufficient gap in the oncoming traffic for them to turn (and check for pedestrians who may be crossing the road).

This change also brings New Zealand's give way rules into line with give way rules in other countries.

Public awareness campaign

A dedicated web page is available at www.giveway.govt.nz. Here you can find leaflets in various languages, a video and interactive quiz about the changes.

National advertising starts in mid-March and includes TV, radio, print and online. Over 1.7 million households will receive a leaflet mail out about the change.

It's important that you stick to the current rules until 5.00 am on Sunday 25 March 2012.

Whether you drive, walk, cycle or ride, take the time to familiarise yourself with the new rules so you know what to do when the time comes.

Five things to remember:

- **Only two give way rules are changing**
- **They change at 5.00 am on Sunday 25 March 2012**
- **Change 1: Left turn v right turn. Remember: if you're turning right give way**
- **Change 2: Uncontrolled T-intersections. Remember: Top of the T goes before me**
- **Driveways are like T-intersections – so 'Top of the T goes before me' still applies**

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LEE VALLEY DAM PROPOSAL

Tasman, one of the country's most significant primary industry areas and fastest-growing districts, is at real risk of not having enough water to support itself in the future.

The proposed solution after nearly 10 years of investigation and consultation is the Lee Valley Dam. The dam is probably the most important infrastructure investment the Tasman community will make, and as a result the Tasman District Council is seeking public input before the project is developed further. There are a number of steps that need to be achieved before this project would commence as well as further opportunities for the public to have input. Following the consideration of submissions on the Draft Long Term Plan in May 2012 Council will decide whether to include this project in the final Long Term Plan and to undertake further consultation on it.

Tasman's Waimea Plains is one of the most significant farming and horticulture regions in New Zealand. Its main water source is the Wairoa/Waimea Rivers and the aquifers underlying the area. The aquifers are replenished either directly or indirectly by these rivers. All residential, business and rural water on the plains are supplied from these sources.

To provide adequate river flows and to protect against seawater intrusion into the aquifer near the coast, substantially higher amounts of water need to be left in the rivers.

Studies show that the ideal minimum flow for plant, fish and other life in the river should be about 1300 litres per second (l/s). After consultation with water users and environmental groups, a more practical limit of 1100 litres was agreed. However, if provision for this amount of water is made in the lower river there would need to be a cutback in the current water allocation of about 70%.

The current method of rationing water use is only a holding pattern. At an environmental flow need of 1100 l/s a "cease-take order" (halting all supply) would have had to be imposed for at least part of the year in four out of the last five years. Obviously, the effect of such bans is severe for agricultural, business and domestic users.

It is not just about agriculture or horticulture though. In addition to needing greater water flows for irrigation and environmental reasons, the population of Richmond, Brightwater and Wakefield and surrounding area is currently 23,700 and this is expected to increase to 30,000 by 2031. Water for residents and businesses in this area is currently supplied from water pumped from aquifers located at lower Queen Street. These pumps are located near the Waimea estuary

and therefore there is a risk of salt water intrusion.

To identify a solution to the increasingly important issue a community founded and funded group, the Waimea Water Augmentation Committee (WWAC), was formed nearly a decade ago.

Stage one Waimea Water Augmentation Study, produced by the committee (2004-2007), looked at a range of options, including scouring water from Nelson Lakes and the Buller River. Closer to home, 18 sites were considered in both the Wai-iti/Wairoa and Lee catchments. These options were then narrowed down to two, with the Lee Catchment recommended as the preferred area for an augmentation dam.

A feasibility investigation on the Lee Valley proposal was completed in early 2010. Design work is currently progressing (due for completion in 2013) on the site above Onslow Creek up the Lee Valley.

A number of dam models were developed and tested in this location. The proposed solution is a dam holding 13.4 million cubic metres of water costing about \$41.6 million (in 2010 dollars) that will provide water for both irrigation and urban supply to the



Key features of the Lee Valley Dam proposal

Assumption	Detail	Estimated Value
Capital Cost	Estimated by Tonkin and Taylor	\$41.6 m (2010)
Construction Period	Period between commencement of construction and commissioning of the dam	2 years
Size	Volume of the reservoir	13.4 million cubic metres
Base Case Area within scheme	Actual area serviced by the scheme	Total equivalence zone of effect 6300 ha*
Operating costs	To cover ongoing maintenance, operation and scheme administration costs	\$400,000 per annum
Hydro power station	Small hydro power station, owned separately from the dam and generating 6.2GWhr/year of power each year	Approx \$4.5 million. Costs would be recovered from the sale of electricity.

