

## **Report 99.264**

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Report to the Environment Committee  
from Jo Fagan, Policy Advisor

### **1998-99 Regional Plan Implementation Programme**

#### **1. Purpose**

To demonstrate that during the 1998-99 year, the regional plans have been implemented according to the Regional Plan Implementation Programme.

#### **2. Background**

The Wellington Regional Council has four regional plans that are almost operative. These are the Proposed Regional Coastal Plan, the Proposed Regional Plan for Discharges to Land, the Proposed Regional Soil Plan, and the Proposed Regional Air Quality Management Plan. All plans contain methods and policies that commit the Council to particular courses of action over the next 10 years.

The Regional Plan Implementation Programme was updated during the 1998-1999 year. The programme lists the policies and methods of four of the regional plans, and summarises how the Council will implement them. The Implementation Programme will be further updated during 1999-2000 to include the Proposed Regional Freshwater Plan.

This report lists and describes the activities identified in the Regional Plan Implementation Programme that have been undertaken during the 1998-99 financial year. Less work has been completed than was originally anticipated because of the resources that have been required to progress the plans through the statutory process.

### **3. Regional Plan Implementation Activities**

Regional plan methods and policies require activities to be undertaken by staff in the Environment Division, and by staff from other divisions. Many policies and methods also refer to ongoing activities that are carried out as part of the core functions of the Council. The following list distinguishes between these three groups of activities.

All of the activities listed below are discussed in the attachments 1,2 and 3. These attachments correspond to each of the subheadings listed below.

#### **3.1 Activities Undertaken by Environment Division Staff**

- Involving the community in river and beach cleanup events
- Coastal Structures Inventory
- Community participation in resource management
- Literature review about discharges from vessels and boat maintenance sites
- Education programme for home owners about on-site sewage treatment and disposal systems
- Energy audit of Wakefield St premises
- Emissions Inventory
- Integrated User Guide
- Environmental education including information about the regional plans

#### **3.2 Activities Undertaken by Staff from Other Divisions**

- Assistance to the Riversdale Dune Management Group
- Informing ship operators how to reduce contaminant discharge from vessels
- Review of the Wellington Regional Council Contaminated Sites Management Programme
- Contaminated Sites Project
- Riparian Management Group

#### **3.3 Ongoing Activities**

- Consent processing
- Environmental monitoring
- Pollution response
- Submissions on territorial authority plans and consents
- Staff involvement in appropriate industry groups
- Stabilisation of erosion prone land
- Liaison with relevant stakeholders

#### 4. **Communication**

Several activities related to regional plan implementation have resulted in positive publicity for the Council.

Leading up to the Porirua Seaweek beach cleanup, pamphlets were distributed around the area. These acknowledged the Wellington Regional Council's co-ordination role in the event. The Porirua cleanup in may resulted in an article in the Kapi Mana News, which included a photograph of Harbours staff involved.

The Waiwhetu Stream Cleanup also provided an opportunity to promote the environmental management role of the Council to Naenae School students.

Educating home owners about on-site sewage treatment and disposal systems will provide opportunities for publicity about the Council's roles and responsibilities.

In other departments, the annual results of environmental monitoring programmes are reported through media releases to the public. Many soil conservation projects involve working directly with farmers during which time sections of the regional plans are promoted.

#### 5. **Recommendation**

*That the report be received and its contents noted.*

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Attachments: 3