

STATEMENT OF COST OF ACTIVITIES

land and rivers

For the year ended 30 June 2011

Actual 30-Jun-10 Cost of Services \$		Note	Actual 30-Jun-11 Cost of Services \$	Annual Plan 30-Jun-11 Cost of Services \$	Variance \$
REVENUE					
38,043	Grants and Subsidies	1	118,068	85,000	33,068
55,036	User Charges		55,194	–	55,194
692,970	Targeted Rates		701,456	721,918	(20,462)
786,049	TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE		874,717	806,918	67,800
EXPENDITURE					
941,158	Personnel Costs	2	1,117,486	975,250	(142,236)
42,794	Depreciation		51,592	42,494	(9,098)
2,593,944	Other Operating Expenses	2	1,928,958	2,071,326	142,368
574,640	Support Costs internally allocated to Activity	3	672,721	622,316	(50,405)
4,152,536	TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE		3,770,756	3,711,386	(59,370)
42,794	Less Non-Cash Items		51,592	42,494	(9,098)
3,323,693	NET CASH COST/(SURPLUS) OF ACTIVITY		2,844,447	2,861,975	17,529
Funded by:					
2,286,416	Land Management Rate		2,449,086	2,449,123	37
247,740	Investment Income		289,228	355,458	66,230
789,537	Transfer from/(to) Cash Reserves		106,133	57,394	(48,739)
3,323,693	TOTAL OPERATING FUNDING		2,844,447	2,861,975	17,528
18,754	CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	4	370,133	92,970	(277,163)
Funded by:					
18,754	Land Management Rate		20,318	28,332	(20,318)
–	Transfer from Cash Reserves		349,815	64,638	(321,483)
18,754	TOTAL CAPITAL FUNDING		370,133	92,970	(277,163)
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITY					
1,753,675	Hazard Management		1,065,634	1,059,476	(6,158)
922,127	River Management		974,037	1,010,779	36,742
1,476,734	Land and Biodiversity	2	1,731,085	1,641,132	(89,953)
4,152,536	TOTAL LAND AND RIVERS		3,770,756	3,711,386	(59,370)

Variance compared to 2010-2011 Annual Plan:

Revenue

1. User Charges revenue is over budget primarily due to a contribution received from the Far North District Council towards the cost of updating the Awanui flood model.

Expenditure

2. Land and Biodiversity expenditure is under budget due to lower than budgeted consultants costs and Environment Fund payments. The savings resulting from reduced consultancy costs were offset by personnel costs being over budget as more in-house staffing resources were engaged than originally budgeted.
3. Support costs internally allocated are higher than budget due to expenditure being greater than budget on these support costs. Increases in support costs relate to rate write-offs and an increase in the provision for doubtful debts of \$493,000. The increase in doubtful debts provision primarily relates to increased rating arrears from the Far North District Council. Other expenditure increases include increased staff recruitment costs, building repairs and maintenance, cost of printing the Annual Plan and legal fees.

Capital Expenditure

4. Capital expenditure is over budget due to the unbudgeted purchase of land in Raumanga as a potential site for a flood detention dam.

LEVELS OF SERVICE

land and rivers

The Land and Rivers Group of Activities includes:

- Hazard Management
- River Management
- Land and Biodiversity

Why we do these activities

Northland's economy is largely agricultural, with well over half the region's land devoted to farming, along with extensive exotic forestry and horticultural land uses. These economic drivers provide the basis for a resilient Northland economy, benefiting from the wise use of Northland's resources while providing for a range of opportunities. To maintain the benefits of the region's resources, the council works with industries, community groups and land owners to promote the implementation of sustainable land use practices. The promotion and implementation of sustainable land management practices helps to buffer the whole regional economy against climatic events, such as floods and droughts, and product-price fluctuations, whilst maintaining the economic and environmental carrying capacity of the Northland region.

More sustainable land management practices minimise the offsite effects of primary production, helping to protect water quality, coastal environments, conserve soils and maintain and enhance biodiversity. Water quality management, soil conservation and the maintenance and enhancement of biodiversity are also statutory responsibilities of the council under both the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Act 1941 and the Resource Management Act 1991.

The region's rivers can put homes, farmland, jobs, livelihoods and property at risk from flooding. We help communities protect themselves from the effects of flooding by identifying the high risk areas in the river management plans; undertake river maintenance works and design/implement flood risk reduction options on a prioritised basis.

