



Managing rivers – it's a big job

"Why don't you get rid of the gravel to stop our rivers flooding?" It's a question often asked, but unfortunately, it's not always that simple!

Our river management team oversees gravel in our larger rivers to protect people and property, but we need to do this in a way that is sustainable, and that supports the wellbeing of the river.

Our rivers are dynamic in their behaviour and we must work with them, not against them.

Material moves down a river when flows increase, and the higher the flow, the greater the volume of material that moves down it – it's like a large conveyor belt. Rivers have an amount of sediment that they need to move along the conveyor belt.

If we extract too much gravel, then we risk starving the river of sediment. This can cause the river to cut down into its bed or erode its banks to

access the sediment that it wants to convey. Bank erosion causes the loss of land alongside the river and can undermine bridges and other works along the banks.

Although some people think that any buildup of gravel should be removed, it can only be taken if it does not compromise the wellbeing of the river.

We have a resource consent for gravel management in our rivers, and by taking gravel by following this consent, we can show that we are managing gravel sustainably.

Overall, there are many aspects that need to be addressed when considering how our rivers are managed – it's a big job!

WONDERFUL WATER



Pleasing pesticide testing results

We recently had some pleasing results for our District from the 2022 National Survey of Pesticides, emerging organic contaminants (EOCs) and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

Since 1990, we have participated in nine groundwater pesticide surveys coordinated by Crown Research Institute – ESR (Environmental Science and Research).

A small number of groundwater sites in past surveys have had pesticide residues detected but all were well below the maximum acceptable values for New Zealand Drinking Water Standards.

In 2022, we sampled 22 groundwater sites for pesticides across the Tasman region, 16 of these sites were also sampled for PFAS, and 10 sites were also tested for EOCs.

Pesticide and PFAS testing results indicated there were only two sites which had a pesticide detected in our region. Both of these sites were in shallow groundwater; an irrigation well



(5m deep) in the Waimea Plains and a Council monitoring bore (old driven fire bore, 6.2m deep) in Tākaka.

PFAS are a group of chemicals used to make products that resist heat, oil, stains, grease and water. There were no PFAS detected in any of our region's bores.

The irrigation well in the Waimea Plains had a detection for desethylterbutylazine (DET) at a concentration level 160 times lower than maximum acceptable values.

The Tākaka monitoring bore had a minor detection of terbutylazine at a concentration level 400 times lower than the maximum acceptable values. This is the first time that a pesticide had been detected at this bore.

Terbutylazine and DET are selective herbicides, used for grass and broadleaf weed control.

We are still waiting for the report from ESR regarding the 2022 EOC results.



Te Waikoropupū recommendations underline catchment commitment

We have received the final report and recommendations from the Environment Court on the Water Conservation Order (WCO) inquiry for Te Waikoropupū Springs.

The Court's recommendation of a WCO for Te Waikoropupū Springs reflects the agreement from all parties involved that this is a very special waterbody and taonga for Mohua/Golden Bay, the Tasman region, and all of New Zealand.

As a submitter to the hearing, we want to see the best outcomes for the Springs, the wider Tākaka catchments, iwi and the community.

We are mindful of the implications on the lives and livelihoods of those living in areas of the valley that are covered by the proposed WCO. Those implications are likely to include changes to the way land and water are used by people.

The area covered by the proposed WCO is called the Wharepapa Arthur Marble Aquifer Recharge Area.

The Court process has defined a water allocation limit for the catchment and a minimum water flow to protect the Springs. It has also defined a nitrate target at the Springs to be reached by 2038 and is the first New Zealand WCO to seek improvement in water quality. There will also be limits for Dissolved Reactive Phosphorus, Dissolved Oxygen and Water Clarity at the Springs.

If no appeals are lodged, the Minister for the Environment will decide whether to accept or reject the Court's recommendations.

We are continuing to develop a new resource management plan for this catchment. This will ultimately implement the WCO, alongside the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.

