



Endeavour Park, Picton - Gravel banding on playing surface

**Information Update  
Assets & Services, Property and Community  
Facilities Department**



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## Local Road Asset Management Report – January – February 2023

(Information prepared by Amanda Smith)

R800-007-02

### General

The team had a generally quiet Xmas and New Year break and are all back on board with business as usual. There is a big focus on getting the renewals programme completed and this is on target. The fortnight of Welds Pass night-time closures went well.

There has been good stakeholder engagement undertaken in December and January including Port Marlborough for the iRex project, Destination Marlborough for summer visitor communications and Wine Marlborough in the lead up to harvest.

The region was lucky to have very little disruption caused by Cyclone Gabrielle. Marlborough Roads used this event as an opportunity to prepare for a response within the team.

### Financial Commentary

Work continues with the Marlborough Roads JV to ensure our remaining four months of programming capitalises on our budgets available. We are anticipating an underspend on maintenance and renewals on the local roads. A reduction in resources across the board is also anticipated following Cyclone Gabrielle.

### Noc Monthly Activities

#### Summary from Contract Manager – Grant Bennett

Christmas close out and the start of the New Year has seemed to happen so quickly.

The renewals have continued well with programme achievement and further reinforcements are due on the network mid-February to finish strongly.

Weld Pass works once again a focus due to the nature of works and importance of location being SH1 and the available detour route. The lengthy planning period and large amount of methodology workshopping took a hit late in December, in fact the last working day of the year, with decisions on closure times being made that has hugely impacted on the proposed methodology. The team stepped up and worked well to review and change the programmed works and method to suit this instruction. Further case study lessons learnt and impacts in vital areas will be investigated. These areas will be: Safety, Quality, Efficiency, Financial and true road user impacts.

Some new staff have landed well and are already making a difference in the team. We welcome our two graduate engineers Shiv Chandra and Sebin Lorence, as the new young staff come into the team we bid farewell to one of the more mature legends of the Marlborough Maintenance team members Ron Twose who retired at the end of December 2022.

We are starting to see and feel the effects on our network from the weather events. Areas are saturated and in a number of areas have been underwater for long periods of time with clear increases in pavement failures and quantities of repairs required to keep up with demand and level of service. We are currently completing an analysis of the network, highlighting and mapping these areas.

Our first day back induction days were a success with some great interaction with employees, subcontractors and suppliers all making the most of the days and starting the year as we intend to go on with continued safety focus and improvements across a number of areas Environmental, Quality, Enjoyment, and development to name a few.

# Project Status

## State Highways

Welds Pass overnight road closures, between Sunday 22 January to Friday 3 February, were carried out successfully to complete essential maintenance and improvements.



Figure 1 – Welds Pass Maintenance



Figure 2 – Welds Pass Maintenance

## Local Roads

We are four months into our renewals delivery and are progressing well.

We have completed 65% of reseal sites on 50% on asphalt sites.

Both HEB Asphalt and Reseal crews are in the region in February delivering their portions of the contract, with three weeks of asphalt planned and the reseal will go through to the end of March, across both state highways and local roads.

We have made a start on the local road REHABs with the pre works started on Kaparu Rd and the crew will continue onto Grassmere Rd.

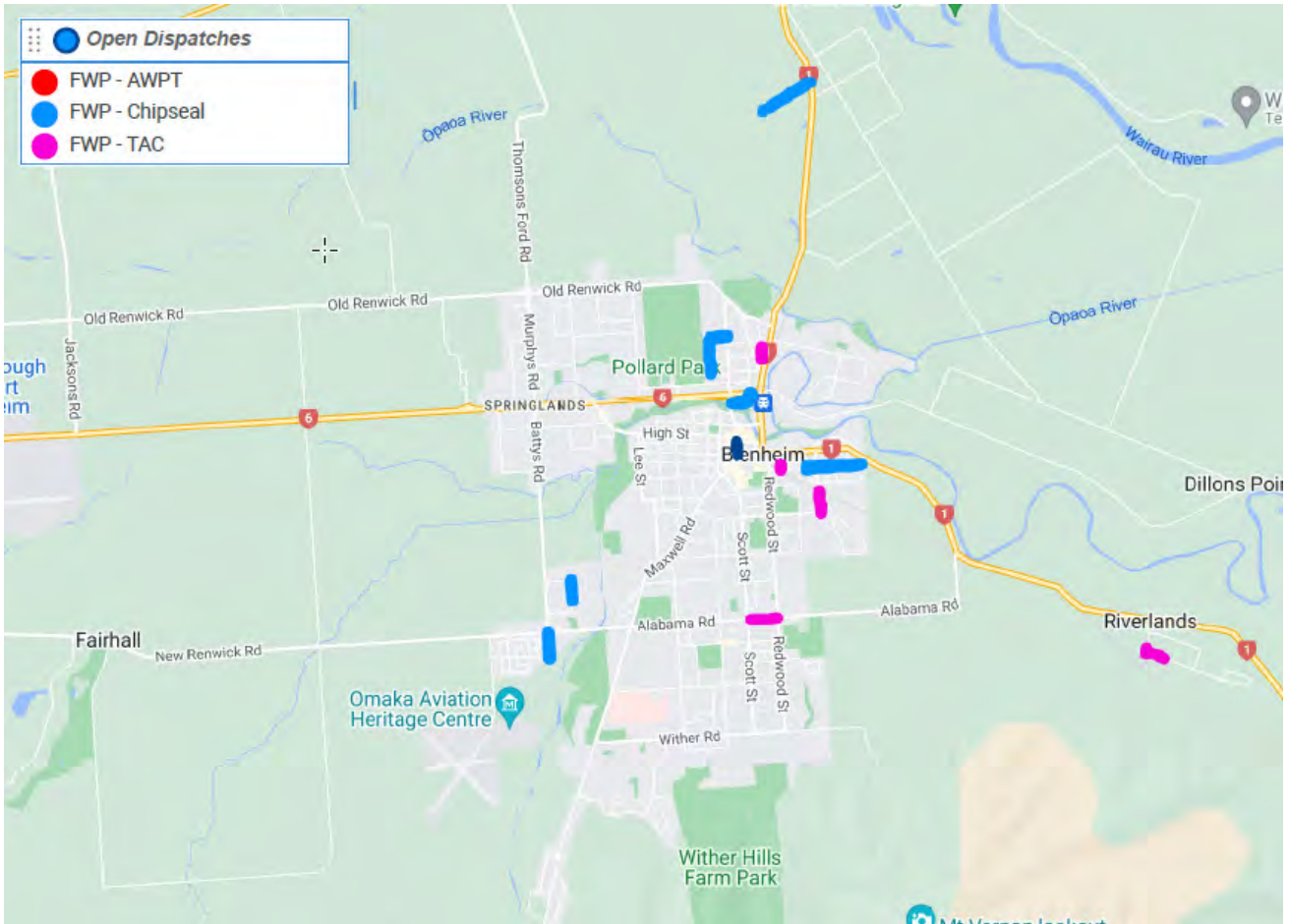
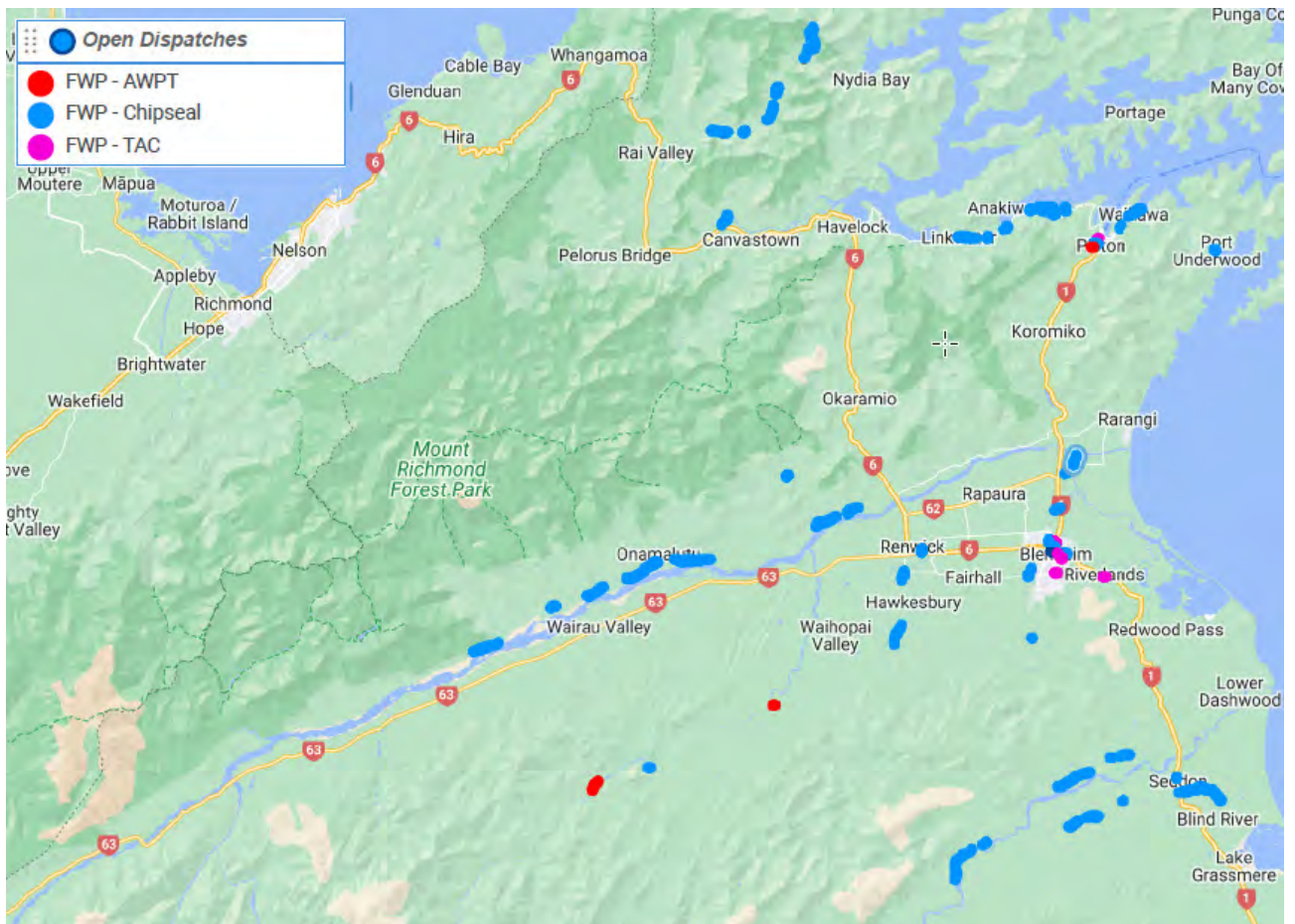


Figure 3 – Blenheim Reseal Sites



**Figure 4 – Marlborough Reseal Sites**

The Structures programme delivery is underway with maintenance and component budgets fully allocated.

Drainage renewals have had 55% of programme delivered, with 37% of remainder budget approved and programmed for delivery.

Unsealed renewals have had 60% of budget delivered to date and next round of network inspections currently in progress to programme remainder of budget where needed.

Gill Construction have started work at Upton Downs Road to repair the slip that occurred from the August 2022 Storm event. This work will be completed prior to harvest starting in this area.

### **Marlborough Roads Activities**

Work continues on the NOC reset to clarify ambiguities and issues identified that will improve the delivery of the contract. The review of lump sum items is also underway in preparation for the completion of the third year of the contract come 1 April 2023.

A review of Passenger Transport is being presented to the A&S Committee.

Work continues on the Roding Asset Management Plan 2024-2027. The draft is to be completed by April 2023 so that it can help to form the Regional Land Transport Plan and National Land Transport Plan.

The Speed Management Workshop was run by Laura Skilton on Thursday 26 January.