As a comparison the Nelson City Council Maitai Dam holds 4.0 million cubic metres of water, but this is mainly used for residential and businesses and not for irrigation purposes. *Plus 1465 ha for adjacent land and/or Nelson City future water supply demand.

equivalent of 7,765 ha. It will also provide increased water flow in the Waimea River to:

- preserve environmental flow requirements
- recharge the underlying aquifers during periods of drought
- provide water in the rivers for recreation during summer
- provide a secure water supply to Richmond, Brightwater and Wakefield for the long term (100 years).

As currently proposed, the dam would be approximately 52 metres high and constructed of rockfill with a concrete face. It would take approximately two years to build and one to three months to fill, depending on the time of year filling starts. The dam is being designed to have sufficient water to manage a 1-in-66 year drought. It is proposed that the dam be owned by a co-operative company with Council purchasing shares on behalf of residents and businesses to meet its share of water requirements for water supply and environmental flows.

Who is the Waimea Water Augmentation Committee (WWAC)?

The Waimea Water Augmentation Committee is a community group that has come together with a common interest of resolving the acute water shortage problems of the Waimea Basin. It includes representatives elected by the Waimea Basin Water Users comprising more than 400 water permit holders, it also includes local iwi and environmental interests represented by Fish & Game and the Department of Conservation. Tasman District

and Nelson City Councils represent the wider community and are represented by Councillors and Council staff.

The committee members are unpaid and have worked on behalf of their community for the long term good. Considerable time has been spent by the committee members over the last eight years attending meetings, workshops and liaising with local and central government as well as attending community meetings and keeping in touch with their zone members and sectors. The in-kind cost of committee member's contribution is very significant and is acknowledged and appreciated by Council.

Environmental benefits of the Dam

The Wairoa/Waimea/Lee River systems, as well as contributing water from the Roding, are important to the whole river system. The lower river system, the Wairoa River below the gorge and the Waimea River are severely impacted in terms of their environmental, aesthetic and recreational values by low flows. The amount of water left in the river system is reduced by abstraction from groundwater and surface water. The coastal springs are valued by iwi. The run of the river scheme (water released to replenish river flows and aquifer recharge) also aims to minimise seawater intrusion at the coastal fringes. The proposed Dam has multiple intakes so discharge quality is proposed to be managed to enhance the quality of the water released. A minimum flow of 500 l/s all the time below the dam is to be provided. Maintaining 1100 l/s at the lower Waimea River through increasing water releases will benefit not only consumers but also the environmental, recreational and aesthetic

values. The capability to release water to flush the river is built into dam design which would also provide positive benefits for the river by clearing algae.

The environmental flow component is proposed to be guaranteed through an Environmental Trust that will be custodian on this matter to ensure the long term environmental benefits of the dam are maintained and enhanced.

Who will be able to use water from the Dam?

The map on the following page outlines who would have access to the water from the dam.

- Those properties within the yellow area on the map will be able to obtain water at the equivalent of 30mm per ha per week.
- The blue area will be linked in through the Waimea East Irrigation Company and residential needs can be provided water through the Council's water supply service where there is reticulation.
- The current proposal will enable water to be provided to land outside of the yellow and blue areas, for example to Nelson City Council, which has assisted with funding of the studies for the dam.

Properties that are proposed to be rated for access to the water, but do not wish to use it will have the option of transferring their water to others. However the rating liability would remain linked to the originating land.

How would the dam be paid for?

As previously mentioned the cost of the dam is estimated at \$41.6 million (at 2010 prices). This figure is still considered the best estimate of the cost to construct the proposed dam.

continued on page 8...

Proposed location of the dam



Further work is required to determine the amount to be paid by each party but in summary it is proposed that the capital and operating costs would be met from the following groups:

- Irrigators for water for irrigation – this is estimated at \$420 to \$520 per hectare p.a.
- Residents and businesses for their share of the water for business and household use. This is estimated to add an extra 9 to 11 cents per cubic metre from 2016/17 and is included in the calculations for water costs set out in the Draft Long Term Plan.
- All landowners, District-wide, to pay for a share of the water that will be used to improve the environment. Council has budgeted \$6.2 million as its share of the \$12.4 million for improving the environment. To minimise or spread the costs to ratepayers the Council will investigate a number of options, including assets sales and spreading the terms of the payment for this share.

