



New Plymouth MP Harry Duynhoven, Facilitation Group Chair Gloria Campbell, Associate Minister of Local Government Nanaia Mahuta and Council Chairman David Walter at the launch of Future Taranaki.

REPORT RATES REGION'S PROGRESS

Preparation of the first report on how well the Taranaki community is achieving its preferred outcomes has brought together an impressive range of community leaders.

The Future Taranaki Facilitation Group formed for the purpose includes representatives of New Plymouth, Stratford and South Taranaki district councils, Taranaki Regional Council, Taranaki District Health Board, Venture Taranaki, Ministry of Social Development and Te Puni Kokiri. The report was launched by Associate Minister of Local Government Nanaia Mahuta in July.

The 57-page report provides a benchmark for future measurements of progress towards community outcomes identified by the region in 2004, and relates to social, economic, environmental and cultural issues. Taranaki is one of few regions in New Zealand where all local authorities have combined to identify outcomes and measure progress. Future Taranaki Outcomes research won a commendation in the NZ Post Management Award in 2004.

The seven broad regional outcomes identified in 2004 prescribed a Secure and Healthy; Prosperous; Skilled; Connected; Sustainable; Together and Vibrant Taranaki. This latest report covers areas such as housing, crime, health, the regional economy, employment, education, transport and the environment. Much of the information places Taranaki statistics in a national context: some information is yet to come from ongoing survey programmes.

The report concludes that overall, good progress has been made to date to achieve the community outcomes, particularly relating to desired outcomes of a prosperous and sustainable Taranaki. Health and safety aspects, however, are highlighted as areas requiring attention. The conclusion suggests also that Taranaki may face a skill shortage in engineering, medicine, nursing and secondary school teaching if this situation is not addressed and the leaving rates of students with no formal qualifications are not reversed.

Future Taranaki: progress report on community outcomes for Taranaki 2006 is expected to be the basis of further discussions on future priorities and actions. The contents will be updated each year.

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From the Chair

Following the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002, Taranaki people identified the community outcomes we aspire to, by means of extensive consultation, surveys and questionnaires completed in 2004.



It was a joint process led and funded by all four local authorities, and involved central government agencies, sector groups and the community at large. The joint process made good sense in terms of savings in costs and time and it fostered co-operation and a desire to work towards common goals.

The latest step in this process has been the presentation of a progress report prepared for the Future Taranaki Facilitation Group – a joint local-central government group charged with developing indicators of progress and advising on priorities for action. It is the first in a series of reports that will monitor our progress towards our identified community outcomes.

It establishes a benchmark from which we will be able to tell if we are moving forwards or backwards. This will provide a basis for action across different sectors and within governments and for the collective application of resources to priority areas.

There will always be areas where we can improve and areas where we have done well and want to continue or do better still. Making progress or continuing our momentum requires willingness, commitment and partnerships.

The Taranaki region has always prided itself on its ability to work together for the good of the region and districts. Central government and other agencies have been encouraged by the combined commitment of the region's local authorities to join in and form a team that is leading the way.

David Walter - CHAIRMAN

DEX KNOWLES - 50 YEARS IN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



The Council's Operations Director Dex Knowles has been recognised for a long career of achievement in soil and water management.

He was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the Queen's Birthday honours recognising 50 years of work in resource management and involvement in major projects including a review of soil conservation and river control policy for the South Island high country and many national development projects.

He began work as a soil conservation cadet with the Wairarapa Catchment Board in 1956, then moved to Hawke's Bay and

worked on both land resources and river management. His career took him on to the Bay of Plenty, Nelson and then to Wellington where he served as Chief Executive of the National Water and Soil Conservation Authority before moving to Taranaki in 1990.

Dex Knowles convened the panel that established New Zealand's first inventory of wild and scenic rivers, and played a lead role in introducing and implementing the wild and scenic rivers provisions for the Water and Soil Conservation Act. He is a life member of the New Zealand Association of Resource Management and served on its executive for nine years.