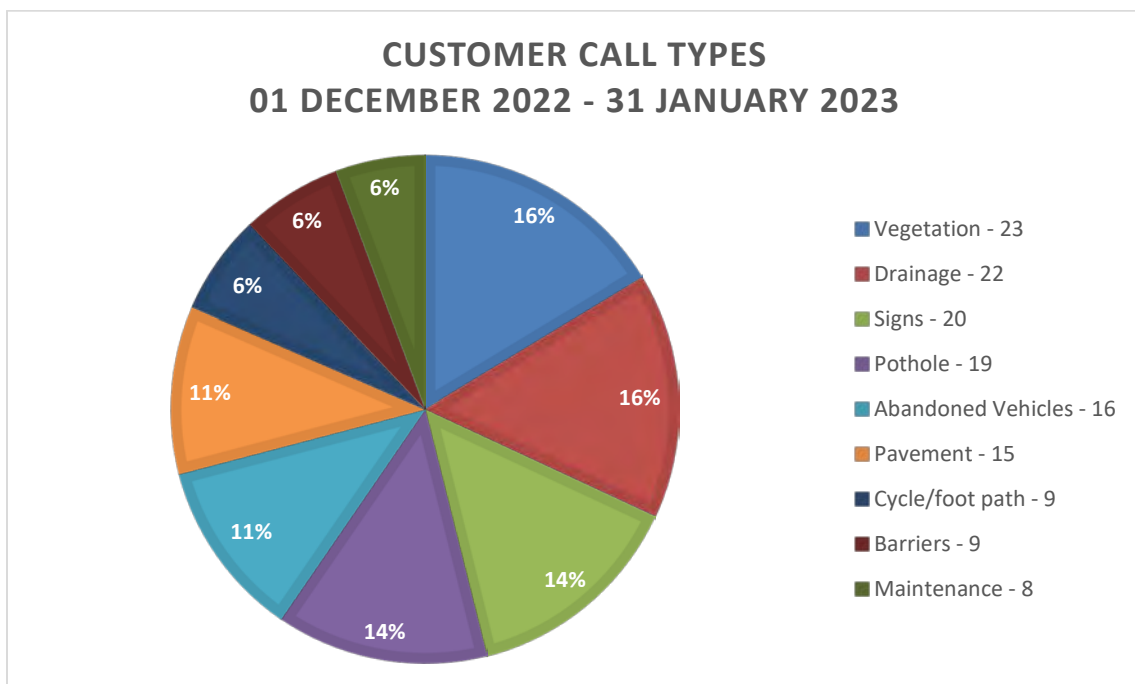
# Stakeholder and Communications Monthly Progress

Summary from Communications Manager, Olivia Bowers-Galt

## 2.8.1 Summary for December and January:

The highest number of calls were for vegetation and drainage in December and January respectively. Of the former, vegetation calls were also high in November. This increase is not unexpected with high temperatures following a wet winter increasing the amount of vegetation growth. The drainage calls in January were for blocked drains and requests for culverts to be cleared. Again this increase in call type is not unexpected due to a wet January.

Also of note in January was enquiries on maintenance with seven CRMs, all on road condition. There was only one maintenance related CRM in January 2023. When compared to January 2022, there is a decrease in CRMs year on year, with 14 CRMs last year. This increase in CRMs is likely caused by residents having more time in January on the roads and contact MRJV about the issue.



Two complaints were received in December and five in January. The complaints in December were both concerning state highway.

The first December complaint was on a seal failure for recent works on SH1 near Ward. The MCM and CM both went to assess and met the member of public at the site. The failure had been caused by heavy vehicles not adhering to speed restrictions and hot weather.

The second complaint was from a local truck driver concerned of the general state of SH63.

The complaints in January regarded;

- A culvert on Kaituna-Tuamarina Road that has not been replaced since the July 2021 event.
- Delay at works on SH1 near Koromiko.
- The state of SH6. The issues have been discussed and a drive over with a member of the Operations Team is being organised.
- Two complaints were for the same site on SH1 near Riverlands due to delays of 30 minutes. A meeting was held with the parties on the importance of communications and having the correct delay time in the TMP.

Due to the Christmas break and works centred on Weld Pass, there has been a decrease in customer notifications in December and January. There were 210 letterbox drops, across two jobs and three planned works Antenno/Roading Alerts sent.

The communications plan for the Weld Pass closure was instigated and included media releases, social media posts on Waka Kotahi and MDC platforms, direct contact with ferry companies, freight forum and emergency services, static VMS, advertorial in the MDC pages and print advertising in The Press, Dominion Post and Marlborough Express.

The Facebook post on the Waka Kotahi – South Island page had a reach of 46.9k with 128 reactions, 87 comments and 45 shares. The majority of reactions were positive with customers tagging in friends and family. A few comments were on the length of the detour.

A communications plan was also written and instigated for a closure at the start of SH63 between 9 am and 12 pm on Friday 27 January. The communications included VMS boards, social media posts, Antenno and TREIS.

The final six communication interviews were undertaken with members of the leadership team. From these interviews an action plan to meet the objectives of the communications strategy is being formed. This action plan is to be reviewed at the Leadership Workshop to be held in March.

There has been good stakeholder engagement undertaken in December and January including Port Marlborough for the iRex project, Destination Marlborough for summer visitor communications and Wine Marlborough in the lead up to harvest.

In December, the media register was updated to include rating of stories, neighbouring region articles and links to provide a wider view of MRJV in the media.

### **2.8.2 Future Month Focus:**

- Continue to increase stakeholder engagement with Port Marlborough, Marlborough Lines and Wine Marlborough
- Action plan for communications strategy to be presented at leadership workshop
- Create a visual media library for MRJV
- Customer training to be instigated in February and March
- 12 month proactive media story calendar to be confirmed

## **Road Safety**

### **Road Safety Incidents**

#### **Monthly Summary from Network and Safety Manager.**

##### **3.2.1 State Highway Crash summary:**

The Contract has had 3 DSI crashes on the State Highway network recorded in CAS for December 2022 and January 2023.

##### **3.2.2 Local Road Crash summary:**

The Contract has had 1 DSI crashes on the Local Road network recorded in CAS for December 2022 and January 2023.

# Marlborough Roads Recovery Team Update – July 2022

## Overview

### Background

Waka Kotahi has an agreement with Marlborough District Council to manage the maintenance of the local road network under our Marlborough Roads model. Marlborough Roads has established a Marlborough Roads Recovery Team (as per the Marlborough Local Roads Recovery Plan, 4 Aug 2021).

Key points to note include:

- The recovery team was mobilised on 10 August 2021
- In August 2022 a further weather event took place causing large scale damage mostly to the Marlborough Sounds areas.
- The recovery leadership transitioning from Marlborough Roads to Marlborough District Council. Richard Coningham, Manager – assets & services will continue as the council representation and governance role supported by Steve Murrin (on secondment from Waka Kotahi/Marlborough Roads).

Key strategic focus for the recovery Team:

- Focusing recovery efforts on the key sites that have allocated funding
- Handing sites back to Marlborough Roads BAU as sections of the network are repaired to an agreed level of service
- Ensuring the management team maintains appropriate levels of resource for the size of the recovery efforts
- Resilience of the Kenepuru Road
- Establishing systems and resource to ensure the success of future recovery stages and funding availability

The programme continues to progress the recovery efforts under the authority and support of the Emergency Management local transition, Section 940, Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002. It is proposed by Council that this will continue to be extended for as long as possible.

### Health and Safety

The MRRT operates within health and safety systems established by the NoC JV and all reporting and processes are aligned to this approved standard. There have been no known incidents since the last report. The MRRT will provide an update in the coming days and any update will be provided in the next report.

### Communications and Engagement

The Marlborough Roads Recovery Team (MRRT), Council and Waka Kotahi continue to collaborate well and are continuing to build strong working relationship across the communication and engagement teams.

The weekly roading recovery e-newsletters continue to form the base of the regular MRRT communications, supported by roading alerts on the Council's website and Antenna. A summary of key information is included weekly in the Marlborough District Council's (MDC) recovery update on their website.

Both weekly publications are planned to be amalgamated in July, following the outcome of the MDC's Future Access Study. The decision to delay this to mid year, is to allow time for the MDC's web update to be moved to an e-newsletter format and to limit disruption and confusion for the public.

There continues to be a decrease in customer enquiries in December and January, with 38 and 39 CRMS each month respectively. These calls have been recorded to be imported into the MDC CRM system. From 1 December, Recovery CRMs have no longer been entered into BAU's Waka Kotahi CRMS.

A second recovery navigator Jessica Donaldson started on 16 January, based at the Civil Defence Office, alongside the current navigator. Following a familiarisation of both recovery navigators with the MRRT's staff and processed, the recovery email will be forwarded to the navigators. This change will offer a better customer experience and align the communications across all aspects of the recovery.

MRRT was covered in the December edition of the Waka Kotahi's Transport Services Update. The story gave an overview of the extent of damage as well as the scale of work that had been completed to date.

A six-weekly hui was held with local iwi on 05 December, led by MRRT Environmental Advisor Simon Smith. The hui was well attended with five iwi represented. The hui provided an overview of the August 2022 storm event damage and discussed the overall work programme with Te Taihu iwi.

## Financial Overview

The months of December and January have seen a reduction in spending across the project, the quantum of work has decreased with the majority of improved access works now done and the priority sites still being designed.

Of the current total allocated funds, \$88m, there is a remaining \$25.7m to complete phase 1 recovery. The following is a summary of total project spend to date. Please note that further reconciliation is underway to confirm the details in the breakdown and will be provided as soon as we have validated the figures. The Black figures are from Council / Waka Kotahi showing confirmed paid costs, NOC recovery costs are invoices from the Recovery team. Client costs and NOC response costs need further validation.

	2021-2022	2022-2023	TOTAL spent to date	Budget	Remaining budget
All costs	36,377,733	25,851,875	62,229,608	87,999,665	25,770,057
Client costs	2,001,247	1,927,588	3,928,835		
NOC recovery costs	27,876,486	15,424,287	43,300,773		
NOC response costs	6,500,000	8,500,000	15,000,000		

**Figure 1: Total Project Cost Summary**

The phase 2 funding application submitted in December for \$52.4m remains a priority as does the scope and prioritisation of the remaining \$25.7m.

## Construction Cost Summary

The construction claim for the month was \$1.5m, the areas of spend can be seen in the pie chart below. The spend has been affected by both the short month over the Christmas break, reduction in work fronts with the majority of the approved minor works / improved access scope completed and no material designed sites underway.

The high-level analysis of the January claim is below.



Figure 2: Construction cost breakdown of January claim

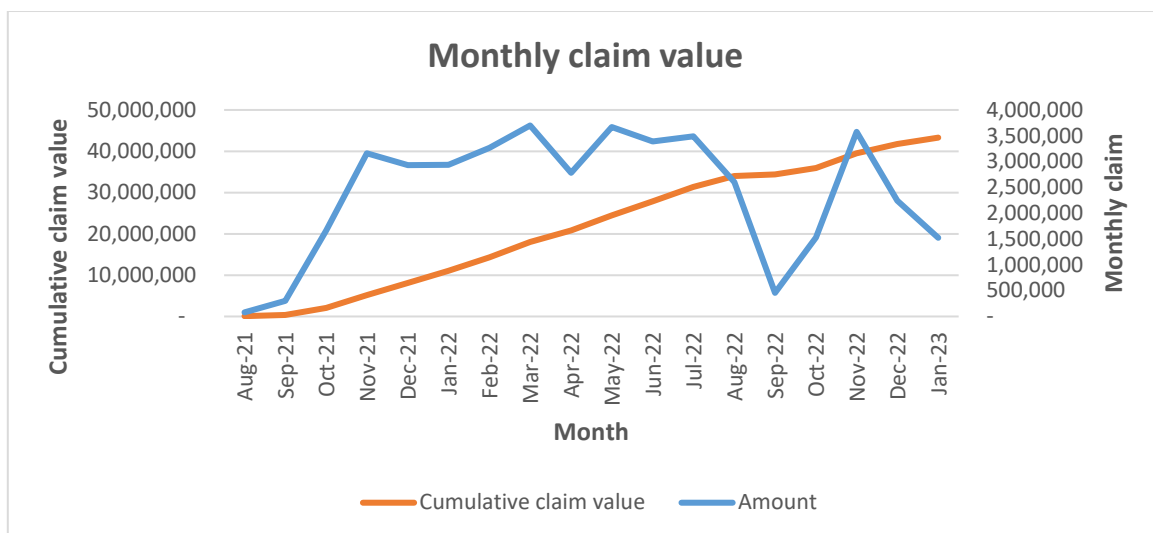


Figure 3: Monthly construction comparison of the cumulative claim value and the amount claimed

## Programme

### Overview

The current programme continues to show an estimated phase 1 completion of August 2023 with the exception of a few major sites, such as Cullen's Point on Queen Charlotte Dr, Māori Ford Bridge in the Waihopai Valley. There remains a high possibility that the August date will be extended as some of the sites requiring detailed design is realised.

Key risks to achieving this programme are:

- Investigations, design, property and consenting
- Procurement and construction
- Approvals
- New priorities or scope from client

## Progress

Construction progress will be reflected in completion percentages reported in future reports. The Recovery programme is still gathering data on the completed faults and percentage complete of the larger sites. We do have an established baseline for approximately 4000 new faults that have resulted from the August weather event.