- A contribution from Central Government and Nelson City Council is to be sought towards the capital costs in recognition of the environmental and economic benefits of the project to the wider region and New Zealand.
- Nelson City Council will pay any operating costs associated with water taken for its urban supply.
- The dam offers a small hydroelectric generation opportunity of approximately 6.2GwHr/year. The economic analysis indicates the hydro component to be cost positive over time. The cost of the hydro component is estimated to be \$4.5m and is not included in feasibility costing for the dam itself.

Possible variation to proposed costs

The figures in this Plan for the Lee Valley Dam are in 2010 dollars and have not been inflated. They include costs for the dam itself

plus initial estimates for land acquisition, approvals costs and environmental mitigation requirements. They are based on professional advice that WWAC and Council received during the feasibility study that was completed in 2010. The cost estimate for these components ranged between approximately \$39m and \$46m, depending on a range of assumptions and options and based on the information available at that time. The capital construction cost estimates for the dam itself are the most recent estimates to have been derived. The dam is currently undergoing detailed design, in order to provide further cost certainty to WWAC and the Council on these capital construction costs. There remain a number of factors that may result in a decrease or increase in the cost of the dam, such as the outcome of ongoing site investigations, final design, the requirements imposed by any resource consents, and the construction cost estimates received from tenderers.



There are also risks associated with the expected funding from Government and/or Nelson City Council which are currently assumed at \$6.2m. If the scheme capital and operating costs and external funding change this may have an impact on the costs to ratepayers, landowners and businesses. This is why Council will be consulting with the public throughout the process. This consultation may be as part of each year's Annual Plan or as separate consultation processes, as further information on costs for the scheme come to hand.

Other options considered for paying for the water

The Waimea Water Augmentation Committee (WWAC) looked at charging on a per cubic metre basis. However this was considered to be too insecure in terms of a stable funding system and distributing the cost for the dam equitably.

Ownership of the Dam

It is proposed that the dam be owned by a co-operative company with 'A' and 'B' shares. 'A' shares would come with voting rights and represent consumptive user interests and 'B' shareholders, who will have their own Environmental Trust, representing non-consumer interested parties. In view of the community support to date, it is proposed that the dam be community owned and that Council will be a shareholder with an ability to appoint directors.

Decision Process

The proposed dam is the largest project that the Council is proposing to undertake and there are a number of steps to be considered and consulted on before a final decision to proceed is made. These steps are:

By June 2012

1. Decision on whether to include funding towards the dam in the final Long Term Plan following consultation on the Draft Long Term Plan.

By June 2013

2. Decision on the best form of ownership of the dam. This will be consulted on during 2012/2013.
3. Decision on how the costs will be divided. This will be consulted on during 2012/2013.

4. Obtaining Resource and Building consents for the dam. Separate consultation processes are required under the Resource Management Act.