In parallel, we are progressing an Action Plan in conjunction with farmers and Manawhenua ki Mohua that will identify actions by the Council and land and water users in the Springs recharge area to manage nitrates.



Rangers muck in for Moturoa planting

Our work under the Waimea Inlet One Billion Trees (Phase 2) project, funded through Ministry for the Environment's Jobs for Nature programme, is continuing to make a difference.

We will have put more than 38,000 plants in the ground this winter across a number of sites. This includes planting native trees and plants at Orchard Stream, Waimea River Bermlands and Neimann Creek.

We are also undertaking further planting at Moturoa / Rabbit Island, Best Island, Rough Island, and on nearby private land.

Our work to enhance Waimea Delta is also continuing with further wetland, salt marsh and terrestrial planting following a further stage of earthworks.

We were grateful to have the assistance of the Kaitiaki Whenua Trainee Ranger students from Nelson Marlborough

Institute of Technology in planting more than 1,400 plants at Moturoa / Rabbit Island in July.

The aim of this planting is to progressively return the traverse between Rough and Moturoa / Rabbit Islands and its shores to a character similar to that which would have existed before the plantation was established.

A dedicated group of volunteers from Keep Richmond Beautiful has also been diligently planting in reserves around the Waimea Estuary for years, helping to transform areas back into flourishing native. A big thanks to all involved in the hard mahi over the years.

What does a Biosecurity Officer do?

Tasman's Biosecurity Officers are a key line of defence in preventing the pestiest plants and critters from taking hold in our District.

It's a big job across a big area. Did you know there are only three full-time Biosecurity Officers for the whole of Tasman? That's one for every 3205km².

Their primary job is to facilitate control of the pest species listed in the Tasman Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP). This plan is updated every 10 years with input from Biosecurity Officers, weed technical experts, government organisations and public submissions.

They spend a lot of time carrying out surveillance for new infestations of pests in the plan, so you may see them out and about from time to time searching for weeds.

Exclusion pests are of the highest priority – these pests aren't present in our District, and we don't want them to be.

Eradication species are the next highest priority – they are present but in such low densities that we believe they can be eradicated.

There are limited occasions where they will spend time hunting and controlling species not included in the RPMP. This can occur when a significant pest weed species was not known to be in the District when the plan was made but has since arrived.

We treat these as Eradication species until we can include them in the plan. Blue passionflower is a good example of this.

As well as being out in the field, they're also just as prominent in the public arena – whether it's educating the community at schools, A&P shows, talks, letter drops, and social media.

Community engagement is so important – we need extra eyes around the District to help us.



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Soft plastic recycling is back



The Soft Plastic Recycling Scheme has made a welcome return to Nelson and Tasman after a five-year hiatus.

The distinctive soft plastic recycling bins can be found at eight new locations including The Warehouse Richmond, The Warehouse Motueka, Countdown Richmond, Countdown Motueka, and New World Motueka.

Soft plastics are things like old grocery bags, bread bags, bubble wrap, plastic wrappers of products such as biscuits and chips, and anything you buy that has a soft plastic covering.

Lyn Mayes, Soft Plastic Recycling Scheme Manager, says we're very pleased to bring soft plastic recycling back to the upper South Island. This year, we have been working with Nelson and Tasman Councils and are delighted to partner with Enviro NZ who will collect the soft plastics from stores, bale and transport them to Future Post in Marlborough.

All the soft plastic collected in Tasman will be processed at the new Future Post facility in Blenheim and recycled into fence posts destined for local farms and vineyards.

Mayor Tim King says it's great to see industry taking responsibility for product packaging, and we congratulate The Packaging Forum for expanding the soft plastic scheme into Tasman District.



PARKS AND PLACES



Linking Central Richmond with Jubilee Park and beyond

We're planning some safety improvements for pedestrians and cyclists who travel between Central Richmond, the Jubilee Park recreational facilities and the Richmond West development of Berryfields and The Meadows.

A critical part of this work – the Jubilee Park Connection – will be improving the pedestrian crossing on State Highway 6 / Gladstone Road where we will be working with Waka Kotahi on the upgrade.