The following provides a high-level summary of the progress against the Recovery programme Key Principles, Preserve (life and mitigate risk), Reconnect (access), and Recovery.

- Preserve Life and Mitigate Risk
  - July 2021 Recovery Paused & NOC JV Response Engaged from **19 August 2022**
  - Completed end of October 2022
- Reconnect Access
  - Reconnect access will be achieved by Friday 21 October (excluding Kenepuru)
  - Kenepuru Rd improved access was completed week ending 3 February 2023.
  - Response Cost - \$10 – \$12m est.
- Recovery
  - Handover to Recovery control achieved from Monday 17 October 2022
  - Draft Priority Programme established and approved by Council
  - Focused on handing back sections of the network

The following table shows the recovery progress by fault type and by fault type per construction zone. The following includes faults that are still to be completed from the July 2021 event. Further reconciliation of the fault database is being completed and total faults and progress will move to reflect these updates.

	Minor	Simple	Complex	Significant
Total faults	3102	321	191	2
Completed	1205	27	16	0
% complete	39%	8%	8%	0%

**Figure 4: Current fault completion by fault type**

	Minor	Simple	Complex	Significant
AWA (complete)	2%	3%	0%	
BLN (complete)	88%	0%	0%	
DUR (complete)	0%	0%		
FRP (complete)	37%	0%	0%	
KEN (complete)	32%	10%	12%	0%
NOR (complete)	74%	5%	0%	
PEL (complete)	1%	0%		
PIC (complete)	61%	4%	17%	
QCD (complete)	53%	30%	6%	0%
WAI (complete)	51%	0%	0%	

**Figure 5: Current fault completion by fault type per construction zone**

## Design and Consenting

Since the August weather event two further zonal consents are required for French Pass area and for the Tennyson Inlet area. These are being worked on and will be submitted to Council soon.

A new Design Management team has been established to provide coordination and liaison with construction. This work is being led by BECA with support from WSP and client oversight from Stantec. The design is informing the construction works and overall programme.

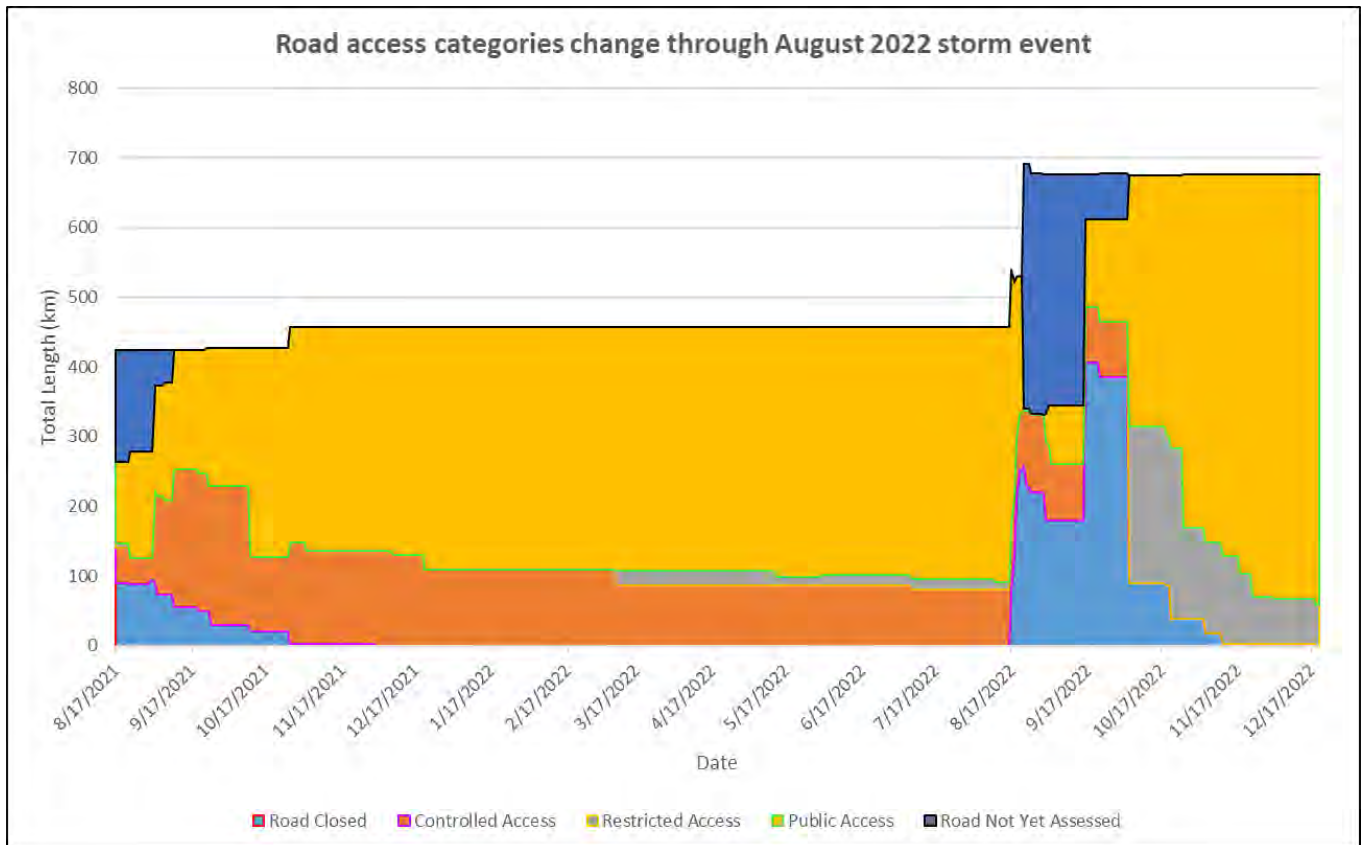
## Road Status summary

Contractors overall progress has focused on Recovery and access on Kenepuru Road for residents and emergency vehicles.

Current status of roads in table below.

Road Closed	Controlled Access	Restricted Access	Public Access	Road Not Yet Assessed
0	0	58.5	617.2	0

Changes to road access through the storm event to now are shown in graphic below. This shows the significance of the effort required of the response team to bring the network back to a functional level of service for the Community. Up to 690 km of roads were affected by the August 2022 storm. As at the end of January 2023, there are no roads closed, no controlled access, 58.5 km of restricted access, and 617.2 km general public access with standard road works traffic controls in place around repair sites.



# Risk

The MRRT PMO manages the programmes risk which is reviewed monthly and reported through the projects risk register. Any health and safety events are captured both through the MRRT NoC JV Board report as well as through the monthly MRRT KPI report to the project director. There are no new risks identified during this reporting period.

The top five risks are noted as:

- MRRT and BAU Delivery workforce get COVID and site works are shut down.
- An incident that harms staff or road users at a worksite.
- Increased threat of fatigue from long distance travel (ie. Christchurch based staff).
- There is a threat of unplanned contaminant discharge to the environment.
- Insufficient approved dump sites for material disposal.

# Project controls

## Financial

BondCM continue to undertake an independent financial audit on the client's behalf. This includes the following as of 31 Jan 2023:

## Monthly MRRT claims

Review claims and back-up details to validate and verify compliance with the general principles of the variation agreement and the basis of compensation. The following salary/wage/plant rates have been reported:

- FH Salary and wage rate have been agreed.
- FH proposed plant rates have been submitted and agreed with exception of truck rates.
- HEB salary template and rates have been agreed.
- HEB waged staff template (one staff member) has not been supplied.
- HEB have confirmed for plant that they will not have plant on site with exception of a couple of containers.

## Audits by exception

Audits will be undertaken comparing consultancy expenditure against procurement approvals. This has identified a number of queries in the past which are still being worked through with the MRRT to ensure adequate controls are in place to assure that value for money and accountability of costs are adequately tracked. Across the 16 claims audited to date five items need to be resolved.

## Response Claims

A review of the response claims during the Aug/Sep/Oct 22 period revealed an issue with the claim of BAU Maintenance P&G items during the response period when it is likely the same resources were engaged in response activities. The auditor is not aware if this issue has been resolved.

# Quality

Progress claimed by the MRRT is reviewed on site by the independent site assurance team. As well as reviewing for progress and completion, the site assurance team identifies any quality issues or divergence from agreed levels of service and reflects these back to the delivery team at fortnightly team meetings with the zone supervisors (or more directly if more urgent action, such as an identified safety issue).



Overall quality and efficiency have significantly improved for example the improved access on Kenepuru Road was completed ahead of schedule, at a lesser cost.

## Photo Summary

Box Culvert construction in progress in Awatere



Retreat on tumbledown bay road in progress



Noel Bridge construction



Temporary shoulder repair on Queen Charlotte around Pukenui Road



Improved access in progress on Kenepuru





# Rivers and Drainage Section – Activity Report

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(Information prepared by Geoff Dick, Steve Bezar, Jan Dimmendaal, Duc Nuygen, Gregor Punzel, Andy White) R700-014-01

## Wairau River

### Flood Damage repairs

Flood damage repair work continues including extracting gravel build ups under the SH1 and SH6 bridges. Gills have extracted the post flood buildup adjacent to the Tuamarina River confluence and under the SH1 bridge and Fulton Hogan/Edridges are about 50% the way through a similar extraction under the SH6 bridge.

Flood debris on the KiwiRail bridge below SH1 has now been removed, and removal of the remaining flood debris on the SH1 bridge will be completed shortly.

Bank edge repairs on the TRB between Giffords and Jeffries Road are about 50% complete. The remaining work will be completed following construction of Groyne 20 at Upper Conders when rock again becomes available from the Simcox Barracks Road quarry.

Planning for the large diversion final repairs can now get underway in earnest now that necessary rubble from the Pukaka quarry extension has been identified and talks are underway with another private quarry for the necessary larger armour grade rock.

The schedule of repairs (completed and recommended schedule) from the July/August 2022 is being compiled and will be reported shortly. This includes a final repair on the lower Waihopai and to a private stopbank adjacent to the Northbank Road where landowner contributions are still being finalised.

### Lower Wairau Flood Capacity Upgrade Programme – Ngāti Rārua Reach

The construction contract has been awarded to Gill Construction Co. Ltd following a competitive tender process. Work is programmed to commence on 1 March 2023 following a Mihi Whakatau and Karakia from Ngāti Rārua at the Hauhunga Marae, with whānau, councillors, rivers engineering staff, and key project personnel in attendance.

Works are expected to take between 12-14 weeks and be completed by June 2023.

### Wairau River Protection Works – Groyne 20

The first 2000t of rock armament required for Groyne 20 has been produced with 700t already stockpiled on site ahead of an April construction start date. The project remains on track for completion by end of June 2023.

### Wairau River Protection Works – Stopbank Realignment at Upper Conders

An engineer's cost assessment for the proposed realignment works was carried out internally, identifying a shortfall in the budget ring-fenced to complete the full 1400m of stopbank. After careful negotiation with our Central Government partner Kanoa/MBIE we have decided to move forward with realignment of the first 700m of work, allowing it to be tied into two existing points.

Tender documents have been updated to reflect these changes and are due to be released by the end of February 2023. The programme remains unchanged, with work programmed to begin at the end of harvest to minimise disruption to neighbouring vineyards and completed by the end of June 2023.

### Lower Wairau Flood Capacity Upgrade Programme – Lower MacDonalds Reach

Work commenced 7 February 2023 on the next 1100m of stopbank upgrade works at the Lower McDonald's reach of the Lower Wairau. This critical \$500k project remains on programme with completion expected in early April 2023.



### **Vegetation control**

Stopbanks and flat areas around Peninsula Road, Spring Creek has been mowed to be able to be accessed by the community again.

Furthermore, more native planting sites have been weed wacked and released from weeds and high grass.



A native planting site near the SH1 road bridge

## **Wairau Floodplain and Tributaries**

### **Lower Ōpaoa River**

The lower Ōpaoa River is due for the second weed cut but will be delayed while repairs to the weed boat are completed and our operator recovers from back surgery.

Bank edge repairs resulting from last year's July/August floods are planned for next month. Sufficient small armour rock remains in pukaka quarry to complete this work.

### **Upper Ōpaoa - Behind Lansdowne Park to Waipuna Street**

The Upper Ōpaoa around Blenheim Bridges Holiday Park has been injected for weed control.

### **Tuamarina**

Willow clearing has been completed in the vicinity of Speeds Road to improve flood capacity. Some final tidy up tree/debris removal in the lower koromiko has also been completed.