POLICY STATEMENT REVIEW INVITES COMMENT

The first regional policy statement adopted for the region in 1994 has been reviewed, and a draft *Proposed Regional Policy Statement for Taranaki* will be available for comment later this month.

A regional policy statement provides an overview of the resource management issues of the region and sets strategic directions for achieving integrated management across, water, air and coastal resources, and between and within district and regional councils.

The review has been rigorous and comprehensive, and the original policy statement has stood up well.

Changes made in the draft include accommodation of recent amendments to the Resource Management Act that have strengthened the effects of policy statements over district plans. Stakeholder comments on the draft have also resulted in some modifications, the form, style and structure of the document have been improved, and the inclusion of new issues and minor policy shifts have brought it into line with developments in Council work.

Copies of the *Proposed Regional Policy Statement for Taranaki* will be available from 23 September at the Council offices or on www.trc.govt.nz. Submissions close on 24 November 2006.

RIVER CLEARING AVERTS FLOODING

Once again, the skies opened up over Waitotara and the rain poured down. Thankfully, unlike during the three days in February 2004, when similarly heavy rain occurred and the township was under water for several days, the July 5 to 9 dousing caused no significant flooding in the Waitotara township.

This time, removal of willows from the river channel and subsequent greater channel capacity appear to have saved the day. On-site observations and photographs clearly show a consistent river cross-section flow at Waitotara and not the turbulent flow associated with willow obstructions.

As a result of the 2004 rainfall event, considerable work was undertaken by the Council to avoid a repeat of the flooding that grew into a civil defence emergency. Channel willow clearance has been initiated at, above and below the Waitotara township, rainfall telemetry coverage has been increased by two sites in the catchment, and the land management programme for the area has been expanded. The river clearance and maintenance programme for the Waitotara catchment was adopted early this year in partnership with the South Taranaki District Council.

Data from the Council's recorders at the five stations makes intriguing reading. While rainfall and river flows were lower in the main catchment in July, the combined main catchment and Moumahaki sub-catchment flows above the Waitotara township are estimated to have been higher than during the 2004 downpour. The July flow is estimated to have reached approximately 2 million litres/second – equal or more than the flow recorded during the event in February 2004.

The rain event spurred quick action on the part of Taranaki Emergency Management Office staff who began monitoring the impact of the severe weather over South Taranaki on Wednesday July 5 and kept the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management informed throughout. On Thursday evening, the CDEM managers were on standby as the Waitotara River continued to rise and by morning, SH3 was closed south of Waitotara and the Waitotara Valley was cut off by water and landslips. Three township houses with minor damage were evacuated voluntarily by their owners when the creek flooded.

Taranaki Civil Defence Group Controller and Councillor, David Lean, led a welfare needs assessment flight on Friday that checked



The Moumahaki sub-catchment adds to the high flows recorded in July.



Flow levels downstream from the Waitotara Bridge remain lower than in 2004.

on households isolated in the Waitotara and Ngutuwera Valleys and reported the damage to roading contractors and Powerco. He noted the residents were better-prepared and more able to cope compared to 2004. A land reconnaissance team assessed the valleys' road access. On Sunday, groceries and water were delivered by helicopter to an isolated household in the Tangahoe Valley and other households in the area were checked along the way.

DRIVERS FOR WATER QUALITY TRENDS STUDIED



Investments in water quality bring dividends.

Improved wastewater treatment systems and the accompanying improvements in the quality of their discharges, higher levels of compliance with consents, increased surveillance and monitoring and more

stringent consent conditions are among the reasons behind encouraging trends in surface water quality.

The last issue of *Recount* reported that 10 years of state of the environment monitoring have recorded that at the least Taranaki's water is generally maintaining its quality, and if anything, is actually improving. Further study was carried out on the 11 sites showing the greatest improvement in order to determine the reasons behind the trend.

The benefits noted in this study are found in the middle and lower reaches of catchments, and represent the cumulative

benefits of upstream activities. Recent riparian planting and management is not yet considered to be effecting water quality improvements on a regional basis. These benefits are more likely to become obvious when greater proportions of catchments are managed, and as shading of waterways increases with the growth of vegetation.

