

Report 03.576
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Committee Landcare
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Divisional Manager's report

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee about the activities and progress of the Landcare Division since the Committee's last meeting.

2. Managers' reports

The Departmental Managers' reports are attached.

3. Gearing up

As you can see from the Manager's reports our 2003/04 projects have now well and truly begun. Geoff and his team have made strong progress on the floodplain management plan projects and if all goes well we will see some great results this year. For example the Ava to Ewen project is well underway, the Otaihanga floodwall will be constructed, and the Belmont edge protections will also be completed.

Murray's team in Parks and Forests are also working towards achieving more good results. The QEP wetland near Mackay's Crossing has had the earthworks completed and planting is starting, we are continuing to update the signs, information boards and brochures for the Parks, and the Hutt Catchment possum control operation was recently completed. Probably the most exciting thing this year for Parks and Forests is the ranger service to be implemented in East Harbour Regional Park. We hope to have the ranger appointed by November and then we will arrange a function to acknowledge this significant milestone in the management of the Park.

4. Divisional workshop

On 17 September 2003 we had a successful annual Divisional workshop. The Divisional workshop is important to us, as it is the only time during the year that the whole Division gets together in one place. We were fortunate to be addressed by Barry Harris and Cr Laidlaw. Both of them spoke of their enthusiasm for a sustainable region as well as the challenges ahead in implementing the Council's LTCCP and achieving the "Take Ten" outcomes.

5. Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. *receive the report.*
2. *note the contents of the report.*

Report prepared by:

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Attachment 1: Departmental reports