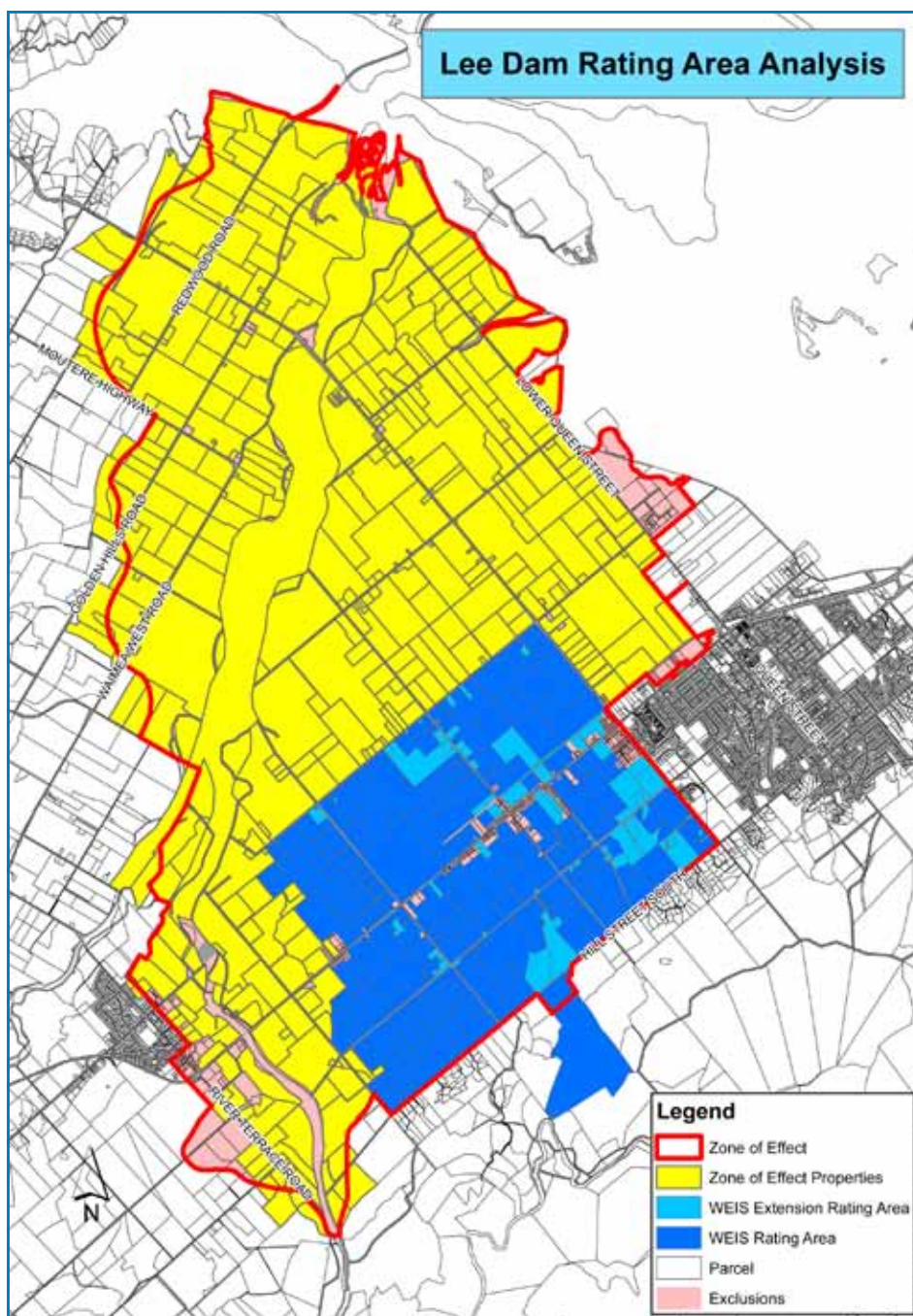
By June 2014

5. Consultation on any amendments to the proposal arising from site investigations and refinement of the dam design.

At this stage Council is seeking the public's view on whether to include funding for the dam in the final Long Term Plan. There are significant advantages and disadvantages of the project to be considered and therefore

Council would like as many people as possible to have input into the proposal. Submissions will be carefully considered by Council before any decision on whether or not to proceed to the next step of the Dam proposal.

The public are invited to come along to public drop-in days on 16 March 2012 at Appleby School from 4.00 pm – 7.00 pm and 21 March 2012 at Tasman District Council Richmond from 3.00 pm – 6.00 pm to discuss the proposed Plan



TASMAN-NELSON REGIONAL PEST MANAGEMENT STRATEGY TO BE REVIEWED

The Regional Pest Management Strategy is the document that lists the pests that landowners are required to control. The current Tasman-Nelson Regional Pest Management Strategy expires on 1 July 2012 and a review must be publicly notified by 30 June 2012. This requires the preparation of a Proposed Regional Pest Management Strategy which must be approved by the Tasman and Nelson Councils prior to notification of the review.



There are some significant changes to Regional Pest Management Strategies that will follow the introduction of the Biosecurity Law Reform Bill later this year. Unfortunately, it will be too late to incorporate its requirements in this review, but this legislation will lead to a comprehensive review during 2013 and 2014. Consequently, it is not intended to make any substantial changes to the current Strategy. It is proposed to extend its expiry period for another two years.

However, there are a couple of possible changes. One of most interest to Richmond and Brightwater residents would involve changing the rule that requires residents to control Argentine and Darwin's ant numbers. Instead, the Strategy will encourage occupiers to control ants on their property and take all reasonable precautions to prevent their spread. The Council will continue to undertake surveillance,

provide information and advice on methods of control, fund research into more effective methods of control, and assess new products. The ant rule is proposed to be removed as it has proved unenforceable with approximately 1,400 residents now affected by Argentine ants.

A second change that is being considered is the inclusion of another horticultural disease, European canker, and is proposed by orchardists.