Contribution to community outcomes

Northland residents are safe and healthy by:

- Providing information on natural hazards and preparing plans to reduce the risks posed to life and property; and
- Managing river channels and flood mitigation works, thereby reducing the risk of life threatening and property damaging floods.

Northland's infrastructure is developed in a sustainable way by:

- Identifying flood risk-susceptible areas enabling infrastructure to be built or modified to withstand such risks; and
- Reducing the frequency with which roads, sewage schemes and telecommunications are damaged by floods.

Northland's natural environment is sustainably managed by:

- Reducing streambank erosion and the volume of sediment reaching tidal estuaries, harbours and in-shore seabeds;

- Promoting sustainable land management practices by providing advice on land use alternatives, land development techniques, soil conservation and drainage; and
- Supporting biodiversity protection and enhancement on private land through the Environment Fund.

Northland is prosperous by:

- Reducing flood risk, thereby enabling increased or more reliable primary production, reducing the risk of disruption and damage to the road network and enhancing the image of the region for tourists and investors; and
- By working with primary industry sector groups to ensure land is managed sustainably.

What we did

River management

River management plans have now been developed for all 27 rivers or groups of streams in the Priority Rivers Project. The plans contain information relating to the catchment and flooding including:

- Catchment description.
- River modelling results, including flood maps.
- Flood risk management, including identification of high risk areas.
- Conceptual flood risk reduction options.

Council officers consulted with each affected community on the draft plans via a series of public meetings and hui throughout the region during September – November 2010. River Management Liaison Committees have been established for urban Whāngārei (Hātea and Raumanga Rivers), Awanui, Kaihū, Kaeo-Whangaroa Stream and Kerikeri-Waipapa. These committees have been assisting the council with the development, refinement and implementation of river management plans since their inception.

The river management plans are the basis for the implementation of flood risk reduction measures. The plans are considered to be living documents, and will be subject to ongoing revision and refinement as liaison with communities is undertaken and further data becomes available to update the plans.

The conceptual flood risk reduction options identified in the plans, and the typical funding mechanism/agency for option implementation, have been broadly classified into three categories: flood modification works, land use planning and management, and emergency management.

The implementation of capital flood modification works can require a significant lead in time, as conceptual options must be assessed for feasibility, consulted over with the community, targeted rates established through the annual plan process, detailed design undertaken and resource consent and land/use negotiations completed prior to commencement of works.

However, experience with the current river management schemes has shown that operational river channel/floodplain maintenance works can be developed and implemented

LEVELS OF SERVICE

land and rivers

with less lead in time (than the capital works). The current schedule has been developed on this basis, where operational works are first undertaken, with the concurrent development of capital options. The benefit of this approach is that it enables a period for community consultation and input into the capital option development, prior to formal annual plan/long term plan consultation.

Stream and rainfall gauging

The council operates a substantial hydrometric network comprised of 31 automatic rain gauges and 43 river and tide gauges. During 2010-2011 five new gauges were installed at Mōtatau and Springfield and in the Otaika River, Tirohanga River and Kirikiri Stream.

These gauges are critical for understanding the catchment hydrology and hydraulics, which is necessary for refining flood risk assessment, developing flood risk reduction options and improving our flood warning response.

Awanui River

The hydraulic model has been revised and the conceptual upgrade of the Whangatane Spillway confirmed. The Awanui Asset Management Plan was updated and targeted rate levels were subsequently reduced for the rural rating class (with total rates collected reduced by \$117,000) through the 2011-2012 Annual Plan consultation to match the future maintenance requirements.

Kaihū River

Refinement of the hydraulic model for the Kaihū River catchment was undertaken during the year. This work was used to assess options for reducing the flood risk, in conjunction with the Kaihū River Management Liaison Committee. The design works in 2010-2011 cost \$19,847 and were funded from the council's land management rate.

The council consulted with the affected Kaihū landowners in April on the future steps of implementing the Kaihū River Management Plan including the option of installing spillway overflow crests. While many of the landowners expressed concern for the areas to be flooded via the spillways there was general consensus that the investigations should be completed during 2011-2012, to provide more justification to the affected landowners and the liaison committee.

Planning for the installation of a network of staff gauges along the Kaihū River commenced during the year. The gauges will be used to monitor flood levels for flood model verification. An application has been lodged to change the existing resource consent for gravel management, to increase the spatial extent and volumes of gravel extraction.