This latest report and the preceding studies of water quality are heartening and validate the significant investments being made by the rural community and the Council to maintain and enhance surface water quality.

PEST PLANT STRATEGY REVIEW

The recent review of Taranaki's strategy for managing pest plants has highlighted the enormous progress made by the community in meeting this challenge.

In the past five years alone, land occupiers working alongside the Council have reduced the number of farms with heavy pest plant infestations by 53%. Targeted infestations of Senegal Tea, Climbing Spindleberry and Giant Reed have been completely eradicated and significant progress has been made towards eradicating Mignonette Vine and Darwin's Barberry from the region.

Roadsides too have received significant attention from road controlling authorities with the introduction and enforcement of new obligations to deal with pest plants on roadside verges. Comparisons between formerly ragwort-infested farms and today's pest plant-aware environment illustrate commendable effort put in by rural communities to bring this particular weed under control.

The review of Taranaki's *Pest Management Strategy for Taranaki: Plants* is a requirement of the Biosecurity Act 1993

and this is the third strategy. The existing Strategy has stood up well to the test, and the only proposed changes are the addition of three new pest plants – *Gunnera manicata*, Pink Ragwort and Undaria – and amendments to rules governing Old Man's Beard and Pampas Grass.

Under the Act, pest plants in the region are identified by their potential threats to: economic wellbeing; already threatened species, indigenous plants or animals, natural ecosystems, ecological processes or biological diversity; soil resources or water; human health or enjoyment; and the relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, waters, sites, wahi tapu and taonga.

The pest plants listed for Taranaki are: Australian Sedge, Brush Wattle, Climbing Spindleberry, Darwin's Barberry, Egeria Oxygen Weed, Giant Buttercup, Giant Gunnera (*Gunnera manicata* and *Gunnera tinctoria*), Giant Reed, Gorse, Japanese Walnut, Lagarosiphon Oxygen Weed, Mignonette Vine, Nodding Thistle and Plumeless Thistle, Old Man's Beard, Pampas Grass (Common and Purple), Pink

Ragwort, Ragwort, Senegal Tea, Spanish Heath, Undaria, Variegated Thistle, Wild Broom and Wild Ginger (Kahili and Yellow).

Under the proposed Strategy, areas immediately adjacent to the mid and lower reaches of the Kaupokonui Stream, Patea River and Waingongoro River are considered to be too widely infested with Old Man's Beard to be controllable by land occupiers. The Council will implement biological controls and advocacy programmes to reduce infestations to manageable levels. However, land occupier obligations will be increased adjacent to the Kapuni Stream and by reducing the buffer area from 100 to 50 metres for the remaining excluded rivers.

In another proposed change, all Pampas Grass, including hedges or live fences will be controlled from 2010. Occupier obligations to treat and destroy unmanaged infestations remain in place.

Public submissions on the revised strategy closed on 18 August 2006. The Council is considering the submissions and will make its decisions shortly.

NEW PLANTS MAKE WANTED PEST PLANTS LIST



Undaria

Three plants have been added to the list in the proposed pest plant management strategy.

The invasive seaweed *Undaria pinnatifida* that first appeared in Port Taranaki early last year attached to piles, ropes and boats has been added to the wanted list. Council officers and DoC divers successfully eradicated the plant that threatens native seaweeds and is spreading rapidly through the country, but continuing vigilance is required. As *Undaria* can foul ship hulls, ropes and buoys, it can be re-introduced easily by any infected vessels entering the



Pink Ragwort

Port. Including the plant in the Strategy makes its status as a pest official. Rules are now being considered that require owners of infected boats or structures to control the plant themselves.

Pink Ragwort *Senecio glastifolius*, is also a relatively new visitor to Taranaki and is the second addition to the pest plants list. This herbaceous perennial is largely found in the southern part of the region and favours ungrazed ground and a coastal environment. If uncontrolled, it could significantly impact on dairy production and natural values as it competes with more



Giant Gunnera

desirable plant species. Pink Ragwort is easily controlled by a variety of herbicides or by grazing sheep and can be pulled out.