The work will include enhanced plantings, raised speed humps to slow traffic through the sports club area and upgraded lighting.

As well as this work to create a better link between residential, recreation and road zones, we're also making some illuminating upgrades to the skatepark at Richmond's Jubilee Park.



The new installation will be LED lights on poles at the northern and southern ends of the skatepark area.

We hope the upgrade will make the area more visible at night as well as safer for those using it.

However, we want to give nearby residents a break when it comes to bright lights during the evening. Therefore, the new lighting system will be on a push button system that requires a restart every half hour until they switch off automatically after 9.00 pm.

Learn more at shape.tasman.govt.nz/transport-choices-2023 and click on Richmond projects.

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TRANSPORT TALES



New interactive map for Motueka work

Now you can take a virtual flight around Motueka and pick up information about our proposed new Transport Choices projects.



The project map is now live at shape.tasman.govt.nz/transport-choices-2023/motueka-projects.

As you navigate around the map, you will see icons that you can click on and get artistic impressions and drawings and details of what is planned.

These will be updated regularly with information including construction timeframes for when and where the improvements are being made.

In our Motueka Transport Choices programme, we are focusing on:

- A cycleway connection between the town centre and the foreshore.

- Safer travel for school children.
- Safer crossing points.
- Defining transition points to the town centre slow speed zone.
- Bike parking, and, in particular, a good quality covered bike parking facility for those that want to use the new buses.
- Construction of missing links in paths.
- Attending to known safety hot spots.

Visit our [Shape Tasman website](https://shape.tasman.govt.nz) or scan the QR code with your smartphone to stay informed.

Māpua's Streets for People project is about to hit the ground

Work is scheduled to start in the next couple of weeks and will take about eight weeks. The job will be done in three stages and during this time there will be some diversions and traffic disruptions between 6.00 am and 6.00 pm on weekdays.

The first stage consists of a one-lane closure on Aranui Road from Stafford Drive to the Māpua Community Hall. Traffic will enter Māpua from Stafford Drive and exit via Higgs Road in a one-way system, like the one used for the Easter Fair.

Aranui Road will be fully open on weekends and the Aranui Road and Iwa Street intersection will remain open throughout the project.

At one point during construction, the intersection of Aranui Road, Higgs Road and Toru Street will be under stop/go traffic management.

There will be a temporary 30km/h speed limit throughout the project area.

Full access will be retained for all residents and businesses. There may be some delays and queuing, but our traffic management team will minimise this where possible.

There will be no change to bus services and special arrangements have been made for emergency services during the project.

Electronic message boards will be installed on Stafford Drive and Māpua Drive directing road users while work is underway.

Keep up to date with the project at shape.tasman.govt.nz/streets-people/mapuasfp



YOUTH YARNS



Skatepark gets a facelift

What used to be a plain and boring-looking wall in Murchison has been transformed into a vibrant piece of artwork thanks to the local Youth Council.



A new mural at the Murchison Skatepark is one phase of the refurbishment of the area. The mural was initiated by the Murchison Youth Council and painted by Sean Duffell, who's worked on other murals across Tasman.

Funding for the project was helped by one of our Creative Communities Grants.

Youth Council members saw a need to brighten the area and engage users of their local skatepark. In collaboration with Sean, they designed and painted the mural on the wall of the skatepark building.

Councillors hope the mural will generate greater interest around the skatepark as it undergoes improvements and a general facelift.



Students call for improved road safety

Some Richmond youngsters are taking a keen interest in road safety and what can be done to improve it.

Our project team visited Richmond School recently to hear their views and discuss actions that could be used to improve road safety in the area.

The students came up with a list of things preventing them from walking and cycling to school, which included vehicle speed, lack of visibility around parked cars and the volume of traffic before and after school on some streets.

Our project team also came away with a letter from the Richmond School Student Council saying that some

children are not able to walk to school by themselves along Wensley Road because it is busy and there aren't enough places to cross safely.