Kaeo River

In April the council consulted with the Kaeo and Tauranga Bay residents on a proposal for flood management works and a new targeted rate to fund the works. The council modified the proposal after considering the submissions from residents, reducing the works to just Kaeo and consisting of constructing a stopbank immediately east of the Kaeo township; raising State Highway 10 east of the police station; constructing a deflection bank near the

cemetery and installing a river bypass spillway near the school stopbank .

The detailed design of the works is well advanced and preparations have begun for lodging a resource consent application.

Whāngārei urban rivers

The council has been working with the Urban Whāngārei Management Liaison Committee to develop river management plans for the Hātea and Waiarohia-Raumanga River catchments and to assess flood risk reduction options for the Whāngārei central business district (CBD). Stage 1 works will be undertaken in 2011-2012 at a cost of \$681,697 (including GST). The works will be funded through a differentiated uniform annual charge affecting the ratepayers in the affected flooding areas and in the contributing catchments. The design works in 2010-2011 cost \$28,053 and were funded from the council's land management rate.

Stage 1 works will focus on channel maintenance within the CBD, specifically targeting restrictions to channel flow associated with bridges and accumulated sediments in the lower river reaches. This work will include upgrading the flood flow capacity of the Rust Avenue bridge. Further flood reduction works have been identified and will be subject to further community consultation in the coming years as the costings are refined further.

A resource consent application has been prepared for the Stage 1 works and council officers have met with the Whāngārei District Council bridge engineer to discuss bridge maintenance works in anticipation of the proposed work programme.

Kerikeri-Waipapa River

The inaugural Kerikeri-Waipapa Liaison Committee meeting was held in June 2011. The hydraulic model has been refined and flood management works options identified.

Natural Hazards

Staff met with Far North District Council (FNDC) policy planners to discuss technical issues and timeframes for implementation of a flood hazard zone plan change to the Far North District Plan. FNDC is currently progressing this plan change to run concurrently with the roll-out of the new Regional Policy Statement.

The Whāngārei Harbour Tsunami Inundation Report with associated GIS files was received from NIWA during April. This report has now been uploaded to the council's website. Copies of reports and GIS files have been shared with Whāngārei District Council, which partly funded the project, and the New Zealand Refining Company. The council will use this information to increase our preparedness for a tsunami hazard by updating the hazard identification maps and existing and new development plans.

Beach profile cross-section surveys were undertaken at Bream Bay, Mangawhai, Matapōuri, Tutukākā, Hihī, Coopers Beach, Cable Bay, Taipā, Taupo Bay, Rangiputa, Tokerau and Poutō. The programme involves surveying one or more cross-sectional profiles of the foreshore and

foredune complex at each beach and has been designed to provide coverage of a number of key “monitor” beaches in the region. This programme provides information on changes in the position of the foreshore and foredune and/or cliff at selected coastal areas.

Establishment of Soil Conservation programme

The Priority Rivers Project has been the catalyst for the Northland Regional Council’s recent soil conservation initiatives. While the Priority Rivers Project focusses primarily on the prevention of damage by floods, the project has also assessed soil conservation and erosion/sediment issues in the catchments and options for implementation.

The recent initiatives undertaken include:

- Identification, ground truthing and mapping of areas of high erosion risk within the Priority River catchments.
- Soil conservation and erosion/sediment control issues and options identified.
- Sediment sources that are not related to primary productivity land use identified, for example roading.
- Soil conservation brochures produced, including Erosion in Northland, Farm Tracks and Access ways and Poplar and Willows for Soil Conservation.
- A new soil conservation funding stream was introduced for the Northland Regional Council’s Environment Fund, which this year has seen demand for 4000 poplar poles and 1500 willow wands.

Staff have assessed the effectiveness of the recent soil conservation and sediment/erosion control initiatives, and have identified these opportunities for improvement:

- Focussing efforts and resources on priority clusters of erosion prone land, via a soil conservation catchment management plan approach, whilst still facilitating support for soil conservation within lower priority catchments.
- Identifying high priority soil conservation catchments that are not within the Priority Rivers catchments.
- Improved promotion of soil conservation and erosion/sediment control.

Poplar pole supply confirmed

Half the estimated 4000 poplars poles needed annually for Northland erosion control work are expected to be sourced through new partnerships between the Northland Regional Council and six local growers; three based in the Far North, two in Kaipara and one to be established in the Whāngārei district.