### **Are Are Creek**

We are getting a nuisance build-up of willows along the Council maintained section of Are Are Creek, Kaituna. We are currently speaking to landowners regarding plans on removing most of the willow growth. Use of herbicides has to take into account risk to immediately adjacent vineyard development.

### **School Creek, Renwick**

Terrace Creek by the sportsground has been sprayed for weed control as well as a tractor tyre has been removed from the creek bed.

### **Taylor River: Town Area**

With the recent storm events multiple trees have fallen over and caused blockages in the river. These trees have been removed and some of them were cut to smaller lots for the Lions Club to collect and use as firewood.

A fairway spraying to control woody vegetation in the river channel, like willows and wattle, from the dam down to the Burleigh Bridge has been completed.

### **Fairhall River**

A major clean out of the Fairhall River up - and downstream of Middle Renwick Road has been accomplished as well as some new stopbank protections edge work. Most of the extracted gravel has been used to upgrade tracks around the area and to shape the river channel itself. As there are service lines going underneath the Middle Renwick Road bridge, HydroTech Services were employed to hydro excavate and mark service lines.



### **Tyler (Gibsons) Creek**

As part of the yearly weed control maintenance another mechanical weed rake with a 12t digger through the Framingham Wines Ltd block achieved an improvement of the flow.

The raupo vegetation has been grown immensely and slowed down the water flow which caused backwater further upstream. For this job a Marlborough Lines permit had to be issued as works were partly under powerlines.



### **Ruakanakana Creek – main tributaries**

Several trees that had fallen into the creek have been removed and were carted to the MDC burn pile in Conders Bend Road.

Erosion works have been completed as part of the maintenance scheme of the creek.



### **Ohinemahuta River**

A start has been made of channel clearing and minor channel realignment following August 2022 flood event along the Ohinemahuta River at the DOC Reserve and immediately upstream.



## **Upper Omaka River**

Tree/debris clearance at several sites upstream of the Tyntesfield Bridge have been completed.

## **Wither Hills**

Work continues in the Wither Hills Farm Park repairing damaged sediment and bed control structures which were damaged during the August 2022 flood event, with significant slips and gravel deposits requiring remediation and stretching resources.

Work is ongoing to remove dead and dying trees that pose a risk to farm park user's safety, as well as to reduce fuel loading for fire risk management purposes, although this work has now been paused due to increased fire risk over the summer period.

A consultant has been engaged to undertake a review of fire risk in the Wither Hills Farm Park, and this work will be presented to Councillors when completed.

The Farm Park is enjoying a wetter summer than usual, with good grass growth and hints of green still visible in February! New plantings from winter 2022 planted using funding from Te Uru Rakau's One Billion Trees Programme have had a great start to life and are showing excellent survival rates.

Biosecurity control programmes for nassella tussock and Chilean needle grass have now been completed, and gorse control works will get underway in the next month or so.

Priorities in the Farm Park over the coming months will be further routine maintenance of farm tracks and water tables, stock water infrastructure maintenance including the replacement of the main Cobb Cottage line and pump, and upgrading of failing boundary fence lines, clearing of fallen trees and branches from fence lines, and resowing of slip faces resulting from the August rain event.

## **Drainage**

### **Stormwater Pumping Stations**

With Hai Trieu resigning and now working for the Gold Coast City Council responsibility for monitoring and maintaining our network of 30 pumps stations has had to be delegated within the Rivers team. A key to this working will be getting additional access licences for the live datran data.

In the meantime basic site maintenance including regular mechanical and electrical checks continue.

## Drainage Maintenance

Drains A & B Grovetown weed raked 715 metres.

Yelverton Drain Springlands video inspected pending property development. This section of pipe is considered private but laid in a scheduled drain. It will likely need replacement at some future date, especially if the underlying land is rezoned residential.



Hill Drain Tua Marina excavated 591 metres.



Trees have been removed from Marris Creek and Spring Creek at Rapaura.  
Currently carrying out drain inspections preparing the autumn spray schedule.



## Floodway Reserves

- 2 new well sites have been installed in the Upper Conders Floodway area of Wairau River for the aquifer monitoring project run by Peter Davidson of the Environmental team.
- Several reserve sites have been programmed to have some willow control spraying undertaken before the seasons' turn to the cooler.
- A Upper Ōpaoa floodway lease amendment is being finalised to accommodate the cycleway track from Jacksons Rd to Renwick and Rapaura Rd.
- Several gates have had to be reinforced to prevent vehicle access in sensitive areas where vandalism and damage has been occurring including Upper Conders and the Wairau Diversion.

## Picton, Sounds and Awatere

### Waikawa and Waitohi Rivers

The Waikawa Stream gravel trap upstream of Waikawa Road has been cleaned out. Some preliminary bank repairs to the erosion bites into the land to the west have also been completed. Some additional followup planting rock work will be considered.

### Ngakuta Bay/Anakiwa

Gravel and debris removed from the Ngakuta Bay streams following last winter's storms has been removed and the adjacent reserve tidied up.

### Rai River

Rivers staff spent a day with Te Hoirere project Environmental Science staff inspecting 5 properties to look at flood damage and discuss possible repair work options.

The biggest hurdles to getting appropriate remedial work underway include funding, resource consent hurdle and resources including locally available rock.

## Investigation and Miscellaneous

Work underway includes;

- Modelling of Ruakanakana flood flows through Renwick lower terrace area to assist in designing flood mitigation options.
- Flow assessments at Stump Creek and Brookby Road to enable design of culvert upgrades to reduce upstream flood risk.
- Ongoing development of a real time flood warning model for the Wairau.
- Completion of Wairau bed level survey analysis following the July 2021 flood event.

## Gravel Extraction

- Gill Construction have completed gravel extraction on the upstream side of the SH1 bridge. This work was done to clear a build-up of gravel that was reducing the flow capacity under the bridge. As part of this work they also repaired the access road from Bothams Bend Rd and ramp onto the river bed that had been damaged during the floods.

- Fulton Hogan have been extracting gravel immediately downstream and upstream of the SH6 bridge. A large amount of gravel (3m depth) had built up at this location and extraction has improved the flow capacity under the bridge. While the contractor was at the site he has also removed debris caught up against the bridge pylons.

## Quarries

### **Pukaka**

A draft design for the haul road and benches has been completed by WSP. Quarry Consultant John Ellis has been engaged to review the design and prepare a staged quarry development plan for the extension area.

Once this has been completed and Simcox have been consulted regarding the plan a start can be made on the physical works. The plan is to start development of two benches in the lower part of the extension area immediately adjacent to the recently completed section of new haul road. This option (as opposed to starting at the top of the face) will produce rock (weathered rubble initially) much sooner

# Planning and Development Section

## Paper4Trees 2021/2022 Report

(Information prepared by Alec McNeil)

P150-W11

Paper4Trees is a waste minimisation and tree planting programme for New Zealand schools and preschools. More information on the programme can be found at <https://www.paper4trees.co.nz/>. Council has sponsored this programme for several years at annual cost of up to \$5k including GST. A summary of the 2022 performance stats is shown below.



\*calculated based on <https://www.treesthatcount.co.nz/native-trees-carbon-calculator/>

Paper4Trees alongside versions of other planting regimes such as trees for travellers will be used for future planting programmes being developed for the Bluegums Landfill property.

# Investigating Funding Services for Waste Activities

(Information prepared by Dr Alec McNeil)

C315-22-119-005

Council commissioned a report to provide a broad understanding of available grant funding that exists to support waste related activities within communities. The report methodology utilised a desktop search and review through a keyword search. The report is appended to this information pack.

The report will be used to inform thinking under the new reuse centre services contract (2022/159) and the waste management and minimisation contract (2022/077) which both commence on 1 July 2024. Both these contracts have a community focus and will provide opportunities to increase community involvement particularly in recovery and repurposing of materials.

## Investigating funding services for waste activities

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## **Introduction**

This advisory report is intended to give the reader a broad understanding of available grant funding that exists to support waste related activities within communities. The report has been prepared using a desktop research methodology using a key word search. The following narrative describes the sources of grant funding availability, the types of activity and organisation supported by available funding, and the various concepts of 'community' that exist within the grant funding sphere.

Having accessed the content of some seventy-five grant funding opportunities, it can be stated with confidence that there is no shortage of money available in the public sphere. Further analysis shows, however, that funding suitable for a local authority context is drastically reduced to less than 10. The key words used in the search were extended to include waste-adjacent categories because current public discourse brings together the constructions of waste, environment, and climate, which underpins a large proportion of Government funding.

**Key word search:** grant, funding, grant funding, waste, waste related activity, waste reduction, waste minimisation, community, local authority, council, capital works, environment, energy, climate, climate change

## **Sources of grant funding availability**

The three main sources of grant funding availability can be summarised as coming from Government allocation, private resources, and public contribution.

Government allocation for grant funding is derived from general taxation and for the context of this report, an additional waste disposal levy. The amount of funding made available to the public in any Governmental cycle is informed by Government spending priorities. This means that funding may increase or decrease, or some funds may be discontinued once a specific outcome has been achieved, or allocated funding has been used up. Government has initiated a staged increase to the cost for disposal to landfill: additional funds from 'user pays fees' will be allocated to local authorities over time. Councils will be able to decide how they wish to use the 'returned' funding.

Private resources come from business, philanthropic contribution, and bequests from deceased estates for 'specific outputs,' such as educational grants. Private funding tends to be managed in a 'trust' format in order that funds are protected and appropriately invested, both to preserve the viability of the fund, and to meet the output or effect that the donor initially intended. Philanthropic organisations may choose *not* to provide contestable funds to the public, preferring rather to *approach* potential benefactors through specific and targeted 'core principle' outreach work. Core principles in this context, refers to being engaged in kinds of activity that satisfies the belief system of the organisation, such as work with specific ethnicities or marginalised groups.

Public funding is derived from people who have engaged in some way with gambling. The allocation of funds returned to the public from playing gaming machines or by purchasing Lotto products, is protected by legislation. The Gambling Act (2003) stipulates the

percentage of collected monies that must be redirected back to the community for 'beneficial causes'. Monies allocated to funds from gaming machines will stay in the region in which the gaming machine is located. Monies allocated to Lotto grant funding are not region specific; applications to are open to the whole country and cover smaller projects to those of greater significance.

#### **Types of activity and organisation supported by grant funding**

A common goal identified across funding sources, is the intention that some kind of active social good must come from being awarded grant funding. Preferred outputs for 'wider public benefit' means that funding is directed towards clubs and organisations; activities that support cultural expression through arts and history; health and wellbeing; education; groups embedded in community service; and environmental awareness and enhancement projects. While smaller groups and organisations may benefit from applying to 'localised' grant bodies, funding for larger scale projects that may suit a local authority context are unlikely to be satisfied within these funding opportunities.

#### **Concepts of community**

The key word search used to find out what kinds of funding may be available for waste related activities has revealed different interpretations of the concept of community. For funding bodies who allocate from smaller defined funds, community is tied to geography (people have to live in a particular area to be eligible to apply), or attitudes, outlook, and interest (people have to belong to an organisation that has a common 'localised' achievement aim). A more nuanced context of community appears as funding amounts increase. Increased allocation of funding is imagined as having a more widespread effect that extends beyond a defined locality, or any discrete organisational benefit. Community in the larger scale funding context now extends to describe an imagined 'community of expertise', that engages in problem solving activities for greater benefit. Activities undertaken by this 'community of expertise' is anticipated to include contributors from academia, industry, and local authority. Government actively encourages 'thought' collaboration in this way to stimulate research and development activities across communities of practice.

Possible funds to support waste related activities from a local authority perspective now follow.

#### **Potential funding sources for waste related activities within communities.**

**Ministry for the Environment** - available funding streams well known to Council, therefore there is no need to rehearse them here.

**Lottery Community Facilities Grant** – to improve existing or build new community facilities, or conduct a feasibility study for new infrastructure, which will help to bring people together to strengthen and enhance their social connection. Possible outputs for the context of this report could be an Environment Centre. For further details see <https://www.communitymatters.govt.nz/lottery-community-facilities/>.

**Lotto Significant Projects Fund Grant** – to purchase, create or improve capital assets of regional or national significance, this fund also supports large scale, community based environmental projects to promote and protect New Zealand plants and animals. Currently suspended further details about this fund will be notified by July 2023 at <https://www.communitymatters.govt.nz/lottery-significant-projects-fund/>.