They asked that the concerns they've raised are included in any planning for potential improvement work on Wensley Road.

Their suggestions included improving pedestrian crossings, removing some car parks and creating ways of slowing traffic at certain points on the road.

In the meantime, you can share your thoughts about Wensley Road in our safety survey on the Shape Tasman website – shape.tasman.govt.nz/streets-people.

Pictured above: Richmond School students mapping out their visions for Wensley Road.

Buses first week a success!

There has been a phenomenal response to the new eBus service across the region.



Statistics for the first seven days of the service show there were 15,500 journeys, which is a 44 percent increase compared to the former NBus.

The daily average usage of the old NBus was 1,800 passengers, while the new eBus usage averaged 2,600.

The new Motueka and Wakefield routes seem to have hit the mark, with 1,200 journeys recorded in the first week of operation.

Weekend numbers were also well up during launch week at 2,709 passengers which is an increase of 195 percent over the old NBus.

COOL COMMUNITIES



Welcoming Week 2023 takes shape

Tasman's second annual Welcoming Week is shaping up to be jam-packed with events planned right across the District.

The week focuses on creating inclusive environments where all residents can thrive and belong. No matter what language you speak, who you worship or where you were born – everyone is welcome in Tasman.

Welcoming Week kicks off on Friday 1 September and the list of events is growing.

You can listen to the authentic migrant stories' session at Motueka Library from 1.00 pm on Saturday 2 September, watch the documentary *Tamil Stories* at Richmond Library at 5.30 pm on Thursday 7 September or you could

even join the new multicultural youth group in Motueka.

Organisations and schools are planning shared food events for staff and students to celebrate cultural diversity.

The rest of the week is crammed with activities ranging from fun NERF battles in Murchison to creative "Crafternoon" sessions at Richmond Library, an international book exchange, and even a Meet and Mingle at the Makers Market in Māpua.

There are also numerous other events planned so keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for updates: tasman.govt.nz/events.

For further information contact birte.becker-steel@tasman.govt.nz.



Councillor Chris Hill, Golden Bay Ward

I recently attended the Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) conference at the Te Pae Convention Centre Christchurch, a world-class facility beside the river in the centre of the city.

I was struck by the enormous scale of change that Christchurch has undergone and the enormity of the decisions that have been made, from both an overarching perspective and for each individual project.

As I took in the design of the impressive building, I was keenly aware that some bold decisions had been made.

One of the keynote speakers at the conference was Sophie Howe, who was the first Future Generations Commissioner for Wales. Her role is to safeguard long-term interests and the well-being of future generations.

The job includes establishing what the big issues are that future generations will face that the government should be acting on now.

Given that it would have been difficult 30 years ago to imagine how we might be living now, making decisions with the generations to come in mind is not straightforward.

Tasman District Council's 'long-term' plan has a 10-year focus, but I feel a much longer strategic approach is needed.

The Future for Local Government Review acknowledges that the current local government system is not set up for future success and change is critical, particularly to how the sector is resourced.

Local Government must own and drive the changes needed. The new President and Vice President of LGNZ are from a younger era and are well-placed to assist in leading bold changes keeping an eye well into the future.



Golden Bay Community Board

The Golden Bay Community Board is pleased to let residents know we are reinstating our meetings in Collingwood.

On Monday 11 September and Monday 11 December, we will be convening at the Collingwood Fire Station on Elizabeth Street. As with all our regular monthly meetings, we begin at 1.00 pm and everyone is welcome to attend.

Staff have investigated options to enable digital access to meetings and a portable meeting solution has now been acquired. This also enables the meetings to be recorded for those unable to attend, and for remote attendance.

We plan to hold more GBCB meetings in Collingwood in 2024.

On another note, NIWA is predicting a hot, dry summer for Golden Bay so please think about your fire safety.

Fire and Emergency NZ (FENZ) and Civil Defence are encouraging people to ensure that their properties are fire safe – clear old dead trees from around your house and property, and ensure that if you are planting trees, you check out the FENZ or Council website for low-risk trees and plants.