Alternative supplies were needed after Northland’s only specialist poplar nursery at Parakao, northwest of Whāngārei closed. Poplars provide timber, good shelter and stock fodder and can remove pollutants from the soil. Information on poplar poles is available from the council’s website at www.nrc.govt.nz/poplars

Soil conservation projects are one of several funding streams given priority through the Environment Fund, which sees the council meet up to half the costs of qualifying projects.

Sediment and erosion control workshop

Eight council organised workshops facilitated by Gregor McLean of Southern Skies Environmental were held in August/September 2010 and May/June 2011 with 197 people attending from organisations involved in earthworks operations or the planning of such operations (consulting engineers). The seminars were designed to inform the sector of better management practices to control run-off during earthwork projects in order to better protect the region’s waterways from harmful sediment run-off.

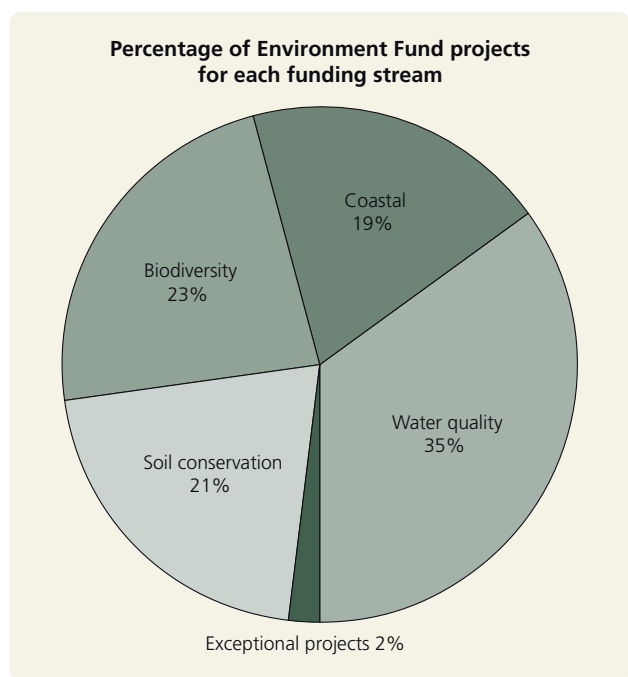
Although soil is a natural substance, few people realise it has long been one of the most serious and common pollutants of Northland’s waterways. Sediment can not only affect water quality and the creatures living in the region’s waterways, it can also silt up estuaries and harbours, smothering shellfish and eelgrass beds. Soil particles can also carry nutrients like phosphate (which can be detrimental to waterways in large enough amounts) and carry potentially harmful micro-organisms. Northland’s reasonably high rainfall, diverse soil types and typography means sediment run-off can be more of a problem here than many other parts of New Zealand.

All participants that submitted an evaluation agreed that the workshop was successful in:

- Giving them a better understanding of the erosion and sediment control standards required by the RMA and the council.
- Giving them a better understanding of how to prepare an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan.
- Exchanging ideas with other professionals.

Environment Fund

A total of 57 Environment Fund projects were completed in the 2010-2011 financial year using council funds of \$519,191.



LEVELS OF SERVICE

land and rivers

The change in funding streams for the Environment Fund implemented in 2009-2010 meant that the most popular projects during 2010-2011 were fencing (primarily of streams and wetlands for water quality), biodiversity, soil conservation and erosion control. It is hoped that this change will give additional support for reaching the Dairying and Clean Streams Accord's targets, particularly for water quality.

Environment Fund projects completed by district		
District	No. Projects	% share
Far North	22	38%
Whāngārei	21	37%
Kaipara	14	25%
	57	100%

Biodiversity Northland website created

The new inter-agency website (Terrestrial and Freshwater Biodiversity Information Systems (TIFBIS)), was launched in August 2010. The cost of the website development was met through a Department of Conservation (DOC) grant. The website presents information on current biodiversity management activities in a series of layers within a Geographic Information System (GIS) framework that will better meet the needs of landowners and agents.

Mangrove management support programme

Following strong support in last year's annual plan, the council proceeded with a programme of work to identify and support the active management of mangroves in areas where they are negatively impacting on flooding, drainage

and amenity values. The council provided \$120,000 to support community-led initiatives (\$53,000 spent in 2010-2011 with the remainder carried over for completing the projects in 2011-2012).

Ten projects have been either partly or fully funded for support with assessments of the environmental effects and resource consent application costs. For the projects that successfully go through the programme and are granted resource consent for the removal of mangroves, it is expected that the communities benefiting from this work will pay for the actual physical removal of mangroves in their area.