Residents and ratepayers who wish to comment on possible changes to the Strategy should attend one of the public meetings in March (see details below). There will also be meetings held with various stakeholders – government departments, industry groups (forestry, horticulture, agriculture), iwi and non-governmental organisations.

The Proposed Strategy is expected to be publicly notified in June 2012 and it will be open for submissions to the end of July 2012.

A summary of submissions will be made and submitters, if they wish, can speak to their submissions in front of the Joint Councillors Committee who make recommendations to the two councils on any changes.

Public meetings to discuss possible changes to the Strategy

Nelson – Nelson City Council Chambers

7.30 pm – 9.00 pm, 14 March 2012

Richmond – Tasman District Council Chambers

7.30 pm – 9.00 pm, 20 March 2012

Takaka – Meeting Room, Takaka Service Centre

7.30 pm – 9.00 pm, 21 March 2012

For further information, contact Lindsay Vaughan

on Ph. 03 543 8432, or Email lindsay.vaughan@tasman.govt.nz

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FLUSH AND FORGET?

We all contribute the raw material, yet mentally block out what happens to it. The Waimea Inlet Forum is taking the bold step at its next gathering of exploring how the sewage treatment plant at Bells Island works.

Spokeswoman Gillian Bishop says water quality in the estuary is always being talked about, and with the new pipeline crossing to the island from Monaco, the treatment plant seemed a timely discussion topic for the forum's next gathering on Saturday 17 March 2012.

Members of the group were also keen to learn more about the plant, which is jointly owned by the Tasman District and Nelson City Councils. Plus, with the Rena container ship stranding in mind, the forum wanted to "think ahead" about risk management in emergencies.

The forum is a quarterly gathering of individuals and groups who "stand for a regenerative future" of the Waimea Inlet.

Its upcoming meeting includes expert speakers on:

- Waste water treatment at Bells Island and biosolids disposal
- Work to install the new pipeline – engineering and environmental perspectives

- Water quality management and monitoring
- Marine plants and birds
- Restoration projects on the island.

Attendees will be able to ask questions and discuss the future initiatives. A visit to Bell's Island in the afternoon is an option. Gillian says attendees can view restoration work on the spit end, where volunteers have put in 4500 plants.

The forum gathering is from 9.30 am – 1.00 pm in the Headingly Centre, Lower Queen St, Richmond. If you would like to attend please RSVP to Waimea.inlet@gmail.com or phone Linda on 03 540 3717.

Past forums have shared information on priorities for restoration, sedimentation in the estuary, bird, fish and plant life, the development of the cycleway, and Effective Resource Management Participation for Community Groups.

BIRD SANCTUARY SNAPS UP FOR PRIZES

A camera is a must for any trip to the Brook Waimarama Sanctuary, so appropriately the trust behind the haven for native wildlife is launching a photo competition, with prizes including cameras, equipment, vouchers and Brook Sanctuary memberships.

"Photos may be of flora, fauna or people – the only criterion is that the photos must have been taken at the sanctuary," says Hudson Dodd, general manager of the trust.

Email your entries to photos@brooksanctuary.org.nz by 5.00 pm Friday 20 April 2012. Include your name, telephone number and address, with a minimum photo file size of 300 pixels and maximum 1024 pixels.

The judging panel includes renowned landscape photographer Craig Potton. The competition has three age-group categories: Open category for all non-professional photographers, plus primary/

intermediate (years 1-8) and secondary school (years 9-13).

The principal sponsor is Nelson City Cameras.

The best images will be displayed publicly and category winners will also receive their photo reproduced on to canvas. Some photos may feature in the 2013 Brook Sanctuary calendar.

Tasman District Council is a partner with Nelson City Council in the project to build a 14km predator-proof fence enclosing 715ha so that native plants and animals can thrive. Fence construction is scheduled to begin in 2013.



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CELEBRATING OUR CULTURES TOGETHER

Race Unity Day this year will be the biggest celebration ever of our region's diverse cultural community, says Evey McAuliffe, from the Nelson Multicultural Council.

"We are bringing in performers of national significance, including the Qiao Yi Lion Dance Troupe from Christchurch," she says. "There's a growing Chinese community in Tasman and Nelson and it's nice to be able to celebrate and acknowledge their culture alongside all the others."