**The Tindall Foundation** – likes to build partnerships with a longer-term association, underpinned by a high-trust methodology to effect social change through innovation. Two separate funding streams exist. Smaller scale giving sees donations made to faith-based communities, discrete regional communities, and environmental projects. Larger grants are directed towards nationally significant initiatives, or broader regional projects that show promise and have potential to grow. For example, Gore District Council, Southland District Council, and Invercargill City Council (Venture Southland) received funding for three consecutive years to investigate and develop a regional carbon-reduction framework. Further details can be found at <https://tindall.org.nz> and [https://tindall.org.nz/case\\_study/venture-southland/](https://tindall.org.nz/case_study/venture-southland/)

**EnviroLink** – is a funding scheme administered by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (Science and Innovation) that encourages Regional Councils to engage with environmental research knowledge. Established research organisations can offer advice and support for environmental projects and topics, by offering practical outputs from environmental science knowledge. Available expertise relevant to the context of this report extends to resource management, air quality, biosecurity and biodiversity, and contaminated land and waste. Three stages of grant funding covers initial advice and training, in-depth expert consultation for regional environmental issues, and further scientific input to larger scale projects or issues across regional boundaries. Marlborough District Council is cited as an eligible recipient. Further details can be found at <https://www.envirolink.govt.nz/grants/>

### **Climate change**

**Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA)** – aims to assist business and the public sector to work towards decarbonisation. Funding is available from Government to accelerate the switch to clean, climate friendly energy use. Perhaps more relevant to the whole of Council than ‘waste related activities’ funding is available to change heating, lighting, and transportation systems to be more considerate of the adverse effect on the environment than current systems. The scheme may however be able to be accessed to support alternative sources of energy (solar panels) for the suite of buildings at the Resource Recovery Centre; explore the possibility to invest in energy transfer with the use of biogas to power electricity at the landfill; and project forward to imagine a solar panel ‘field’ on top of the landfill as each stage is capped and closed off. EECA offers a co-funding model rather than a grant funding model to meet output objectives. Information can be found at <https://www.eeca.govt.nz/co-funding/public-sector-decarbonisation/>.

**Ministry for Primary Industries** – plays an important role in regional economic development. Funding is available to pay for regional erosion control projects that Councils

do not have the capacity to meet on their own. Support is available for land identification, mapping for tree planting, and working out sustainable land management use. Council is currently in receipt of funding for a region wide 'at risk catchment and erosion scheme.' The project will close this year. The fund may also support project scoping, advice, and management of tree planting on currently undeveloped land adjacent to the landfill identified for reforestation with indigenous planting. Contact to enquire about MPI assistance is via [indigenous.forestry@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:indigenous.forestry@mpi.govt.nz)

#### **Other resourcing possibilities**

**Ministry of Social Development** – can provide a workforce to help with manual work after adverse events such as flooding or earthquake. Called 'Enhanced Taskforce Green', further information about MSD and Council responsibilities for those who participate in the scheme can be found at <https://www.workandincome.govt/providers/responding-to-an-emergency/enhanced-taskforce-green.html>

**Local Government Funding Agency** – provides loans at favourable rates to local authorities who experience funding gaps. With a commitment to 'finance projects that promote environmental and social wellbeing in New Zealand', the LGFA has 16 funding opportunities across environmental/climate change, and social wellbeing/enhancement categories. Further information can be found at <https://www.lgfa.co.nz/sites/default/files/2022-08/LGFA%20Green%20Social%20and%20Sustainability%20%28GSS%29%20Lending%20Program%20-%20Asset%20Assesment%20Summary%2001082022%20Final.pdf>

#### **Discussion**

Financial support via grant funding is clearly available for community-based waste related projects. It is not known however, how much grant money has been directed towards activities, events, or projects across Marlborough, and what, if any, sustainable outcome the receipt of that funding has had. Grant funding helps to fill the gap where there is insufficient core funding. With some exceptions noted here, there is a sense that short-termism is inadvertently built into the broader funding process – a need is identified, funding is sought, funding is awarded, the immediate need is satisfied, but longer-term stability is uncertain, so the grant application process begins again.

Grant money is made available under terms and conditions generated by the funding body and is contestable. Contestable (competitive) funding sources can be frustrating to navigate. Any successful application depends on how well information has been collated and presented, whether a persuasive enough argument has been made, and the thinking behind the decision to accept or deny the application. Administration of a fund is made less complex if applicants are told about defined targets and category specific outputs prior to application. Guidelines are necessary and an invaluable tool. While feasibility study funding is available for larger scale projects, good ideas might never be realised at a local (or wider) level unless some accommodation can be given to predetermined funding goals. A further report will discuss the merits or demerits of establishing a localised waste related contestable fund for Marlborough.



# Emergency Management Activity Report

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(Information prepared by Brian Paton)

E210-003-04, E210-002-06

## Emergency Management

### Operational Readiness and Responses

(Report by Gary Spence)

Members of Marlborough's NZ-RT20 (Response Team) Ropes Team have signed up for an advanced ropes course which will make them a specialist ropes rescue team. All readiness equipment continues to be used, tested and checked. West Coast CDEM staff visited and demonstrated a new mobile satellite system called Starlink – as used widely during the Cyclone Gabrielle response. The suitability of the system will be assessed and if it's the best option a funding bid will be submitted in 2024. The West Coast staff also borrowed the 'Shakey House' trailer to demonstrate at a 'Careers Day' in Greymouth.

The Group Office was in monitoring mode for two days from 13-14 February as the effects of ex-Tropical Cyclone Gabrielle were expected to impact Marlborough. A partner agency briefing was held the day before to gauge the preparedness levels and communicate the expected impacts. The consequences of the cyclone were less than expected with no roading issues or power outages were reported. The low key response enabled five members of the NZ-RT20 to be deployed to Auckland from 17-23 February and Gary to be deployed to Hawkes Bay from 18-24 February to fill an Incident Management Team (IMT) role.

The IT in the Emergency Operations Centre's operations room is being upgraded so that all partner agencies, Council staff and volunteers can use a platform that is user friendly and adaptable to different agencies IT systems. A new emergency management tool has been purchased by MDC called D4H. All our neighbouring Groups already use D4H so their staff will be able to operate it straight away when they come to assist. It will enable partner agencies to have visibility across aspects of a response, will record who made decisions and when, can assign tasks to functions (e.g. planning and welfare) and will include a log of the entire event. Once the event is closed the entire record can be saved into Council's document management system. This will require the Marlborough IMT to focus on training in its use this calendar year. Monthly training (Tuesday evenings from 7.00-9.00pm) has been scheduled for the IMT through to the end of 2023.

### Community Resilience and Recovery

(Report prepared by Dave Parsons)

#### Resilience

Under the guidance of Toa Consulting the Marlborough Resilience Analysis Project has moved forward from the stage of identifying, confirming and prioritising local risks and hazards, to a phase of finalising the risk consequences and their impacts on the Marlborough community. Toa have planned personal interviews and a Social Consequence and Resilience workshop with stakeholders to confirm the hazard consequence assessment and to identify what resilience looks like in each of the recovery environments; Social, Built, Natural, Economic and Māori/Iwi. From these interviews and the workshop, resilience indicators will be developed to enable the project to measure and identify how disaster resilience can be enhanced in Marlborough.

#### Recovery

Our two Recovery Navigators Charlotte and Jess, and Social Recovery Lead, Dave have formed the Social Recovery team under the guidance of the Recovery Co-Managers Dean and Marianne. Since December the Navigators have been:

- Supporting and contributing to the Marlborough Sounds Future Access Study public meetings.
- Providing survey support to Sounds residents not able to complete the Access Study survey on-line.

- Organising community meetings and workshops to support affected residents with insurance processes, connecting them to the Residential Advisory Service.
- Collaborated with the Rural Support Trust to hold two Field Days at Waitaria Bay. The December meeting had Doug Avery as a guest motivational speaker.
- Organised, in collaboration with Hato Hone St John, a Mental Health First-aid training workshops. These are being held at Waitaria Bay and Linkwater, both in the schools and in the community.
- Organised an Open Day, in conjunction with insurance companies, for residents to meet face to face with insurance representatives (rescheduled to March 1).
- Supporting Sounds residents to access emergency funding and general psycho-social support.
- Recently taken over responding to Marlborough Roads email inquiries re the Marlborough Sounds.
- Maintaining a database tracking and recording calls and inquiries using Council's Customer Record Management System.

Social Recovery hui are being held monthly to allow other community agencies to report back and share how they are supporting various groups within our affected community. A dynamic Social Recovery Guide has been drafted for the social recovery team to follow.

## **Welfare and Planning** (Report prepared by Catherine Coates)

### **Welfare**

The Welfare Coordination Group has a Welfare forum planned. The forum will include WCG members as well as a range of social agencies (such as Maata Waka) and will be focused on the channels available to each organisation, to promote emergency preparedness and support response. The forum is intended to be a way to share information and encourage the use of existing communication channels to encourage people to be better prepared for emergencies, to the extent of their ability.

### **Planning**

Catherine has developed a draft Rapid Relief plan for catastrophic events arising from the Alpine Fault, Hikurangi subduction zone or similar hazard. The plan will continue to evolve, building on our knowledge of regional resources, hazards, and communities. Catherine has also developed a draft tsunami response plan, looking at the actions that need to be taken to ensure an effective response in the event of a tsunami, including managing and responding to evacuations. Once reviewed internally, the draft plans will be shared with response agencies for further refinement.

Marlborough Emergency Management (MEM) has placed a bid with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) Resilience Fund for \$200,000 to develop a new tsunami inundation map layer for Marlborough. Tsunami inundation mapping of the Marlborough Sounds was last undertaken by GNS in 2015, using a digital elevation model derived from LINZ 20m contours. This has resulted in maps that do not provide an accurate indication of areas that could be subject to tsunami inundation, particularly in Picton and Waikawa. Since 2015, higher resolution LiDAR and multibeam data has become available, with 1m contours now available for the entire Marlborough coastline. This can provide significantly higher accuracy and precision modelling, resulting in improved evacuation plans and possible LIMS reports. Following the 2016 Kaikoura earthquake, the eastern Wairau Plains were subject to varying degrees of uplift and therefore this area will also be included in the project.

## **Group Office** (Report prepared by Brian Paton)

With the expansion of the MEM team to four full-time staff it has allowed the Group Office to establish a 24/7 duty officer system with full-time staff doing approximately one week per month. The contact options are initially 0800 155 005 or [cdemduty@marlborough.govt.nz](mailto:cdemduty@marlborough.govt.nz). National warnings (e.g. tsunami events) will continue to go to all staff cellphones and emails to absolutely ensure they are responded to immediately.

The NEMA have reset their priority work programmes by shifting all available resources to focus on catastrophic planning or CatPlan. This decision by the CEO allows NEMA staff, partner agencies and stakeholders to focus on the urgently needed planning for a catastrophic natural hazard event.

The next steps for the CatPlan Project are to develop a draft operational plan for the Magnitude 9 Hikurangi scenario. This is a maximum credible event on the same scale as the 2011 Tōhoku tsunami.

*Why is catastrophic event planning a priority?*

- Over the past couple of years, science and advanced modelling techniques have combined to give a far clearer picture of the likelihood of catastrophic events occurring.
- Through discussions between NEMA and national agencies it has become apparent that New Zealand's operational planning (particularly at a national level) needs urgent improvement.
- The Government has made it clear that Aotearoa needs more operational-level planning. Agencies are looking to NEMA, in its role as steward of the emergency management system, to build our operational readiness across government. The CatPlan project will be a crucial part of this.
- Through the CatPlan project, operational plans for these catastrophic events will be developed.
- The CatPlan project also provides an opportunity to identify gaps and unmet needs, and devise strategies to resolve them.

MEM is not heavily involved in the Hikurangi planning however in mid-2023 NEMA will begin looking at developing national response plans for the Alpine Fault Magnitude 8 scenario. Marlborough has already developed initial Action Plans for the first two shifts for an AF8 event however we will be very reliant on the national response to provide assistance as soon as possible. The third hazard to come from the project will be a volcanic plan, specifically for Taranaki maunga.

We have been assured that the shift of resources into CatPlan work does not impact the timeline for the new Emergency Management Bill with Minister McAnulty confirming that it will be introduced to the House of Representatives in early 2023. If this indeed remains the case the timing will work well for Marlborough as the Marlborough Emergency Management Group Plan expires in 2023. A review and rewrite must begin before the end of 2023 and it must align with the current Act. Consequences of the national declaration (and likely national recovery) being put in place for Cyclone Gabrielle may speed up or hold up the process.

MEM has been working with StatsNZ Tatauranga Aotearoa to assist in their census preparation given the access challenges that the Sounds is going to cause them. Much of the assistance was around brokering assistance and providing training opportunities.