The council intends to assess the effectiveness of this programme before considering any further funding to similar future programmes. An update will be provided in the 2012-2022 Long Term Plan.

Wetlands project

The wetlands project involves identifying the top wetlands in the region, developing generic care standards and individual wetland restoration plans, and implementing the plans with landowners.

The draft list of scored and ranked top wetlands has been completed. It includes a regional list of the top 258 freshwater wetlands with a further top 48 estuarine wetlands. In addition, lists have been made of the top 20 wetlands by type (bog, ephemeral, lake, gumland, swamp/fen and dune system) and the top 10 wetlands in each of the 19 Northland mainland ecological districts. The 2010-2011 budget was \$10,330 and we spent \$4407.

The Top Wetlands report will be made available to the public on the council's website in September 2011.



Activity 8.1 Hazard Management

Objective: Identify and provide information on natural hazards, and prepare plans and implement measures to reduce the level of risk to life and property from these natural hazards.

2010-2012 Performance Measures and Targets

8.1.1 Reduce risk from natural hazards.	
Performance Measures and Targets	Actual Service Performance to 30 June 2011
<p>a. Prepare flood risk reduction plans for priority rivers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flood risk reduction plans completed for identified priority rivers by 30 June 2010. 	<p>Timeframe not achieved (2010: Not achieved).</p> <p>Late capture of the LiDAR survey information (due to unfavourable weather conditions) resulted in delays to the programme that affected the delivery of plans by the original timeframe, despite running elements of the programme concurrently to reduce delays. River management plans were prepared for the identified priority rivers by November 2010 and 22 community consultation meetings were held throughout the region to share the outcomes of the river management plans and gather feedback from the community.</p>
<p>b. Prioritise actions arising from flood risk reduction plans and implement accordingly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions prioritised and implementation commenced by 30 June 2011. Progress reported six monthly to the Environmental Management Committee. 	<p>Achieved (2010: Not applicable for 2010).</p> <p>Prioritisation commenced with community consultation meetings to discuss draft plans and seek community input. Several priority actions have been identified and proposed in the 2011-2012 Annual Plan, including proposed flood scheme works for Kaeo and urban Whāngārei rivers. These initiatives will assist to reduce river flood risk to people and assets. A Kerikeri-Waipapa River Liaison Committee has also been established to assist with the development and implementation of this catchment's plan.</p> <p>A report to the June Environmental Management Committee meeting contained a schedule of draft River Management Plan priorities for implementation. Progress reported to Environmental Management Committee in July, September, December (council meeting), April and June.</p> <p>This work enables identification of flood risk and measures to reduce risk to assets and communities.</p>

LEVELS OF SERVICE

land and rivers

Activity 8.1 Hazard Management continued

8.1.1 Reduce risk from natural hazards.	
Performance Measures and Targets	Actual Service Performance to 30 June 2011
<p>c. Develop coastal hazard risk reduction plans for priority coastal communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coastal hazard risk reduction plans commenced for priority coastal communities by November 2010 and continued in 2011. Progress reported six monthly to the Environmental Management Committee. 	<p>Not achieved (2010: Not applicable for 2010).</p> <p>Tsunami modelling and mapping for priority coastal communities and Whāngārei Harbour have been completed. This work will enable communities to be better informed of the potential tsunami risk.</p> <p>A risk screening of 55 coastal communities was undertaken in order to establish priorities for risk reduction plan preparation. However, given the need to further progress with the Priority Rivers Project, the development of risk reduction plans has not commenced. Officers intend to address the future priorities formally with the council during 2011-2012.</p>
<p>d. Undertake beach profiling, representative of summer and winter conditions at priority sites, and as required following erosion or accretion at secondary sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priority beach profile sites monitored twice yearly and reported within two months to the council in the CEO's report. 	<p>Achieved (2010: Achieved).</p> <p>Priority beach profile sites were monitored during August/September 2010 and May/June 2011 and reported in the November 2010 and June 2011 CEO's report. Beach profile monitoring results are primarily used during the review of coastal hazard zones from which to assess long-term trends and fluctuations in shoreline evolution and as such an annual review of results is not undertaken.</p>
<p>e. Promote natural hazard risk reduction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote awareness of natural hazard risks at least annually through the appropriate media, including measures to avoid, manage or mitigate such risks. Provide appropriate advice within 20 days of receiving requests for advice, and report annually on the number and type of responses given to the council in the CEO's report. 	<p>Achieved (2010: Achieved).</p> <p>Promotion ongoing, including media releases on the Priority Rivers project, community meetings regarding flood and tsunami hazards, river management schemes and CoastCare newsletters.</p> <p>This work benefits Northland by raising the community's awareness and understanding of natural hazards and appropriate measures to avoid, manage or mitigate risks.</p> <p>Not achieved (2010: Achieved).</p> <p>148 enquires were logged in the database during the year. Of these, 117 related to river management, 28 to flooding, two to land instability and one to other hazards. Year end figures to be reported to council in July CEO report. Provision of this advice enables Northland's communities to access information on natural hazards from which to make informed decisions about the management of hazards and risk.</p> <p>Compliance with the 20 day timeframe was not able to be determined, and an improvement in reporting systems is required to enable determination of compliance.</p>

