

**Report** 04.643  
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**Committee** Environment  
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## **Take Care groups for 2005**

### **1. Purpose**

To inform the Committee of the care groups supported through the *Take Care* programme.

### **2. Background**

The *Take Care* programme's contestable fund was advertised in local papers, *Elements* and on Greater Wellington's website in September. Groups interested in joining the programme were invited to contact Greater Wellington to talk about their project and obtain an application form.

As in previous years, we had a large number of enquiries about the programme. At the closing date, a good number of applications had been received.

During October, we assessed the applications using the criteria detailed in the Take Care programme policy (Report 00.675 to this Committee) and set out for applicants in the brochure. The applications were scored against the criteria, ranked, and their costs over the five-year care programme cycle evaluated. Next, we determined which staff had the best expertise to support the various projects. Letters advising applicants of the outcome were sent out at the start of November.

### **3. New care groups**

The following groups have joined the *Take Care* programme this year:

#### **3.1 Eastbourne sand dunes**

The group will be restoring a sand dune system at Eastbourne. The original native vegetation cover will be reinstated. Our staff, and the community group, will be working in partnership with Hutt City Council on this project.

### **3.2 Kaitiaki Waikanae**

This project is to improve the ecological health of the Waikanae estuary and the adjacent coastal ecosystems which have been degraded over the last 10 years. The project also involves the Department of Conservation.

### **3.3 Paraparaumu Beach**

This project is to rehabilitate some of the dunes adjacent to Manly Street on the Paraparaumu beach. The volunteers and our staff will be working in partnership with the Kapiti Coast District Council on this project.

### **3.4 Silverstream Straight Wetland Group**

This is a two year project to complete the the planting of the wetland. The project has the potential to become an excellent educational resource on the value of wetlands, in addition to playing a significant ecological role in the area. It is a very high profile site on the approaches to Silverstream in Upper Hutt.

### **3.5 Otaki North Beach Care Group**

This project has been instigated by farmers along the Otaki Coast. In the short term, work is to focus on developing a strategy to manage recreational use of the dune systems and to revegetate these where appropriate.

### **3.6 Nga Uroa**

This group is working on the restoration of the Paekakariki escarpment. Greater Wellington's contribution will be to further develop the community nurseries providing plants for the project.

### **3.7 Papawai Stream**

This project involves the local community, farmers and iwi in the management of the Papawai stream near Greytown.

## **4. Further support for existing groups**

A number of existing groups have applied for, and been given, further funding support to continue their projects, having reached the end of their initial funding allocations. These groups are:

### **4.1 Waitohu Stream Care Group**

Greater Wellington will continue to support the work on the Waitohu Stream, wetlands and dune systems carried out by this award winning group.

#### **4.2 Moehau Stream Group**

Greater Wellington has previously supported this streamside project by funding the preparation of a management plan and carrying out trials for weed management and planting. The work over the next five years will be to implement the recommendations in the management plan.

#### **4.3 Waimeha Lagoons**

This has been a very successful project funded by Greater Wellington over the last four years. The additional funding for this group will be used to install educational signs around the lagoons and finish the successful weed control programme.

#### **4.4 Riversdale Beach Care Group**

This group is managing the beach environment and restoring the dune systems at Riversdale.

#### **4.5 Friends of Greendale**

This group is rehabilitating land alongside the Muapoko Stream near Paraparaumu.

#### **4.6 Royal Forest and Bird Society, Kapiti Branch**

This group is working to restore the Wharemauku Stream at Kaitawa in Paraparaumu.

#### **4.7 Friends of the Waikanae River**

Greater Wellington will also continue to support work carried out by this very successful group. A new focus for the group is likely to be restoring some of the smaller tributaries of the Waikanae River.

#### **4.8 Queen Elizabeth Park**

Greater Wellington will continue to support the work carried out by the Friends of Queen Elizabeth Park. A new focus for the group will be the restoration of the Whareroa stream.