Race Unity Day, now in its 12th year, features the music, dance, cuisine, art and interactive activities from many ethnic groups who call our region home. Among the cultures represented are Maori, Latino, Irish, French, Indonesian, Easter Island, Nepali Bhutanese, Tahiti and four cultures from Burma (Burmese, Chin, Zomi and Kayan).

Evey says this year the interactive area has been developed to give people a hands-on experience of activities such as Indian henna hand painting, Japanese origami, Maori traditional games and Tai Chi.

"The day is not only about celebrating our respective cultural heritage. It's an opportunity for people to engage and talk with others."

She suggests people come hungry to the event as there's a vast array of ethnic foods on offer.

Tasman Mayor, Richard Kempthorne, will make a short speech at the event.

Race Unity Day 2012 is at Victory Square, Nelson, on Sunday 11 March 2012 from 11.00 am to 4.00 pm. Gold coin donation.



WHERE DOES YOUR DIRTY WATER GO?

Fun is the best part of fundraising. A public carwash is one of the common fundraisers for sports teams and school trips and can be a great way to raise money and have some fun whilst you are doing it.

So our fish and other stream life can have fun too, we need to avoid discharges of car wash water into our streams and waterways. The best place for car-washing is on a permeable surface like grass or gravel. This is so any 'nasties' from the washwater, like grease, brake dust and detergent, can be filtered through the soil. When these things get into the stormwater system, which drains directly to the nearby stream, it can cause real

environmental issues. If you choose to carwash on a tar sealed or concreted area then please ensure you trap and collect the wastewater, and dispose of it responsibly, so that it doesn't go into the stormwater drain. Conserving water by using a water-saving hose nozzle and selecting the right biodegradable soap, which is chlorine and phosphate free are other easy ways to help keep our District's streams and waterways clean and healthy.



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Nelson Nines Rugby League

Saturday 10 March 2012

Enjoy an action packed day of fun, entertainment and rugby league nines at Trafalgar Park, Nelson. Something for all ages – carnival atmosphere, family friendly, fancy dress prizes, food stalls and beer tent. Tickets at the gate or www.tasmanrugbyleague.co.nz

Sport Tasman Muddy Buddy

Sunday 18 March 2012

This is a mud-packed adventure fun run for all abilities around the muddy flats of the Moutere Inlet. Tackle the course in teams of two or in larger teams as a family. Children under 10 must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver and the course is designed for children 5+ years.

The estuary zone of the course includes some crawling obstacles, which should guarantee faces full of mud.

For more information contact Rita Merriman on Ph. 03 923 2311, email rita.m@sporttasman.org.nz or go to www.sporttasman.org.nz

Sport Tasman Top Team Marlborough

Sunday 18 March 2012

Lansdowne Park, Blenheim

Has your team got what it takes? Compete in a number of outdoor games like the sack race, giant ring toss, obstacle course, see saw challenge, chariot race and many more! Be prepared to get wet while you run, lift, toss, crawl and roll your way to the Top!

Open to junior and senior teams. Team Entries close 12 March 2012.

For more information, including an entry form, go to www.sporttasman.org.nz or contact Hayden Bryant on hayden.b@sporttasman.org.nz

What's On at Motueka Rec

NEW Club Recreation Community Programmes for 2012

Silver Sneakers is a supported indoor walking circuit that is suited to older adults who's coordination and balance isn't what it used to be. Held on Mondays, 9.30 am – 10.30 am. Cost \$4 (including morning tea).

Seated Exercises programme to enhance strength, flexibility, coordination and fitness in seniors. What's more it's Fun! Held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10.30 am – 11.30 am. Cost \$4.

Women's Circuit designed especially for women by women. Class held Fridays at 11.00 am, cost \$8.

For further information contact the Motueka Recreation Centre, Ph.03 528 8228 or email jody.m@sporttasman.org.nz.

What's On at Richmond Rec

Sit and Be Fit (Level 1)

Easy seated exercise with balance options included. Social time afterwards with a cuppa tea and food.

When: Fridays 11.15 am – 12 noon

Cost: \$4.00 casual

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- Learn about correct stretching after your ride and then join in the social hot drink and eats afterwards.

When: Monday and Wednesdays, 1.00 pm. Ring Sarah or Mary-Ann at the Richmond Rec Centre on Ph. 03 544 3955 for the meeting point details as they can change each week.