Activity 8.1 Hazard Management continued

Significant positive and negative effects on wellbeing

The Hazard Management activity may have the following impacts on wellbeing:

Wellbeing	Positive effects	Negative effects
Social	Communities feel safer and are less likely to be dislocated if they understand the risks and steps that have been taken to reduce the risks from those hazards.	Some people may feel their rights have been diminished in order to provide for the wellbeing of the wider public or future generations.
Economic	Primary production on hazard-prone land is optimised if the risks are reduced or controlled, and investor confidence is increased.	Some people may feel that the additional cost of providing flood protection as having a negative economic impact on them personally.
Environmental	Control of streambank erosion and sediment load in rivers will reduce discharge of the fine sediment to estuaries, harbours and inshore seabeds.	

Activity 8.2 River Management

Objective: Reduce flood risk by ensuring flood risk reduction works are maintained, the incidence of accelerated stream bank erosion is reduced and land uses on flood-susceptible land are sustainable.

2010-2012 Performance Measures and Targets

8.2.1 Manage rivers to reduce flood hazard risk.	
Performance Measures and Targets	Actual Service Performance to 30 June 2011
<p>a. Manage the Awanui River Flood system in line with the Awanui Asset Management Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report management outcomes to each meeting of the Awanui River Liaison Committee and on a six-monthly basis to the Environmental Management Committee. 	<p>Achieved (2010: Achieved).</p> <p>Managed in accordance with the plan and outcomes were reported to July, September, December (council meeting), April and June Environmental Management Committee meetings and June, July, November and January Liaison Committee meetings.</p> <p>Notable management outcomes included: completed survey of all stopbanks for the development of asset management plan; asset management plan drafted; hydraulic model upgrade commissioned; 2010-2011 works contract implemented and completed; Donald Road Bridge Upgrade pre-feasibility study completed; Bell Hill inclinometer and water table monitoring evaluated and reported to the Liaison Committee.</p> <p>This work benefits the communities of Kaitāia, Awanui and the Awanui River Catchment through maintenance of the flood scheme to reduce flood risk. The maintenance works helped reduce the effects of the flooding associated with Cyclone Wilma in January 2011.</p>

LEVELS OF SERVICE

land and rivers

Activity 8.2 River Management continued

8.2.1 Manage rivers to reduce flood hazard risk.	
Performance Measures and Targets	Actual Service Performance to 30 June 2011
<p>b. Manage the Kaihū River scheme in accordance with the Interim Kaihū River Management Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report management outcomes to each meeting of the Kaihū River Management Liaison Committee and on a six-monthly basis to the Environmental Management Committee. 	<p>Achieved (2010: Achieved).</p> <p>Managed in accordance with the plan and the outcomes were reported to July, September, December (council meeting), April and June Environmental Management Committee meetings and October, February and April Liaison Committee meetings.</p> <p>Notable management outcomes included: 2010-2011 works contract completed; hydraulic modelling of scheme options; pre-feasibility assessment of scheme upgrade options and refinement of the development of concept scheme plan which was presented to stakeholders at a public meeting scheduled on 27 April. This work benefits the communities of the Kaihū River Catchment and Dargaville through maintenance of the flood scheme, which reduces the effects of flooding.</p>
<p>c. Carry out works in the Kaeo River and Whangaroa Streams according to the Interim River Management Plan for the Kaeo River and Whangaroa Rivers and Streams from Taupo Bay to Te Ngaire.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report management outcomes to each meeting of the Kaeo River – Whangaroa Catchment Management Liaison Committee and on a six-monthly basis to the Environmental Management Committee. 	<p>Achieved (2010: Achieved).</p> <p>Managed in accordance with the plan and the outcomes were reported to July, September, December (council meeting), April and June Environmental Management Committee meetings and August and January Liaison Committee meetings.</p> <p>Notable management outcomes included: 2010-2011 works contract completed; development of flood risk reduction strategy; flood hazard assessment report; hydraulic modelling of scheme options; peer review of model; flood mapping and public meeting to consult stakeholders over flood scheme proposals. Flood scheme proposals for Kaeo and Tauranga Bay were included in the Draft Annual Plan for formal consultation in April/May. This work benefits the communities of the ex-Whangaroa Ward through maintenance of the rivers and streams to reduce flood risk. The maintenance works helped reduce the effects of the flooding associated with Cyclone Wilma in January 2011.</p>