### **5. Groups already receiving funding or support**

Eighteen groups continue to be supported by Greater Wellington this year from previous years. The groups and their projects are listed below.

#### **5.1 Riversdale Stream Care Group**

Restoration of the stream and lagoon at Riversdale.

#### **5.2 Castlepoint Beach Care Group**

Restoration of the dune systems and the management of the beach environment at Castlepoint.

**5.3 Fensham Group, Royal Forest and Bird Society, Wairarapa Branch.**

The restoration of the Fensham wetland in Carterton.

**5.4 Manuka Street Residents**

Additional funds are being provided to enable public access through the Manuka Street Reserve in Masterton.

**5.5 Henley Wetlands**

Development of the wetlands at Henley, Masterton.

**5.6 Pakuratahi Interest Group**

The replanting of the streamsides of the Upper Pakuratahi catchment.

**5.7 Friends of Maara roa**

The rehabilitation of a stream and lake at Cannons Creek.

**5.8 Silverstream Railway Society and Upper Hutt Forest and Bird Society**

The rehabilitation of the lower reaches of Hulls Creek and the adjoining wetland in Silverstream.

**5.9 O Te Pua Wetland Restoration Group**

A joint project by landowners to restore O Te Pua Wetland

**5.10 Otari-Wilton Bush Trust**

A project to clear weeds and replant the Kaiwharawhara Stream, upstream of Otari-Wilton's Bush in Wellington.

**5.11 Glenside Stream Care Group**

This is a project to rehabilitate some of the streams making up the upper catchment of Porirua Stream, and part of the Porirua Stream itself.

**5.12 Days Bay Sand Dune Restoration Project**

A project to restore urban sand dunes in Eastbourne.

**5.13 Oku Reserve Community Group**

The group is restoring an icon sand dune system at Island Bay.

**5.14 Friends of Owhiro Stream**

This group is working to restore the ecological health of Owhiro Stream.

### **5.15 Millwood Residents Association**

The Residents Association is revegetating the stream margins of Hulls Creek in Silverstream.

### **5.16 Friends of Millenium Native Forest Reserve**

This trust is continuing the revegetation of this reserve. The project we are supporting is the restoration of the three wetlands and their buffer zones.

### **5.17 Friends of Otaki**

The Friends of Otaki now receive their main funding through the *Take Care* programme – in a similar manner to the Friends of Waikanae group.

### **5.18 Te Horo Beach Residents' Association**

The restoration of the stream at Te Horo Beach.

## **6. Groups no longer receiving funding**

Five groups have ceased to be funded this year. However, staff do provide advice when required or help through other programmes such as the Corporate Volunteers programme. The groups are:

1. Pauatahanui Wildlife Reserve Management Committee
2. National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research staff
3. Guardians Water Quality Monitoring Team
4. Pukerua Bay Residents Association
5. Guardians of Pukerua Bay Beach (ceased in April 2004).

## **7. Conclusion**

Within the *Take Care* programme, there is a variety of projects, covering different types of vulnerable ecosystems, in locations throughout the region. Groups working with our staff have made significant progress on their projects over the last few years.

The projects that Greater Wellington is supporting provide good opportunities to showcase what communities can do to help restore their own environment, and challenge others to examine how their behaviour can be modified in the light of the group's efforts to work in these unique environments. The groups joining our programme this year have been encouraged to apply as a result of the successes seen in other groups.

## 8. Strategic context

The seven new groups and eight renewed groups described here exceed our annual target for new care groups in the community section of “Towards a sustainable region” (the target is five groups).

## 9. Communication

The projects and groups Greater Wellington is supporting will be reported in future issues of *Elements*. With assistance from their staff facilitator, groups supported by Greater Wellington last year received extensive, positive coverage in the media. Individual groups will therefore again be encouraged, and helped, in their efforts to report Greater Wellington support in their local papers.

## 10. Recommendation

*That the Committee:*

1. *receives the report; and*
2. *notes the contents.*

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

Report approved by:

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