The Giant Gunnera species *Gunnera manicata* now included as a pest plant looks like and shares many features with the already listed *Gunnera tinctoria*. Giant Gunnera is a tropical-looking, clump-forming herb that is very invasive – producing 80,000 seeds per plant annually – and once established will shade out or suppress the regeneration of indigenous plants. It is found mainly along watercourses and coastal cliffs in Taranaki.

PROPOSED PEST ANIMAL STRATEGY

Another pest management strategy – this time for animals – is in draft and available for public comment.

The Council's *Proposed Pest Management Strategy for Taranaki: Animals* sets out management programmes for 19 harmful animals. Three of them are identified as pests requiring land occupiers to control them – possums, rabbits and Argentine ants. The remaining animals require voluntary control and include rooks; brown hares; feral cats, deer (red, Sika, Sambar, Rusa, Fallow, Wapiti and White-tailed), goats and pigs; magpies and mustelids (ferrets, stoats and weasels).

A newcomer to the list is the Argentine ant, *Linepithema humile*. This dark-brown, wingless visitor from Argentina and Brazil, is considered to be one of the world's most invasive and problematic ant species, and was first discovered in Taranaki this year. Infestations have been identified in Waitara, Bell Block, Oakura, New Plymouth and Patea. They are a household pest with a painful bite, can threaten horticulture and valued indigenous and exotic species, and can 'farm' other insect pests that produce honeydew.

One of the success stories of the past two Strategies has been the Self-help Possum Control Programme. In this partnership between land occupiers and the Council, possum numbers on the ring plain have been impressively reduced as the area of land treated has grown with the steady introduction of new properties. At the end of June this year, 3,481 properties – around 213,000 hectares, or 95% of privately owned land on the ring plain – were included in the Programme.

The Proposed Strategy indicates that the estimated area of land to be treated and included annually in the Programme will now decrease from 10,000-15,000 ha to 4,000-6,000 ha. This decrease reflects not only the achievement, during the course of the Strategy, of the Programme's aim to cover the ring plain, but also a new pest management programme associated with the protection of key native ecosystems.

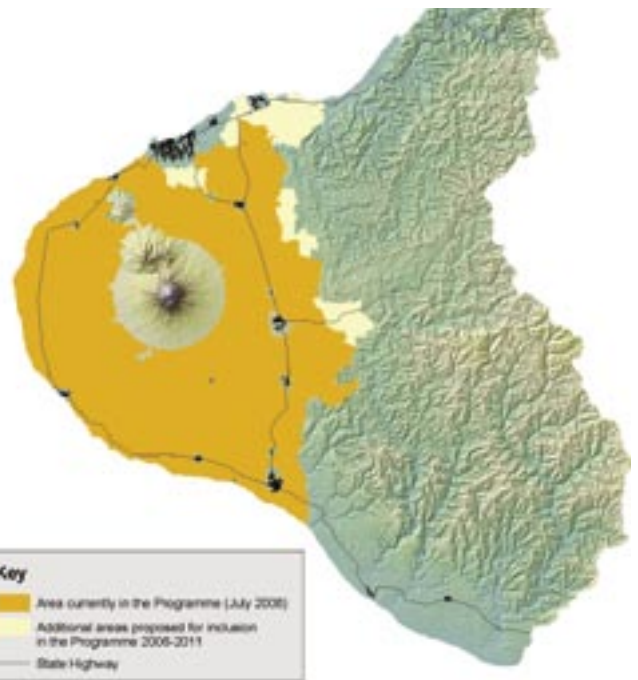
INVENTORY LISTS IMPORTANT NATIVE ECOSYSTEMS

Closely connected to the pest plant and animal management strategies and the Council's regional policy statement through shared goals of protecting Taranaki's indigenous biodiversity is the preparation of an inventory of native ecosystem sites.

Key Native Ecosystems: inventory of sites with indigenous biodiversity values of regional significance includes 155 wetlands, forests, dunelands and other natural areas covering 118,933 hectares or 16.4% of the region.