Activity 8.2 River Management continued

Significant positive and negative effects on wellbeing

The River Management activity may have the following impacts on wellbeing:

Wellbeing	Positive effects	Negative effects
Social	Reduce fear and physical risk of flooding and dislocation of communities.	Some people may feel that their rights have been diminished in order to provide for the wellbeing of the wider public and/or future generations.
Economic	Reduces cost of flood repairs, reduces frequency of losses and damage to property due to flooding, and increases/optimises primary production.	Some people may consider the additional cost of river management works as having a negative personal economic impact.
Environmental	Reduces sediment load in rivers and transport of fine sediment through to estuaries, harbours and inshore sea bed.	



LEVELS OF SERVICE

land and rivers

Activity 8.3 Land and Biodiversity

Objective: Northland’s land resources are managed in a sustainable way for the benefit of current and future generations.

2010-2012 Performance Measures and Targets

8.3.1 Promote the sustainable management of land including soil, water and ecosystems in the Northland region.	
Performance Measures and Targets	Actual Service Performance to 30 June 2011
<p>a. Collaborate with representatives of primary sector groups and landowners to promote sustainable land and water management practices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum of three meetings held annually with primary sector groups. Outcomes reported to the council via the CEO’s report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide appropriate advice within 20 days of receiving requests for advice. Report annually on the number and type of responses given via the CEO’s report to the council. 	<p>Not achieved (2010: Achieved).</p> <p>Meetings have been held with groups representing dairy farming, beef and sheep farming, pastoral farming generally, production forestry and primary industry consultants. Sector groups are now routinely inviting Land Management Officers to their discussion group and field days, reflecting a spirit of cooperation with the council. As a result the number of meetings has grown considerably since this performance measure was developed, with dozens of meetings attended by staff over the year (in August one staff member alone attended five meetings).</p> <p>The more significant meetings were reported via the CEO’s report and focussed on the topics of discussion rather than specific outcomes. This collaboration benefits Northland by ensuring that sustainable land/water management practices are advocated for in conjunction with other key messages advocated by the primary sector groups.</p> <p>Not Achieved (2010: Achieved).</p> <p>489 land management enquires were logged in the database between 1 July 2010 and 30 June 2011 and advice was provided by 30 June 2011 where required. Most popular enquiries were land information, coastal, biodiversity and wetlands; as stated in monthly CEO’s reports.</p> <p>The provision of advice enables stakeholders to make informed decisions about sustainable land management practices.</p> <p>Compliance with the 20 day timeframe was not able to be determined, and an improvement in reporting systems is underway to enable determination of compliance.</p>