Sport Tasman is a Charitable Trust that operates across Nelson, Tasman, Marlborough, Buller and Kaikoura regions to get more people, more active, more often. Ph. 03 546 7910
Address: 142 Saxton Road East, Stoke, Nelson 7011 • www.sporttasman.org.nz



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NEWSUPDATE

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Public meeting to discuss the proposed amalgamation

Members of the public are invited to attend a public meeting hosted by Nelson Grey Power to hear arguments for and against the proposed amalgamation of Tasman District and Nelson City Councils.

This is the public's opportunity to have your say and ask the question you want answers to. Aldo Miccio, Richard Kempthorne, Ali Boswijk and Tim King will be speaking.

The meeting will be held on Thursday 15 March 2012, 7.00 pm, Nelson Suburban Club, Tahunanui Drive, Nelson. Doors open 6.30pm.

Public Meeting – Amalgamation: Impossible Dream or Achievable Nightmare?

Eminent planning scholar Owen McShane will be speaking in Nelson, 3.00 pm Thursday 15 March 2012 at Seifried Estate.

Owen is a Resource Management Consultant with a Bachelor of Architecture, and a Diploma in Town Planning from the University of Auckland. He also completed a Masters Degree in City and Regional Planning at UC Berkeley where his Masters thesis was in the field of urban development economics. He is also Chair of the Policy Panel of the NZ Climate Science Coalition and Director of the Centre for Resource Management Studies.

Joining Owen remotely from Chicago will be Wendell Cox, who is an international public policy consultant. Wendell has a BA in Government from California State University and an MBA from Pepperdine University. He specialises in the areas of urban planning, urban transport, demographics and housing affordability. He has lectured at universities in Sydney, Paris, Toronto and the Institute of Economic Affairs (London).

Petite Fleur, Seifried Estate, Redwood Road, Appleby on Thursday 15 March 2012 at 3.00 pm.

This is a free public meeting for people to obtain information, insight, research and facts. Don't miss this opportunity to hear from leading experts on local governance. Bookings at info@yourcommunityyourchoice.co.nz or Ph. 027 262 0107

PUBLIC NOTICES

Tasman District Council's Draft Long Term Plan 2012-2022

Council released its Draft Long Term Plan 2012-2022 for public consultation on Wednesday 29 February 2012. The Draft Long Term Plan covers the years from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2022, and includes the Draft Annual Plan for 2012/2013.

The purpose of the Draft Long Term Plan is to get feedback on whether you think Council is planning to provide the right services and activities within the Tasman District.

The Draft Long Term Plan 2012-2022 comprises the following documents:

- A Summary, which was sent out to all households in the Tasman District through a special edition of Newline on Friday 2 March 2012.
- The Draft Long Term Plan 2012-2022 (Volumes 1 and 2) containing the key changes Council is planning for 2012-2022, the services Council is planning to provide, the costs of the services and how the services will be funded.

Council has also produced the "17 Settlements" document as supplementary information that outlines what new projects and activities are being provided by ward and settlement within the District.

The above documents will be available for viewing from Wednesday 29 February 2012 at www.tasman.govt.nz and during normal office hours at:

- Richmond Office, 189 Queen Street, Richmond
- Motueka Office, 7 Hickmott Place, Motueka
- Takaka Office, 78 Commercial Street, Takaka
- Murchison Office, 92 Fairfax Street, Murchison
- District Library, Queen Street, Richmond
- Motueka Library, Pah Street, Motueka
- Takaka Memorial Library, Junction Street, Takaka.

Submissions must be received by 4.30 pm on Tuesday 3 April 2012.

Please post to:

Submissions on Draft Long Term Plan 2012-2022

Tasman District Council, Private Bay 4, Richmond 7050. Or deliver to your local Tasman District Council office; or email to longtermplan@tasman.govt.nz. Submission forms are available on Council's website and in the Newline Summary, Draft Long Term Plan 2012-2022 and 17 Settlements document.

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NEWSUPDATE

PUBLIC NOTICES

Speed Limit Suspension and Reservation of Kerr Bay Lake Rotoiti, Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 March 2012

The Rotoiti Power Boat Club will be conducting a regatta involving high-speed power boat racing at Kerr Bay, Lake Rotoiti between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm on both 17 and 18 March 2012.