Rebecca Mason, who is the Nelson Tasman CDEM Iwi CEG (Coordinating Executive Group) representative, has organised a Partnership Brokers training opportunity for MEM staff. Catherine and Dave will be attending the on-line and face to face components over the next two months. This coming financial year MEM is looking to align our work plan with the Te Tau ihu o te Waka-a-Maui Emergency Management Strategy so that we can continue to achieve our desire to become a true treaty partner. There are still plenty of opportunities that we need to grasp before we are truly there.

# Parks and Open Spaces Activity Report

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(Information prepared by Jane Tito, Robert Hutchinson, Kiri Whiteman, Grahame Smail, Linda Craighead, Brad Molony, Regan Russell, Rebecca Moorhouse, Rachel Hutchinson, Murray Morgan, Ross Laybourn, Mike Lawson) R510-009-000-01, R510-006-02, R510-005-04-02, R800-005-03

## Blenheim Parks

### Pollard Park

The Pollard Park flower beds have been looking fantastic over the last few weeks. Normal maintenance involving weeding and dead heading to encourage new flowers and reduce disease, has been carried out on all the annual beds to keep them in good condition for the rest of the season. The annuals will stay in until the end of April/beginning of May, when they will be removed and next seasons annuals will be planted.

Staff have just finished the summer prune of the camellias in Pollard Park. All camellias are pruned twice a year with the first for the year being just a light prune in February while the main prune is done after flowering has finished at the start of November.



The rest of the gardens at Pollard Park are being tidied as needed including the weeding and dead heading of the rose gardens and weeding of the rhododendron gardens.

We have a few events booked in for March, including like most months, weddings, photos and birthday parties. The NZ Home Loans XRACE event is also booked in late February – this is a family event where mum or dad teams together with a child and takes on a race course and 10 mystery challenges. The goal is to strengthen families and challenge kids.

The Marlborough Multicultural Festival hosted by the Marlborough Multicultural Centre is being held in Churchill Glade on the 4<sup>th</sup> of March. This event celebrates Marlborough's rich and diverse community with ethnic food and dancing from a variety of cultures.

### **Seymour Square**

The annuals beds at Seymour Square look stunning at the moment with annuals in full bloom. All annual beds have been weeded and hoed with plants having been dead headed to encourage new growth and to keep them healthy. All other areas are currently being weeded and tidied.



### **A & P Park**

The cyclone and a mechanical fault on the Cook Strait ferry stranded a Gypsy Fair in Wellington, which meant they had to cancel their booking for A & P Park on the weekend of the 18/19 February. Organisers of the fair hope to return in October of this year. Additionally, there was a no show for another fair that was booked at the Park for the previous weekend.

Recreation Consulting company Visitor Solutions are undertaking a review of operations and activities at A & P Park. The consultants are speaking with all Park users to get an understanding of how they operate, what shortcomings there are for them at the Park, their aspirations for the future of their activity and possibly the aspirations for the Park.

A final report is due by June 2023.

### **Athletic Park**

For the first time in 20 years staff closed both Athletic and Endeavour Parks following the forecast of significant rains and winds from Cyclone Gabrielle. This was done at Athletic Park to protect those areas of the grounds that pond quickly while at Endeavour Park the closure was necessary to protect the fresh gravel banding from possible ponding.

## McKendry Park

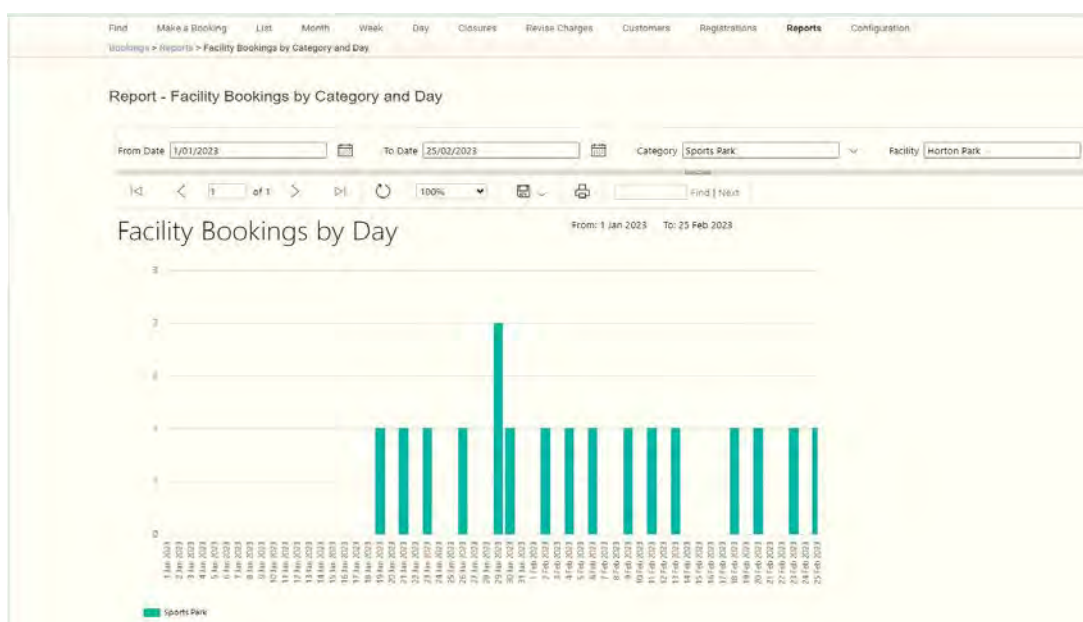
It has been a good year for the fruit trees at the Park with all trees heavily laden with fruit and there is a great variety to choose from. McKendry Park is one of a number of parks around Blenheim where the public are able to harvest fruit and nuts. Locations of the parks and what fruit and nuts are available can be found on the Council's website.



## Sports Parks

After a year's work with IT staff, sporting groups and associations will soon be able to make their seasonal bookings online while others looking to book a sports park will be able to see an electronic diary showing what parks are available for use. This is a similar process that has been developed for booking of other parks across the District. Staff are in the final stages of testing the system to ensure all permutations of the booking process are working.

A reporting feature has also been added so staff can get real time data for use of sports parks and parks and open spaces.



## Lansdowne Park

Two large events were held on the park in February. The South Island Pipe Band Championships who used all the sports fields for their event and the Relay for Life who used the eastern fields for their event. This is the first time Relay for Life have used Lansdowne Park and a resource consent will enable use of the Park every second year through until 2033.



## Lansdowne Hub

### *Marlborough Bridge Club*

Marlborough Bridge Club held their Top Of The South team's tournament on the 28th and 29th of January. There were 88 competitors from as far afield as Invercargill. The Hub was well received by the Marlborough Bridge Club and competitors at the bridge tournament, with a lot of comments about how it was nice to be able to cater for themselves and how pleasant the atmosphere was in the Hub.



## Renwick Parks

### Renwick Domain

The Marlborough Wine and Food Festival was held recently on Renwick Domain. Parks and Open Space staff assisted both the Renwick Events Centre Board and festival organisers in getting the Domain ready for

the event. This event is the first to use some of the utilities infrastructure that was installed for the Scout Jamboree in 2016.

### **Kowhai Drive Reserve**

The upgrade of the playground at Kowhai Drive Reserve is progressing well. This work includes renewal of play equipment, safety soft fall and picnic tables and seating. Some further tree work on the very large gum and other trees at this site may be required especially where there are large limbs overhanging neighbouring properties.

## **Flaxbourne Ward Parks**

Staff have had some preliminary discussions with key representatives from the Flaxbourne Settlers Association (FSA) regarding the FSA grant funded Community Facilities Management Contract which expires in June 2023.

Historically the FSA has provided maintenance services for the cemetery, war memorial, Ward Domain, hall and roadside mowing around the township. The contract is quite extensive and includes maintenance of facilities (including buildings), and groundwork. Options to best meet the needs of the community and Council in a wider sense is to move to an open tender contracted arrangement for some or all of the requisite work to ensure community facilities services can be delivered in the most effective and efficient way.

With the new Flaxbourne Heritage Centre construction getting underway and development of the Picton Kaikoura Whale Trail progressing well, the community is looking to ensure it is well recognised as an attractive stopping point for tourist visitors to help provide economic sustainability and community vibrancy.

## **Awatere Seddon**

Staff are working with and have regular liaison with the Awatere Community Trust to ensure the maintenance and ongoing general operation of the motor camp, community pool and hall are meeting community and tourist visitor needs. Minor groundwork plantings to improve often hard to maintain berm bank areas and the like are being considered as part of ongoing amenity and biodiversity improvement work.

## **Picton Parks**

### **Endeavour Park Picton**

Gravel banding of the playing surface on the upper and lower terraces is now complete. As is the post heavy rolling of the surface and the broadcasting of sports Rye grass seed.

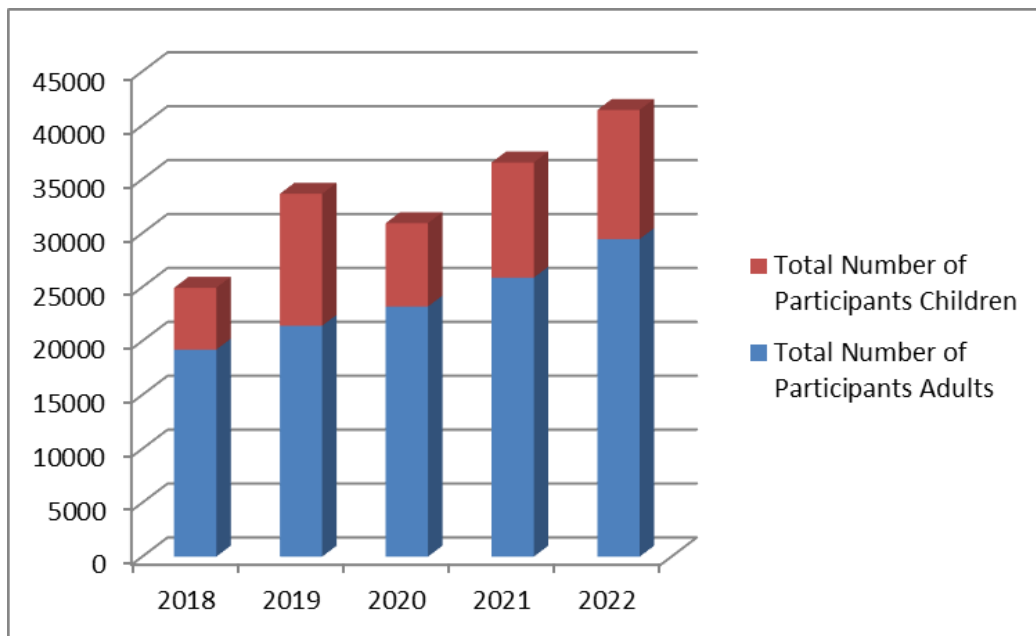




## Port Marlborough Pavilion

Over the last year Port Marlborough Pavilion participation numbers have increased. This can be attributed to fewer Covid-19 restrictions over 2022 and organisers feeling more comfortable with running classes and events as the year progressed. Also, over the last four years the Pavilion has been proactive in establishing a range of activities and events utilising both the inside and outside of the Pavilion which has increased participation levels. Some of these events like the Marlborough Mount Everest have seen participation levels increasing year on year.

		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total Number of Participants	Adults	19199	21416	23200	25874	29459
	Children	5736	12238	7730	10681	11976
Total Number of Volunteers	Adults	967	938	547	647	688
	Children	0	14	0	0	0
<b>Total Number of users</b>		<b>25902</b>	<b>34606</b>	<b>31477</b>	<b>37202</b>	<b>42123</b>



## Victoria Domain

Work has commenced on removing exotic pine trees from an area of Victoria Domain. The trees were thought originally to be Douglas Fir but have been confirmed as western red cedars. The removal of these trees is an action from the Victoria Domain Reserve Management Plan and was in response to concerns about the spread of seedlings to native vegetation and also on impacts on amenity. Road closures and a closure on a small section of the Marina to Marina track are in place while tree removal is being undertaken.