It's also a good time to ensure that emergency services have access to your house – is your driveway clear of low-hanging branches that might slow them coming to your aid?

WHAT'S ON IN TASMAN



Community planting day

Sunday 27 August, 9.00 am – 1.00 pm, Waimea Delta Wetland. Access and parking at the end of Cotterell Road.

Join the Battle for the Banded Rail in their community planting efforts. Everyone is invited! Please bring gloves, a spade and drinking water. Wear solid footwear and clothes suitable for the weather conditions. Morning tea is provided. For more information, email Kathryn at bandedrail@gmail.com.

Wellby Talking Café

Wednesday 6 September, 1.30 pm – 3.00 pm, The Wholemeal Café, Tākaka.

Wellby Talking Cafés welcome everyone for a relaxed cuppa to start your journey connecting with others who enjoy the same things. You can pop in for a quick chat or stay for a longer conversation with friendly people. There is no need to register, just turn up on the day.

Dementia-friendly library group

Every Tuesday, 10.30 am – 11.30 am, Richmond Library.

If you are living with dementia, this group is for you. Come along to this supportive, friendly group facilitated by Debbie, Tracy and Deborah at your familiar local library. Free to attend.

Author talk – Gerard Hindmarsh

Wednesday 30 August, 1.00 pm – 2.00 pm, Tākaka Library.

Well-known local author Gerard Hindmarsh presents a talk and slide show about his latest book *Kahurangi Out West*. This book is the final in his trilogy of stories from the backcountry of Northwest Nelson. Shining through is Gerard's love of the area and nose for a good story. Free to attend.

Learn about nature's way of recycling

Wednesday 30 August, 10.00 am – 11.00 am, Constance Barnicoat Room, Richmond Library.

Composting at home is an easy and environmentally friendly way to manage your food scraps and garden waste. It also supplies free, nutrient-rich organic matter you can use in your garden.

Our Environmental Education Officer Prashanti Lovegrove is running a workshop to inspire you.

Whether you're just getting started, or need a little help troubleshooting, there's something for you. Plus, there are some great giveaways and prizes to be won. Light refreshments will also be provided.

To learn more, visit our website: tasman.govt.nz/compost.

NEWSLINE NOTICES



Last chance to nominate a local hero

Every year, our Outstanding Community Service Awards officially recognise and celebrate the special people who help keep our communities running.

If you know one of these unsung heroes who works away quietly with little recognition or reward, please nominate them for an award. But get in quick, as nominations close on Thursday 31 August. Nominees must be residents of Tasman District and have been involved in a range of voluntary activities for 20 years or more.

Fill out a nomination form at one of our service centres or on our website, tasman.govt.nz/community-awards.

Arts funding available now

Our Creative Communities Scheme has funding available to help groups and individuals running arts projects in Tasman. Creative Communities provides funding to support community involvement in the arts – music, theatre, festivals, mural painting, outdoor sculptures, art in public spaces, kapa haka, singing, art workshops and more.

Funded by Creative New Zealand, this scheme is designed to support opportunities for communities to participate in the arts. There is a focus on art projects that have broad community involvement, involve young people or support the diverse arts and cultural traditions of local communities.

Applications are open until Friday 10 November. For more information and to complete an application form, visit tasman.govt.nz/creative-communities.

Lead-free Tasman

Te Tau Ihu / the Top of the South is a hot spot for kea and the removal of lead will help protect our kea. If you live in kea country and have a pre-1990s house, garage, or woodshed and would like to have lead professionally removed, email peter.fraser@keaconservation.nz with your name, address and contact phone number. This environmental project is funded by Jobs for Nature and the Kea Conservation Trust.

Council hui

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

Tasman District Council

Thursday 31 August, 9.30 am.

Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit

Friday 1 September, 9.30 am. Nelson City Council, 110 Trafalgar Street.

Animal Control Subcommittee

Tuesday 5 September, 1.30 pm. No public forum.

Environment and Regulatory Committee

Thursday 7 September, 9.30 am.

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