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Minutes of the meeting of the Doubtless Bay Working Group, held on Wednesday 31 July 2013 at the Taipa Bay Resort, commencing at 10.00 a.m.

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**Present:**

Bronwyn Hunt	(NRC Councillor and Chairperson)
Joe Carr	(NRC - Councillor)
Peter Wiessing	(NRC)
Beau Mallet	(Summit Northland Plantations)
Murray Walden	(Dairy Farmers Representative)
Wayne Parsonson	(Clean Waters to the Sea)
Jim Brooks	(FNDC)
Gerald Messenger	(Friends of Taumarumaru)
Anihera Herbert-Graves	(Te Runanga a Iwi o Ngati Kahu)
Allan Heteraka	(Te Whanau Moana Te Rorohuri ki Karikari)
Abe Witana	(NRC)
Wendy Jecentho	(NRC)
Natalie Glover	(NRC)
Tony Phipps	(NRC)
Greg Blunden	(NRC Environmental Management Committee)
Irene Petrave	(DOC)
Andreas Kurmann	(Far North Envirolab Ltd)
Yvonne Steinemann	(Doubtless Bay Marine Protection Group)
John Kenderdine	(Doubtless Bay Marine Protection Group)
Robin Oxborough	(Ko Te Ahua Marae Ngati Whata Hapu)

<b>Karakia</b>	(Anihera Herbert-Graves)
<b>Mihi</b>	(Allan Heteraka and Abe Witana)

**APOLOGIES**

An apology was received from Lester Bridson of DOC.

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Bronwyn Hunt welcomed everyone and introductions were carried out.

**OVERVIEW OF WAIORA NORTHLAND WATER**

Tony Phipps and Natalie Glover presented an overview of project 'Waiora Northland Water' and explained priority catchments and how these were selected. Ms Glover also described how Waiora Northland Water fits into the National Policy Statement for Fresh Water (NPS) and also the Regional Policy Statement for Northland (RPS). A copy of this presentation will be supplied to the group.

**OVERVIEW OF DOUBTLESS BAY CATCHMENT**

Peter Wiessing presented an overview of the Doubtless Bay catchment and outlined the main issues. This presentation, including the graph with percentages of the different land uses, will also be circulated to the group.

Abe Witana advised that a full 'Doubtless Bay Catchment Description' is being prepared and was due for completion. This document includes current and past monitoring data and will also be circulated to the group as soon as it is completed.

Wayne Parsonson requested that the effects of mining be added to the main issues faced by Doubtless Bay catchment.

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Discussion followed on the Terms of Reference and it was agreed that the following should be added to the vision:

- needs to include the wording...“and take into account the Rangatira positions and cultural statements of Mana Whenua Hapu”.
- needs to include the minimum water quality standard that will be the target. This minimum standard is still to be decided on by the group.
- needs to include the words...“from the mountains to the sea”

Andreas Kurmann advised that the group needed to determine what the causes of poor water quality were and needed to understand the principles before any strategies were formulated. Bronwyn Hunt suggested that a workshop should be held to determine this and which standard of water quality guidelines would be included in the vision.

Murray Walden reminded the group that their vision had to be acceptable to the wider community if they wanted community buy-in.

Tony Phipps advised that web links to the MFE site would be sent to group members so they could inspect national water quality guidelines for themselves.

The group agreed to extend reporting to include the community as well as the Environmental Management Committee.

The group agreed that the composition should also include representatives from:

- Recreational fishers or Whitebait Connection
- Orchardists, possibly from the ex Kerifresh orchard at Taipa
- Senior student from Taipa Area School
- Dairy NZ

The group felt that limiting group representation to one person was not ideal for some groups. Anihera Herbert-Graves advised that Te Runanga O Ngati Kahu could not speak for the Hapu Mana Whenua Mana Moana over Tokerau (Doubtless Bay) of which there were eight and requested that all eight Marae were invited to nominate a representative. A list of Marae contacts was provided.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **Agenda items**

Group members were requested to send in any suggestions they thought should be included at the next meeting, prior to the pre-meeting mail out.

It was agreed that an agenda item for the next meeting could be ‘What other groups are out there in the Doubtless Bay catchment’.

It was agreed that each group should speak for five minutes to summarize their activities and should follow a set format.

Other suggestions for future agenda items were inviting the manager of Takakiri Landcorp Block to come to speak to the group on environmental management and arranging a field visit to either this block or another property close by that had a good history of environmental management.

**General**

Tony Phipps is to arrange a report to the group advising what other catchment groups are doing and also to make available the 'Whangarei Catchment Management Plan'.

Irene Petrave agreed to source the DOC Catchment Management Plan to see how this could assist the group.

Natalie Glover suggested communication plans for each stakeholder might assist representatives in getting meeting data out to their members.

Government is planning on releasing the National Objectives Framework to assist with catchment management. The group would need to utilise this to confirm their objectives for the catchment, once central Government have made these available.

Next meeting is proposed for Wednesday 28 August 2013, 9am – 11.30am.

Meeting closed 12.25 p.m.