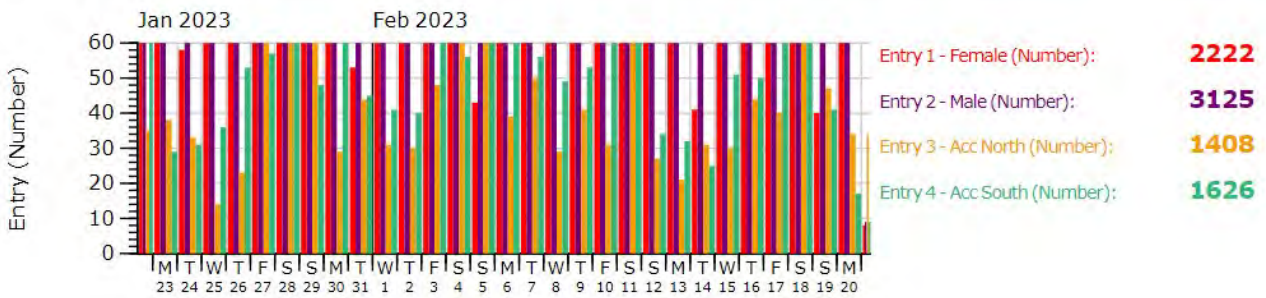
The trees will be sold to recover the costs of extraction.

## District Public Toilets

Public toilet use has been busy with tourist visitors exploring and moving through the District. Additionally, both Blenheim and Picton public toilets have been heavily used on days when the larger cruise ships are in port.

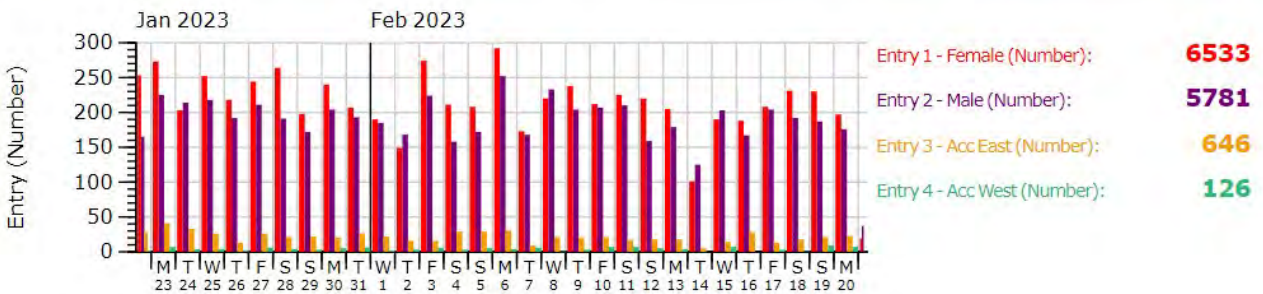
Seymour Square: 279 daily average use for the 30-day period.

### Entry

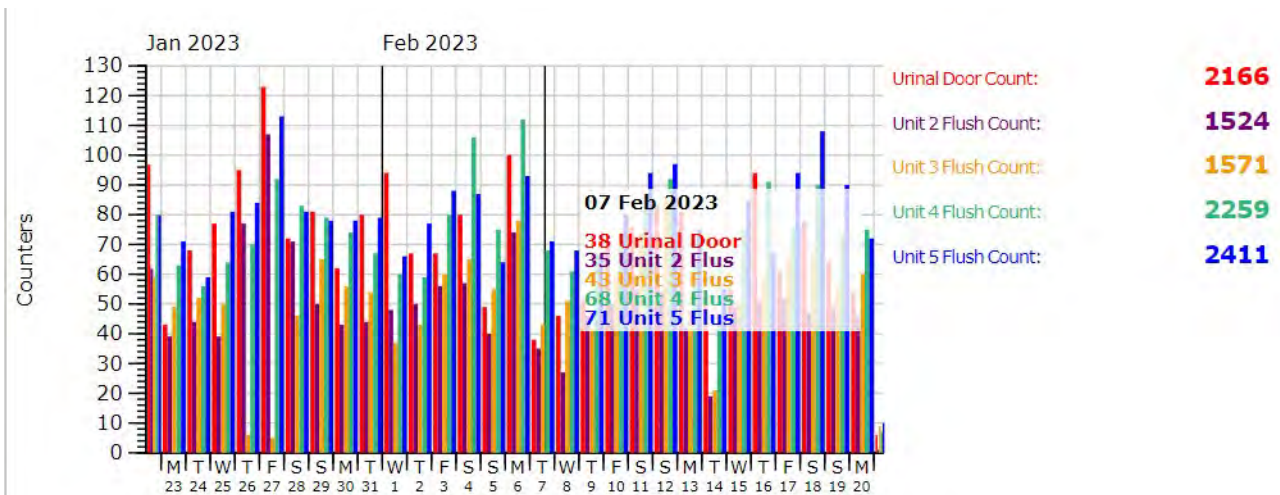


Havelock Township: 426 daily average use for the 30-day period.

### Entry



Rai Valley: 331 daily average use for the 30-day period.



## District Cemeteries

### Weather Event

The recent severe weather tail end of cyclone Gabrielle unfortunately did some considerable damage to several large trees in the Picton Cemetery. A Black Poplar tree had its upper top half section completely snapped off and has been removed. An Oak tree also lost a number of large lower branches. None of the headstones below either tree was damaged.

Staff and contractors are working to tidy up the affected areas as soon as possible.



### Cemetery Improvement

Cemetery and grave restoration programmed work is continuing with some good progress being made to stabilise and firm up some of the older grave sites at Havelock Cemetery to prevent their complete collapse and across all cemeteries to ensure they are kept tidy and can be effectively and efficiently maintained in the longer term.

### Cemetery Plans

The Cemetery Plans developed in 2017-18 for each of Council's 8 administered cemeteries are being given a refresh and update of actions achieved to ensure they remain current. This work has a key focus of ensuring the plans remain relevant for the communities of interest and are linked to Council's Long Term / Annual Plan planning process including establishing levels of service.

The intention is to report the reviewed plans through the Assets & Services Committee. Ultimately the plans will also link to an overall cemeteries policy/plan that the Council will need to prepare as an outcome of a review of cemeteries legislation (Burial and Cremation Act 1964) currently in progress. The Cemetery Plans will be uploaded to the Council's website once reported to the Committee.

## District Memorials

The annual check and maintenance touch up preparations for ANZAC commemorations will get underway shortly at each war memorial site. This includes a jet wash, paint touch ups, flagpole check and other similar such routine repairs and maintenance operational items.

To help ensure a long-term strategic care, improvement and maintenance strategy is in place for our communities' significant memorial sites, a district wide omnibus plan is being drafted similar to that which Council has in place for each of its eight cemetery sites.

The Market Place clock (Blenheim) was recently given a paint refresh.

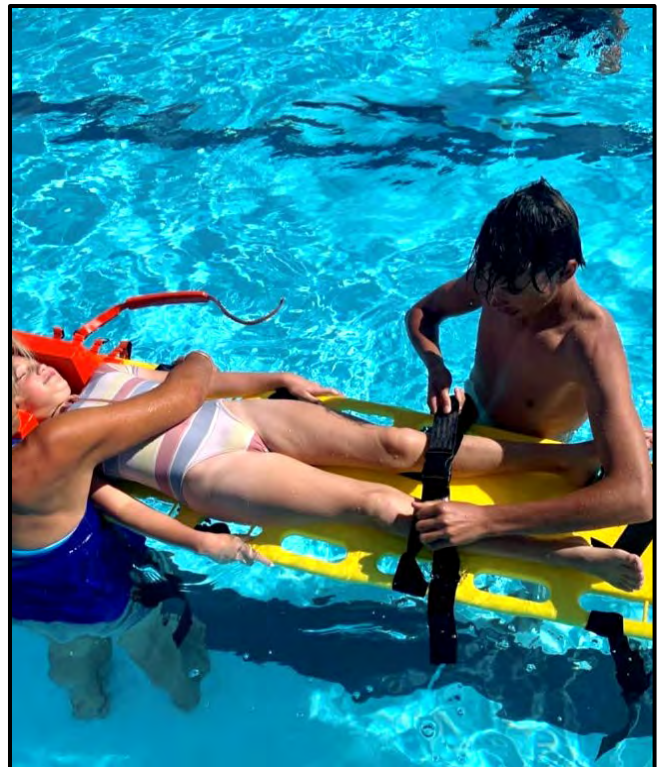


## Swimming pools

### Poolsafe Accreditation

The Council pool in Seddon and the Queen Charlotte College pool in Picton have both passed their Poolsafe Accreditation this year. The Poolsafe Quality Management Scheme (Poolsafe) is an independent assessment of public pools to ensure they are run safely and well.

The Council provides support to these two communities with training of lifeguards and management of the pool to ensure the pools are operating at a safe level including chemical use. Some of the lifeguards come from high school age children, with a plan in place to introduce the younger children to lifeguard skills, eventually qualifying as lifeguards working at the pool.



## Walking and cycling

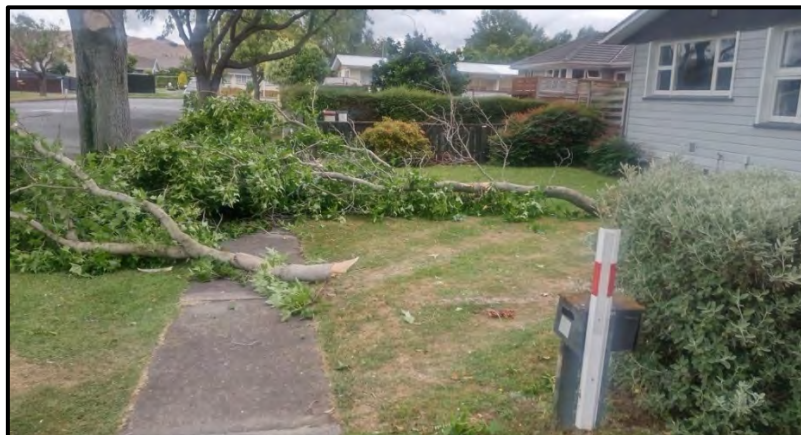
As part of the Aotearoa Bike Challenge month of February, Council's Ride-On team have developed the 'Biking Treasure Hunt' that runs until the end of March. Families and individuals are encouraged to register for a pack that will provide a 'Clues' booklet to find specially hidden codes along the Taylor River reserve from Raupo café to the Taylor Dam. All completed entries will be eligible to win some 'treasure' baskets.

The point of difference with this event from the traditional 'Go by Bike Breakfast' is that people can do their hunt any day or time of their choosing and this approach appears to be very successful with over 400 riders registered after only four days of registrations opening.



## Trees

Strong winds as part of Cyclone Gabrielle generally had limited effect on Council's tree assets. Parks and Open Spaces staff dealt with a few calls concerning street trees failing and branches breaking. Trees in Kingwell Drive, Leefield Street and Adams Lane were damaged during the winds, including where a tree from private property fell onto a street tree. There was also a lot of minor tree detritus which has been removed by Council contractors.



Leefield Street



**Kingwell Drive**

One of the calls during the wind event was to Lane Street where a local resident had constructed a support system for a tree damaged by vandals. Unfortunately, the tree did need to be removed as a crack was three quarters of the way through the trunk.



The large Eucalyptus at Rema Reserve has now been removed following the granting of a resource consent to allow for its removal. There are a number of conditions in the consent that staff have already actioned pre removal and are working on other conditions to be implemented post removal. The wood from the tree is to be donated to Blenheim Lions for firewood to be distributed to families in need. A more complete overview of the removal and replanting will be provided in a future Information Pack.