All the sites already have some regulatory protection, 44 of them are managed by the Department of Conservation and the remainder are on private land which is covered by regional or district rules, with 25 of the 111 sites protected through QEII National Trust covenants.

The inventory brings together wide-ranging and often inaccessible information on each of these regionally significant land sites and will assist the Council to maintain and enhance them. Each site is considered special because it hosts rare and distinctive native flora and/or fauna, represents much reduced indigenous vegetation



Existing and proposed implementation of the Self-help Possum Control Programme.

While coverage of the Self-help Possum Control Programme will soon be complete, and despite the efforts of land occupiers, farmland adjacent to the Egmont National Park continues to suffer unacceptable possum numbers in the bush/pasture margin. The Council will work with the Department of Conservation to improve Park boundary control, but if improvements do not occur the Council will no longer require land occupiers adjacent to or near the National Park to control possums as required elsewhere.

Copies of the *Proposed Pest Management Strategy for Taranaki: Animals* are available from the Council offices or on www.trc.govt.nz. Submissions close on 29 September 2006.



Key native ecosystem, Barrett Lake Scenic Reserve.

or connects or buffers other special sites. All of the sites are considered sustainable.

Entries include aerial photographs and location details, ecological features and values and management threats and responses. As programmes are developed and information is expanded, the inventory will be updated and eventually made public on the Council's web site.

DIDYMO SURVEYS CONTINUE

As part of a national Biosecurity New Zealand survey of streams and rivers, the Council and Fish and Game Taranaki have completed a further search for the invasive Didymo alga *Didymosphenia geminata*.

The field work was carried out locally at four river sites identified by the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA), and also at Fish and Game's trout hatchery at Hawera. The local samples, along with results taken from just over 100 sites throughout New Zealand, were sent to NIWA for processing.

Fish and Game Taranaki had requested that sampling be carried out at its Hawera trout hatchery that utilises water from Tawhiti Stream. Fish and Game Officer Allen Stancliff said it was highly unlikely that Didymo would occur in Tawhiti Stream with its turbid water and mud bottom – the alga prefers the rocky environments of cold, clear headwater rivers – but it was important to include it in the survey to confirm that Didymo would not be spread when trout from the hatchery were released into Taranaki rivers and lakes.

Two previous surveys for Didymo have recorded that Taranaki rivers and streams, like all other North Island waterways, show no traces of the alga. In the South Island,



Council officers Ray Harris and Chris Fowles check for Didymo.

however, Didymo continues to spread, caused most probably by people moving contaminated items between waterways.

The initial sighting of Didymo was in Southland and was the first occurrence of the alga in the Southern Hemisphere. Didymo is native to cool, temperate areas of the Northern Hemisphere including northern forests and alpine regions of Europe, Asia and parts of North America.

Didymo can be easily transferred between waterways attached to fishing or other water sports gear or tramping equipment, or on water craft such as kayaks. There are no known methods for control or eradication of the alga once it is established in a river or lake. Rigorous cleaning of fishing, boating and tramping gear to stop it spreading to new catchments is advised by Biosecurity New Zealand.

BUS TRIAL UNDER WAY



The city bus system trial, launched by Council Chairman David Walter got under way in July and is already attracting feedback.

The trial system for New Plymouth, Bell Block, Waitara and Oakura introduced a new look for buses and some alterations to routes and timetables. The changes

are part of a Council review of passenger transport in Taranaki and the development of a revised regional land transport strategy.

Feedback on the new system is welcome and will be collated and analysed at three-monthly intervals during the 18-month trial. Already, the Council and the bus operators, Okato Bus Lines, have been recording public response received by mail, email and telephone. Early indications are that passenger numbers have increased slightly.

Ongoing support is essential throughout the trial to ensure that the results and the analysis that follows serve the best interests of the community.

An update on the trial will be published in the next issue of *Recount* along with information on a community transport system proposed for South Taranaki.

