

Report No.	19-57
Information Only - No Decision Required	

LOWER MANAWATU SCHEME (LMS) - RIVER MANAGEMENT UPDATE

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. The purpose of this item is to inform members of the **Manawatu River Users' Advisory Group (MRUAG)** of **Lower Manawatu Scheme (LMS)** management issues that may have some impact on the recreational use of the river over the period June 2019 to December 2019.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 19-57.

3. FINANCIAL IMPACT

- 3.1. There is no direct financial impact arising from matters discussed in this item.

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- 4.1. This is a public item and therefore Council may deem this sufficient to inform the public.

5. SIGNIFICANT BUSINESS RISK IMPACT

- 5.1. There is no significant business risk impact from matters discussed in this item.

6. DISCUSSION

- 6.1. It has been business as usual, with the relatively settled weather patterns allowing staff to concentrate on vegetation management and stopbank maintenance.
- 6.2. If erosion repairs are undertaken, they will be easily seen from the river when completed, but will be covered in vegetation when established. Railway irons may be used to anchor tree works and concrete rip-rap to protect the toe of the bank. These assets may be submerged and care should also be taken if approaching banks on the outside of bends.
- 6.3. Contractors will also be engaged at various sites on the Manawatu River to undertake vegetation management work. The majority of these sites are in the rural areas, in particular in the lower reaches of the Manawatu below the Foxton-Shannon Road Bridge. These works will be undertaken from the river banks. Any disruption to recreational river users should be minor and staff will endeavour to keep any impacts to a minimum.
- 6.4. Railway irons from old river protection works are still being discovered in the Manawatu and the Oroua Rivers. Whenever these are found, they will be removed as soon as conditions allow. River users are urged to remain vigilant for these hazards when using the river. All visible irons have been removed, however there is a chance that some irons may have been missed and care must be taken. Any such hazards observed should be referred to Horizons River Management staff.
- 6.5. Of particular note are the railway irons that form the river training works adjacent to Hoult's Yard on the Manawatu River. Hoult's Yard is located opposite Te Matai Road, on the true

left bank at river distance 90km, with Fitzherbert Bridge at river distance 79km. An attempt to remove these irons with an excavator failed.

- 6.6. The new pedestrian bridge over the Manawatu River in Palmerston North has been completed, and will be open to the public shortly.
- 6.7. Works to replace the Whirokino Trestle Bridge are well underway. A temporary bridge has been constructed over the Manawatu River and is being used by Contractors plant. Users of the Whirokino boat ramp need to watch out for heavy machinery crossing the road. The contractor will keep access to the Whirokino boat ramp open at all times during the project.

7. SIGNIFICANCE

- 7.1. This is not a significant decision according to the Council's Policy on Significance and Engagement.

Paul Joseph
AREA ENGINEER CENTRAL

Ramon Strong
GROUP MANAGER RIVER MANAGEMENT

ANNEXES

There are no attachments to this report.