## **Ecological reserves**

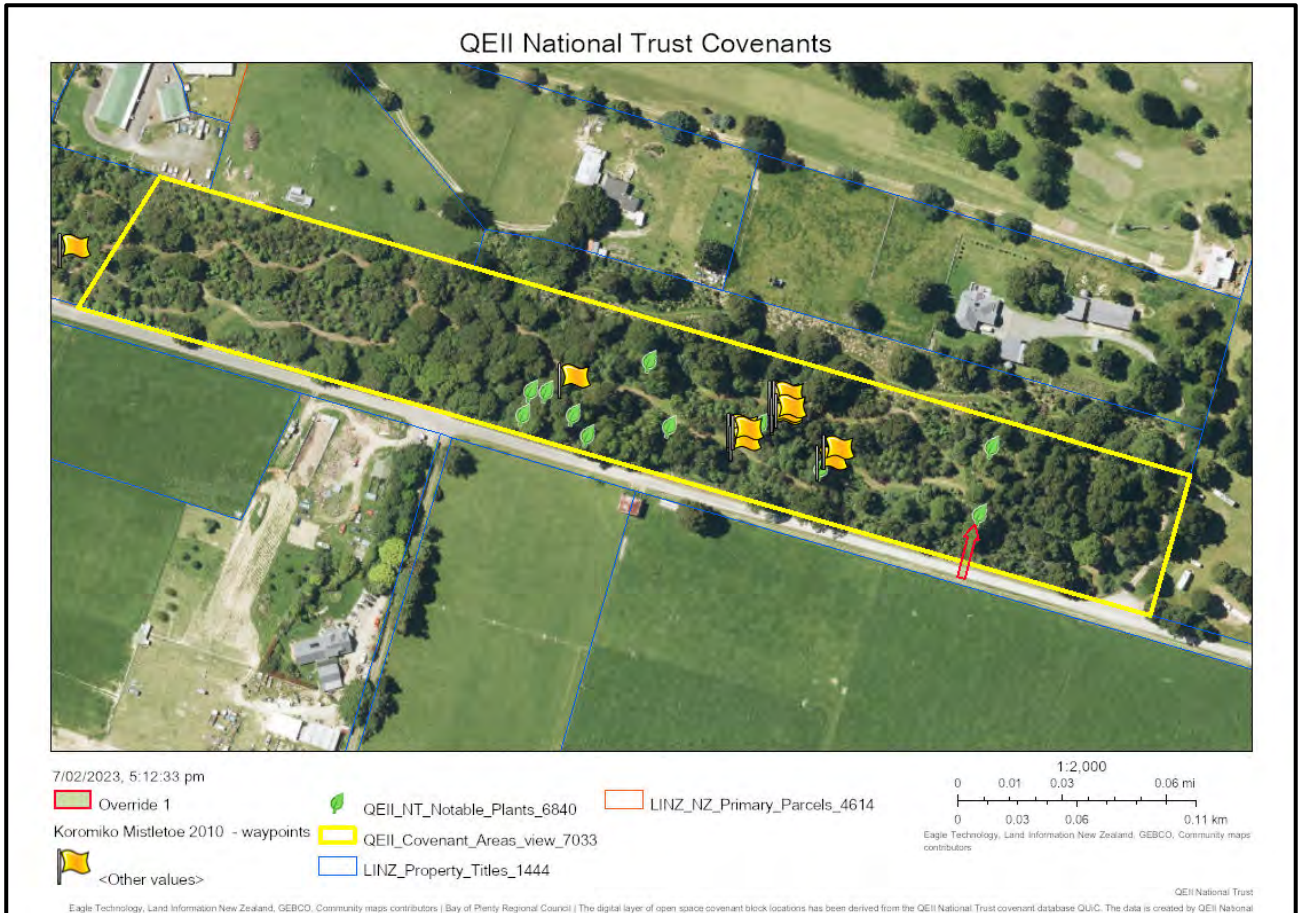
### **Koromiko Reserve - QEII National Trust Covenant**

Another covenant area was also visited by the QEII Trust Representative recently. The purpose was to survey the very rare pirita / piriraki or yellow mistletoe (*alepsi flavida*), that grows on some of the black beech trees within the Koromiko Reserve. (It is understood that the yellow mistletoe grows in only three locations in

Marlborough.) In 2010, thirteen (13) mistletoe plants were located growing on five (5) black beech trees, it was noted that there was a lack of black beech seedlings and the long-term outlook was bleak.

On this visit, twenty-seven (27) mistletoe plants were growing on eleven (11) trees. These plants were not likely to be growing in the first survey in 2010. This is a 100 percent increase in the numbers of mistletoe and host trees despite six of the original mistletoes and one host black beech tree dying in that time. It is likely that ongoing predator control has contributed to the increase with mistletoe being a favourite food of the possum. Bellbird were also observed in the area and they are important pollinators.

There are also lots of beech seeds and saplings near the base of the existing beech trees so we are hoping to continue seeing an increase of both beech and mistletoe in the reserve.



### Sutherland Stream - QEII National Trust Covenant

In January, the Regional QEII Trust Representative conducted a routine check on the condition of the kanuka forest remnant in the Wither Hills. Most of this area was burnt to bare earth in the Boxing Day 2000 fire. The representative noted that the wet summer and the decision not to graze stock in the area had allowed for vegetation species such as kanuka, karamu, mahoe and tauhinu to come away. On the south facing areas of the covenant, the canopies of the trees are almost joined. It is almost back to a point where it can be called a forest again. Once the canopy is established it will give the smaller, fragile plants and ferns a chance to establish and new plants will pop up continually, which in turn will lead to an increase of bird species in the area.

Points to note:

- A large patch of Old Man's Beard was seen as well as some larger scotch broom plants and the contractor has been engaged to remove these.
- Hot rock fern was observed surviving in areas where not much else can.
- The Representative thanked MDC for the ongoing stewardship of the site and for the effort and care staff are putting into caring for the covenant.



The following photos show the covenant area pre the fire, post the fire, and today from the same location.



## Playgrounds



Waitohi Kura / Picton School recently completed development of a sealed bike track in school grounds through the Bikes in Schools programme, which is supported by Te Whatu Ora and Waka Kotahi. Funding was also made available to the school through the Council's school playground fund. This fund provides support to schools with the development of new playgrounds or upgrades to an existing playground within their school grounds. A stipulation of the policy is that the playground is open for use by the public and local community during set periods.

## Rangers' Report

The following table shows the dumpings that have been recorded by the Rangers over the past six months. Rangers report generally that there are no significant dumpings over the last reporting period.

Illegal Dumping and Littering						
	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2022	Jan 2023	*Feb 2023
Garden Waste	3	3	5	7	1	3
Abandoned Vehicle	1	-	1	1	4	2
General Illegal Dumping	5	9	11	6	9	2
Offal	3	1	2	4	1	-
Littering	11	13	7	11	6	2

\*Note that the February stats are for the period 1 Feb to 21 Feb.

Freedom camping numbers were up during the month of January, which is to be expected over the holiday period. Of interest is that the Wynen Street site has significantly increased use from freedom camping vehicles – in previous years there were usually only 3 or 4 vehicles on average while for January there were 12 or 13 vehicles per night. It is unclear why there is increased use, however it is a very central location for campers with restaurants and shops very close by.

Freedom Camping Site	Number of Vehicles		
	Dec 2022	Jan 2023	*Feb 2023
Lake Elterwater, Grassmere	68	186	107
Renwick Domain Carpark	116	385	179
Taylor Dam Reserve, Blenheim	151	341	186
Wairau Diversion, Blenheim	200	830	376
Wynen St Carpark, Blenheim	138	401	240

\*Note that the February stats are for the period 1 Feb to 21 Feb.

## Road Safety Coordinator Update

(Information prepared by Robyn Blackburn)

R800-005-03

### Young Driver Safety

MSD has a large 'pot' of funding to support Driver Licencing programmes throughout the country. Local community agencies and organisations are being invited to tender a proposal to attract funding for local programmes to be delivered. MDC has been working with the Police, ACC, REAP and Supporting Families to discuss this funding initiative.

A briefing session was held on-line with the MSD Driver Licence Support team who explained the tender application process. As a successful programme is already operating in Marlborough, we have the data and evidence to support local organisation's applications.

Funding will target MSD clients and/or those passed on through the Police AWHI referral system.

### Motorcycle Safety

In response to the need to address the four pillars of the Safe System Approach we invited a renowned bike suspension 'guru' to come to Marlborough to check the bikes for riders who were keen to come along in 2023. While the checks are heavily subsidised with Road Safety funding the riders did have to contribute towards the cost. The first workshop was held on 4<sup>th</sup> February with 100% attendance plus two we were not expecting.

Dave Moss comes from the States each year to present at the ACC's Shiny Side Up events (Covid permitting) and has been coming to Marlborough to run these workshops for the past five years in between his SSU and Burt Munro commitments.

We had 24 spots available to riders and these were filled very quickly with many on the wait list hoping for a spot. Because of rider interest we arranged with Dave to hold another Marlborough workshop on his way up from Christchurch to Wellington on 18<sup>th</sup> February. This was filled quickly as well.

Riders seemed very satisfied with the changes made to their bikes.



# Property & Community Facilities – Projects

(Information prepared by Maighan Watson)

## London Quay Precinct Upgrade, Picton

Planning and design is underway to rejuvenate London Quay in Picton. Led by the Parks & Open Spaces team, three themes for the development were identified; Improved connection from the port, foreshore to the town centre, improving and creating attractive places to eat and walk, and improving the pedestrian and vehicle experience in a share space.



Fig 1 – London Quay, Picton today



Fig 2 – London Quay, Picton 3D concept render

## The Marlborough Mile – Climate site – Adams Place, Market Street

Civil works for the Marlborough Mile ‘Climate’ site are progressing well. A new control box, conduit for the lighting controls, up-lights and the earthing road for lighting protection are all installed. The head contractor CMT Group has also completed the concrete foundation for the new sculpture, which includes drainage and significant reinforcing steel within the footing. The concrete will now cure for 2 weeks before final sign-off can take place. The installation for this sculpture is programmed for the second week of March 2023. The BBA intend to host an opening for the sculpture and details for this will be circulated by the BBA once available.



Fig 3 – Sculpture raised at Global Stainless



Fig 4 – 3D computer image of new Adams place sculpture

## Blenheim Streetscape Upgrade – High, Wynen and Symons Street

Head contractor Robinson Construction, and subcontractor Fulton Hogan are moving fast up Wynen Street and around the new Library Art Gallery completing the Blenheim Streetscape Upgrade. Stage 1 of the Wynen Street stormwater renewal is complete. The Contractor will complete the surrounding landscape works, including the resurfacing of Wynen St, before moving west to commence Stage 2. Around MLAG the paving is well underway, as are new garden beds, tree pits, planter boxes, street lights and street furniture.



Fig 5 – Streetscape Upgrade – paving underway



Fig 6 - Streetscape Upgrade, paving underway



Fig 7 - Streetscape Upgrade, new planter boxes



Fig 8 - Streetscape Upgrade, paving underway



Fig 9 - Streetscape Upgrade, new road crossing on Wynen



Fig 10 - Streetscape Upgrade, pits for new street trees

## Marlborough District Library & Art Gallery

Head contractor Robinson Construction is approaching the finish line of the new Marlborough Library Art Gallery project. Final areas of flooring are being laid this week, including the main entry stairs, cafe and the lobby. Subcontractors are completing the final paint touch-ups, electrical fittings and lighting. The installation of decorative timber cladding (Fig 13) started under the soffits in early January and will continue until late February. Robinson's will start decanting their site yard over the coming weeks and continue cleaning the facility in preparation for the internal fit-out. The fit-out is anticipated to take at least 3-months.



Fig 11 – MLAG, new Art Gallery collection shelves

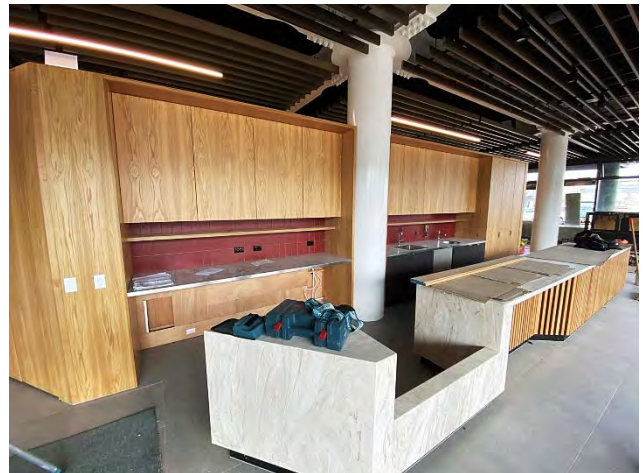


Fig 12 – MLAG, Café Facilities

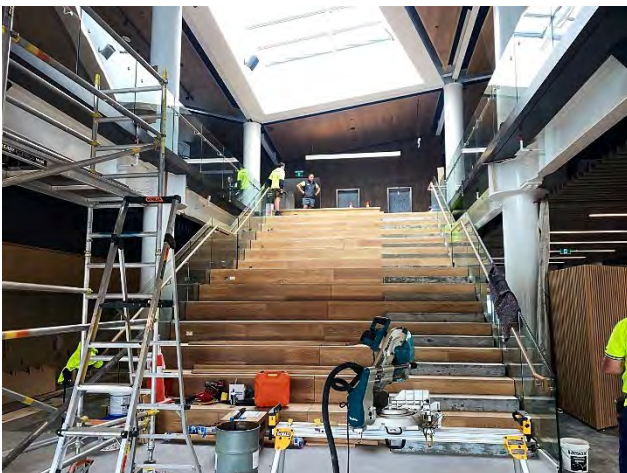


Fig 13 – MLAG, timber install to main stairs underway



Fig 14 – MLAG, Gallery entrance

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