PANDEMIC STRATEGY DRAFT FOR COMMENT

A strategy tailored to the needs of Taranaki in coping with an influenza pandemic has been released by the Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management Group.

The Strategy describes some of the general characteristics and consequences of a pandemic, along with the roles and relationships of the various national and regional agencies. It also contains basic advice and information and indicates where to find further information.

Copies of the Strategy are available from the Council offices or www.trc.govt.nz. Comments are welcomed and can be made to the Taranaki Regional Council or to the Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management Group emo@trc.govt.nz.

WASP LINED UP TO COMBAT WEEVIL

Release of a biological control to fight clover root weevil is planned for the end of the year, following the establishment by AgResearch and the Council of a regional nursery for the parasitoid Irish wasp *Microctonus aethiopoidea*. Once 5,000 parasitized weevils have been released at the nursery site, and monitoring confirms their success, further releases on weevil infested permanent pasture will be carried out.

Clover root weevil *Sitona lepidus* was first discovered in New Zealand pastures in March 1966 and has steadily spread through the North Island and into parts of the South Island. A population explosion on a new site is followed by a severe loss of clover, and once the pest is established can

result in reduced productivity. Where soil moisture and topography allow, farmers have combated the effects of the weevil by applying nitrogen fertiliser – a costly solution that can lead to nutrient run-off into waterways.

An AgResearch programme began investigating long-term solutions in 1998 that included the breeding of clover root weevil-tolerant clovers.

Introduction of the Irish wasp was approved under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act in November last year and it has subsequently been released at experimental sites near Morrinsville, and in Hawke's Bay and Manawatu where results have been extremely encouraging.

MINISTERIAL WATER GROUP



Basil Chamberlain

Chief Executive Basil Chamberlain has been appointed Chair of a ministerial advisory group that will focus on the sustainability of water in New Zealand. The Sustainable Water

Programme of Action is a whole-of-government initiative aimed at providing a strategic and nationally consistent approach to managing New Zealand's fresh water resources for social, cultural,

environmental and economic gain into the future. The advisory group includes expert people from a wide variety of professional backgrounds and experience brought together to assess information, and advise the Minister of Agriculture Jim Anderton and the Minister for the Environment David Benson-Pope on the priority that should be accorded to water management issues and methods to address them. The formation of the group follows the establishment of the Government's Sustainable Development Programme of Action for New Zealand to progress sustainability issues related to children and youth, energy, cities and fresh water.

RIVERLANDS DISPOSAL SYSTEMS WORK WELL

The dual, land/river wastewater disposal system adopted by Riverlands Eltham Limited's meat processing plant has proved to be a success.

The consent monitoring annual report for the Eltham plant, included in over 200 individual Council programmes to monitor major consent holders, shows that there has been no significant adverse effect on the Waingongoro River for the 2004-2005 year. The system, which was adopted by Riverlands in 2001, includes a wastewater treatment ponds system from which effluent is disposed of either to land or to the river.

Altogether, Riverlands holds 10 resource consents that include 108 conditions

setting out the requirements the company must satisfy. Riverlands monitors the water abstraction rate; effluent flow rate and composition; receiving water quality; odour at the plant boundaries; and effluent loadings, soil and herbage for irrigation areas. The Council inspects the plant site and irrigation areas, and carries out effluent quality checks and inter-laboratory comparisons; flow, water quality and biological monitoring in the Waingongoro River; and ground water monitoring.

The disposal of all paunch content material generated each day to a worm farm since 2002 has also been successful. No complaints of emissions to air have been received for the third successive year.

