MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

Only Marlborough

He korero no te Kaunihera o Wairau

NEWS FROM THE MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

Submissions on marine and finfish farming variations close soon

Just two weeks are left to lodge a submission on important proposed plan variations for the management of marine and finfish farming in Marlborough.

The submission process for the proposed plan variations was extended to ensure the public had plenty of time to comment – this closes on 26 February 2021.

Variations 1 (marine farming) and 1A (finfish farming) to the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan were publicly notified in early December.

This came after two years of work by the Marlborough Aquaculture Review Working Group (MARWG).

The MARWG included members of the marine farming industry, Marlborough Sounds' community organisations and central government agencies. The Ministers of Fisheries, Conservation, Environment and Transport, along with Te Tau Ihu iwi were also consulted.

In the variation, the MARWG and the Council have produced a spatial allocation for the majority of existing marine farms. The allocation is reflected in new Aquaculture Management Areas (AMAs). Existing marine farms will have to be located within an AMA when they re-consent. This may involve moving lines or, in some cases, farms to relocate into a relevant AMA.

A system for monitoring and managing the cumulative effects of marine farming has also been developed and is included in the variation.

Finfish farming provisions also form part of the variations proposed to ensure all marine farming activity is catered for. The Council proposal has been informed by the report and recommendations from the Marlborough Sounds Salmon Farm Relocation Advisory Panel.

The proposed variations and background material is available at the Council offices or public libraries in Blenheim, Picton, Havelock and Rai Valley. For further information or to submit go to: https://www.marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/resource-management-policy-and-plans/proposed-marlborough-environment-plan/variations/variation-1-and-1a

Abandoned vessel – owner sought

The Harbourmaster is seeking the owner of the vessel pictured.

It appears to have been abandoned in Waikawa Bay on mooring 2493.

The vessel is now in the possession of the Harbourmaster. If it remains unclaimed for 30 days it may be sold or destroyed.

If you have any information relating to this vessel, please contact the Harbourmaster's office on 03 520 7400.

It's time to 'Go by Bike'

If you need an excuse to trade four wheels for two on your daily commute, here is the perfect reason.

Part of Aotearoa Bike Challenge month, Marlborough's annual Go by Bike Day on Wednesday 17 February is a celebration of people riding their bikes, supported by the Council.

From 7.00 am at Liz Davidson Place in Blenheim, there will be free bacon butties and coffee for anyone who arrives by bike as well as local bike retailer 'Bikefit' on hand offering free bike checks.

In Picton, Le Café on London Quay is also joining the fun with a similar format with a free coffee and muffin on offer for participating bikers from 8.00 am.

Both events finish by 9am. No pre-registering is required.

Council staff will be handing out information and there will be giveaways on the day too.

So, come and join the fun and make a 'wheely' good start to your day!

Marlborough Girls' College sustainability team, winners of the 2019 Marine Award

Environment Awards Dinner on 5 March

Judging is over and now the 26 entrants in the Cawthron Marlborough Environment Awards are waiting to see who will be the winners.

Mayor John Leggett will welcome the entrants, judges, sponsors and guests at the awards dinner at the Marlborough Convention Centre on 5 March.

From growing pine nuts on dry hills to restoring mussel beds in the Sounds, there's a great mix of business and community projects competing this year. Every entrant is showcased at the dinner and winners receive prizes of up to $3000. Free public field days are hosted by the winners from April to October.

The awards encourage businesses and community groups to share their experience in looking after our land, water and energy resources, and the Council has been the principal sponsor since they started in 1997.

The dinner includes good food and wine, an engaging guest speaker, and the chance to see what each of the 26 Awards entrants are working on. Tickets cost $90 and are on sale now at www.cmea.org.nz

Tender for Picton/Waitohi Parks, Cemetery and Open Space Maintenance Services

The Council invites tenders for the above contract.

It involves the operation of the Picton Cemetery and maintenance of various open spaces in Picton and the surrounding areas.

Tenders close at 4.00 pm on Wednesday 17 March 2021.

Tender documents can be obtained from the Council here: www.marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/tenders/tender-list

All enquiries should be directed to:
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