

Report to the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee  
from D J Cameron, Regional Soil Conservator

## **Kaiwhata Catchment Scheme Five Year Review**

### **1. Purpose**

To inform the Committee of the outcome of the review of the Kaiwhata Catchment Scheme.

### **2. Background**

The Kaiwhata Catchment Scheme was first approved in December 1982 following a long history of flooding and erosion. The two most devastating floods occurred in 1953 and 1981, necessitating evacuation of houses and resulting in widespread damage to property and roads.

The local community endorsed the establishment of a comprehensive scheme in 1983. Reviews have taken place in 1989 and 1994. The elapsing of a further five years required the Council and the community to review progress, determine future priorities, and endorse respective commitments.

### **3. Scheme Review**

A general meeting of ratepayers was held on 12 February 1999, at which a review of progress was presented. Included for consideration were a number of scenarios for the future. After lengthy discussion it was agreed to continue scheme operations at the present level of local contribution for a further five years. The decision to continue was based on the considerable success of the scheme to date.

### **4. Key Considerations**

The meeting determined that the priorities for the scheme over the next five years was the maintenance of existing works and the adequate provision for storm damage via the storm damage reserve fund. At present the storm damage reserve totals some \$17,500. Based on the damage assessment following the 1981 flood it is envisaged that a reserve fund of some \$30,000 is

required. Along with an equal contribution from Council this would provide a total fund of \$60,000.

Provision has been made in the Soil Conservation Operating Plan to fund this scheme through to 2007. A further review will take place in 2004.

## **5. Recommendation**

*That the report be received.*

Report prepared by:

Approved for submission by:

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