Taranaki Regional Council Facts File

Address:	Private Bag 713 Stratford
Street Address:	47 Cloten Road Stratford
Telephone:	0-6-765 7127
Facsimile:	0-6-765 5097
Email:	info@trc.govt.nz
Web site:	www.trc.govt.nz

AFTER HOURS CONTACT NUMBERS

After Hours Contact:	0-6-765 7127
Environmental Hotline:	0800 736 222
Civil Defence	
Emergency Management	0800 736 222

REGIONAL COUNCILLORS

New Plymouth Constituency:

Tom Cloke	0-6-753 5586
Moira Irving	0-6-753 3063
David Lean	0-6-753 3325
Barry Marsh	0-6-758 2252

North Taranaki Constituency:

Roger Maxwell	0-6-752 3622
Donald McIntyre	0-6-762 4701

South Taranaki Constituency:

Bruce Cudby	0-6-278 5573
David MacLeod	0-6-278 5577
Neil Walker	0-6-278 7541

Stratford Constituency:

David Walter (Chairman)	0-6-762 7822
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MEETING SCHEDULE:

The Taranaki Regional Council operates to a six-weekly committee and Council meeting schedule.

Wednesday 20 September, 10.30 a.m.,
Ordinary Meeting

Thursday 28 September, 10.30 a.m.,
Regional Land Transport Committee

Wednesday 11 October, 10.30 a.m.,
Consents and Regulatory Committee

Thursday 12 October, 10.30 a.m.,
Policy and Planning Committee

Tuesday 24 October 10.00 a.m.,
Executive Committee

Wednesday 1 November, 10.30 a.m.,
Ordinary Meeting.

Tuesday 7 November, 10.30 a.m.,
Civil Defence Emergency Management Group

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Volunteers add another 1500 native plants to the Herekawe Stream Project.

HEREKAWE STREAM PROJECT CONTINUES

A public planting day in June marked the next step in the Taranaki Tree Trust's Herekawe Stream Walkway Project and an enthusiastic group of volunteers planted 1500 native plants in the area.

The stream on New Plymouth's western boundary is a valuable site for recreation and provides habitats for freshwater fish, insects and birds. The walkway project has brought together a wide range of organisations, community groups and industries to establish a link between inland residential areas and the coast.

Over the last three years the project team and the community have fenced and replanted the stream margins with 9,500 native trees and formed a walking track.

WHAT'S THE PLAN, STAN?

Roger Maxwell, Chair of the Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management Management Group and Energy Management Officer Mike Langford (pictured left to right) joined more than 30 Taranaki primary and intermediate school teachers at a Ministry of Civil Defence workshop in New Plymouth last month.

"What's the Plan, Stan?" is a national resource that increases children's awareness and understanding of potential hazards so that they are better prepared to deal with emergencies. This new resource has been incorporated into the Council's comprehensive education programme.

MOUNTAIN 'CRACKS' ARE NOTHING NEW

An investigation into reports of cracks near the summit of Mt Taranaki have allayed fears of increasing dome instability.

The Council took particular interest in the reports published in the Daily News in April as structural failure of part of the volcano could lead to blockages in rivers and streams, and potentially to flash floods.

An on-site investigation was carried out by a team of geologists in April, and their conclusions were presented in July to the Department of Conservation by the Massey University Institute for Natural Resources. The cracks were inspected and reported to be the same as previously identified and mapped some 20 years ago. Reports of fumarole activity were similarly dismissed. The investigation concluded that the level of collapse from the summit of the mountain did not appear to be higher than normal.

BIG NUMBERS INVOLVED IN NON-NOTIFIED CONSENTS

An assessment of non-notified resource consents in Taranaki has shown that a significant number of people and organisations are involved in the process.

Non-notified resource consent applications account for 95% of applications processed nationally. Applications can be processed without notification if the environmental effects are minor and all affected parties have provided their written approval. Some applications may be for controlled activities under the Council's regional plans and have no affected parties, while others may be for discretionary activities and involve a large number of affected parties.

During the 2004/2005 period assessed, there were 622 resource consents processed of which 37 were notified. For the 585 applications processed on a non-notified basis, 1235 parties were involved comprising neighbours (64.5%), iwi/hapu (14.4%), landowners/occupiers (14.3%), Taranaki Fish and Game Council (2.8%) DoC (2%), network utilities (0.8%) and government departments/environmental/recreational and non-governmental groups (all 0.4%).

The assessment has shown also that the delegation to senior staff of non-notified application processing is generally consistent and working well. There have been no challenges to the Council's decision to non-notify applications.