Pursuant to powers provided to the Harbourmaster by the Tasman District Council Navigation Safety Bylaw 2005 (Amended 2006), the speed limits imposed by the Bylaw in relation to vessels within 50 metres of another vessel, or within 200 metres of shore or a structure are suspended for those vessels taking part and controlling the event. Also, exclusive use of Kerr Bay, Lake Rotoiti out to a line which heads due east from a point 200 metres south of the Brunner Peninsula is provided to the event organisers. The reserved area will therefore include the water ski access lane, swimming area, and those areas of water immediately adjacent to the launching ramps and beach at Kerr Bay. Vessels wishing to transit through or enter the reserved area during the event may do so only after consulting with the event organisers, and then may do so when, and under such conditions that the event organisers may choose to specify. Event communications may be using UHF radio, or Channel 17 on Marine VHF radio. Vessels entering or within the reserved area are requested to comply with any direction given by the event organisers or event officials relating to passage through that reserved area as if it was a direction given by the Harbourmaster.

Persons wishing to swim from the lake shore or waterski are recommended to use West Bay. Waterskiers should deep-water start anywhere more than 200m from shore outside of the reserved area, unless towed at less than 5 knots to or from the 200m line.

Other conditions have been imposed and may be viewed at www.tasman.govt.nz/recreation/boating-fishing/special-events-and-activities

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Agendas and Minutes for Council Meetings can be viewed on Council's website at www.tasman.govt.nz

Golden Bay Community Board

Golden Bay Office, 78 Commercial Street, Takaka, Tuesday 13 March 2012 9.00 am. *Public forum*

Motueka Community Board

Motueka Office, 7 Hickmott Place, Motueka, Tuesday 13 March 2012 4.00 pm. *Public forum*

Engineering Services Committee

Tasman Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond, Thursday 15 March 2012 9.30 am. *Public forum*

Commissioner Hearing (Adcock and Donaldson)

Tapawera Rugby Clubrooms, 5 Matai Crescent, Tapawera, Monday 19 March – Wednesday 21 March 2012, 9.30 am. *No public forum*

Tasman District Council

Tasman Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond, Thursday 22 March 2012, 9.30 am. *Public forum*

24 Hour Assistance – Phone your local office

Richmond	03 543 8400	Motueka	03 528 2022
Murchison	03 523 1013	Takaka	03 525 0020

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LAKE ROTOITI WAKA AMA IS A HUGE SUCCESS



The Mot Menz crew, from Motueka Waka Ama Club, leads the men's race at the Tuna e Hoe Ana regatta. Photo: Karen Clark.



Novice crews race at the Tuna e Hoe Ana regatta at Lake Rotoiti. Photo: Karen Clark.

Lake Rotoiti both charmed and challenged waka ama paddlers from throughout the country at a recent race regatta.

About 140 paddlers took part in the annual Tuna e Hoe Ana regatta on 24-25 February 2012, organised by the Nelson-based Maitahi Outrigger Canoe Club. The record field included paddlers from Dunedin, Wellington and Christchurch, as well as large contingents from clubs in Nelson, Motueka and Golden Bay.

They were impressed with the lake's beauty, but many were also tested by strong icy winds that whipped up waves and chilled fingers.

Veteran Wellington paddler Royce Gray said the lake was a stunning location for a regatta. This was the first time his crew had competed in the event and they planned to return, he said. The biting southwesterly that blew throughout the weekend didn't faze them because, well, they were from Wellington.

Other crews found the wind and waves more taxing, but all completed the race course. Races ranged from 5km to 20km, and featured one, two and six-person waka ama.

Maitahi Outrigger Canoe Club president Peter Bywater said the event had grown significantly since its launch four years ago, with the number of competitors more than doubling in that time. This year they ranged in age from their teens to 80-plus.

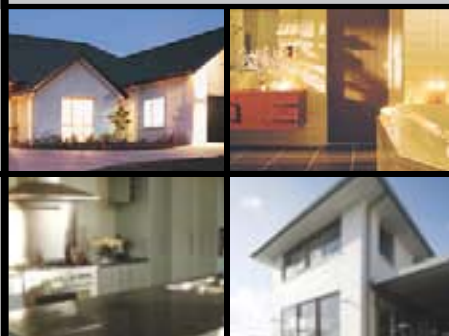
He said much of the regatta's success was due to the fantastic support of local businesses and residents, who made the participants feel very welcome.

The club had also received a lot of support from Tasman District Council Harbourmaster Steve Hainstock, who helped to set the race course, and the Department of Conservation, which made the lake available as a regatta venue.

The event is named after the lake's legendary eels – Tuna e Hoe Ana means "paddling with eels".

For further information contact Karen Clark on Ph. 027 313 2461 or email kmclark@xtra.co.nz

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