Activity 8.3 Land and Biodiversity continued

8.3.1 Promote the sustainable management of land including soil, water and ecosystems in the Northland region.	
Performance Measures and Targets	Actual Service Performance to 30 June 2011
<p>b. Promote and support community-based CoastCare groups through the provision of information and resources for dune restoration activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit each CoastCare site at least annually and report outcomes to the council via the CEO's report. • Promote CoastCare messages through press releases every two months and report outcomes to the council via the CEO's report. 	<p>Achieved (2010: Achieved).</p> <p>Twenty-seven CoastCare Groups are established throughout Northland. All CoastCare sites have been visited, including liaison with relevant CoastCare Groups as reported in the monthly CEO's report.</p> <p>The visits enable liaison with the groups, monitoring of progress, and provision of advice, over projects and management challenges.</p> <p>Not achieved (2010: Not achieved).</p> <p>The winter edition of the CoastCare newsletter was released in June, along with an update to the 'Safety on the Beach' pamphlet.</p> <p>Two monthly press releases were not made; as an alternative a CoastCare Facebook page has been established to facilitate interaction with the community and promotion of the CoastCare message; there have been 1072 hits on this page to date. This is considered an improved means of communication over regular press releases, and keeps the community well informed of key messages and events.</p>
<p>c. Promote indigenous biodiversity in Northland and the restoration and enhancement of priority ecosystems/natural resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce a relevant media release every six months. 	<p>Achieved (2010: Not achieved).</p> <p>In the last year staff have provided information for media releases on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update on the Terrestrial and Freshwater Biodiversity Information System Project (TIFBIS) was included in the December 2010 Regional Report. • Wetlands in the Kaikohe and Mid North Town and Country paper. • World Wetlands Day released in the Northland Age. <p>Future releases will be undertaken in support of key work programmes; e.g. 'Directory of Wetlands' which will be posted on the NZ Wetlands Trust website and media around the Top Wetlands project.</p>

LEVELS OF SERVICE

land and rivers

Activity 8.3 Land and Biodiversity continued

8.3.1 Promote the sustainable management of land including soil, water and ecosystems in the Northland region.	
Performance Measures and Targets	Actual Service Performance to 30 June 2011
<p>d. Support indigenous biodiversity protection and enhancement on private land and by community groups through the Environment Fund.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute a minimum of \$500,000 annually through the Environment Fund. Report annually to the Environmental Management Committee (EMC) on outcomes achieved and funding provided. 	<p>Achieved (2010: Achieved).</p> <p>A total of 57 Environment Fund projects were completed in the 2010-2011 financial year using council funds of \$519,191. Approximately \$62,000 of the fund was committed to biosecurity pest control projects; predominantly to protect high value private forests.</p> <p>Results reported to the April Environmental Management Committee meeting, confirming full contribution of funding for the year was achieved.</p> <p>This work benefits Northland by providing funding to assist land owners to manage and improve resources across the range of priorities of water quality, coastal, soil conservation and biodiversity. The interaction with land owners also enables council to discuss other land management opportunities with the land owner and build a network of contacts throughout the region.</p> <p>The change in funding streams for the Environment Fund implemented in 2009-2010 meant that the most popular projects during 2010-2011 were fencing (primarily of streams and wetlands for water quality), biodiversity, soil conservation and erosion control.</p>
<p>e. Collaborate with, and align the council's policy approach with Waikato Regional Council, Environment Bay of Plenty and the Auckland Council on the management of mangroves.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organise at least two special meetings annually of the combined councils which consider mangroves. 	<p>Not achieved (2010: Not achieved).</p> <p>One meeting of the Mangrove Steering Group, with representatives from the combined councils, was hosted by the regional council on 10 September 2010. Bay of Plenty Regional Council has been delegated the task of organising the next meeting (not held in 2010-2011), with a decision on whether to reconvene a further meeting to be based on the level of interest from within the group.</p>

Activity 8.3 Land and Biodiversity continued

8.3.1 Promote the sustainable management of land including soil, water and ecosystems in the Northland region.	
Performance Measures and Targets	Actual Service Performance to 30 June 2011
<p>f. Review the need for a region-wide authorisation process to facilitate the removal of 'young' mangroves from clearly designated areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop implementation programme by December 2010. 	<p>Achieved (2010: Not achieved).</p> <p>The implementation plan was developed by December 2010 and was reported in the December council meeting agenda. Implementation of the Mangrove Management Support Programme was commenced, including receiving community expressions of interest (EOI) for mangrove management support and reporting to council's December meeting on EOI and funding support recommendations. Three EOI were part funded in support of consent application costs and seven EOI were funded for environmental impact assessment (EIA) work and the drafting and processing of resource consent applications. This programme will enable these communities to manage mangroves within the bounds of any consent approvals, enabling a range of benefits from improved access to flood risk reduction.</p>

Significant positive and negative effects on wellbeing

The Land and Biodiversity activity may have the following impacts on wellbeing:

Wellbeing	Positive effects	Negative effects
Social	Land managed sustainably and waters and ecosystems/natural resources maintained or enhanced for future usage.	There are no known negative effects surrounding this activity.
Economic	Soil conservation = sustainable land management = optimum primary production.	
Environmental	Significant wetlands are being protected, water quality in streams and rivers is being enhanced by sustainable riparian management procedures. Overall biodiversity of the region is being protected and enhanced.	