Managing wastewater in Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua

Presentation to Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Committee

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Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Committee

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Current state – *E.coli*

- All FMUs currently in E band (except Horokiri and Moutukaraka in D and E)
- Rivers and streams need to be A, B or C band to be considered suitable for primary contact
- Current state inconsistent with requirements in NPS-FM and PNRP for water to be suitable for contact recreation
- Improvements are needed to meet statutory requirements in the NPS-FM and community needs

Freshwater objectives – *E.coli*

Drains to	WMU group	WMU name	*E. coli*	
			Current State	Objective (As at 19.4.18)
Open coast	Coastal catchments	Pukerua	E	*C**
		Hongoeka to Pukerua	E	A-B
		Whitireia	E	B
Taupo	Taupo Stream and Swamp	Taupo Stream	E	B
			E	B
Pauatahanui Inlet	Pauatahanui steep rural streams	Horokiri and Motukaraka	E	B
			D	B
		Kakaho Stream	E	*C**
		Judgeford Stream	E	C
		Upper Duck Creek	E	*B**
	Pauatahanui rural streams	Pauatahanui Stream	E	*C**
		Ration Creek	E	B
	Pauatahanui urban streams	Lower Duck Creek	E	*C**
		Pauatahanui fringe streams	E	*C**
Onepoto inlet	Onepoto steep rural streams	Rangituhi Stream	E	A
		Takapu Stream	E	C
		Upper Kenepuru	E	C
	Onepoto rural streams	Belmont Stream	E	C
		Stebbings Stream	E	C
	Onepoto small urban streams	Hukarito Stream	E	*C-B**
		Mahinawa Stream	E	*C-B**
		Onepoto Fringe	E	C
		Titahi	E	*C**
	Kenepuru Stream	Kenepuru	E	C
	Porirua Stream	Porirua	E	C
			E	C
			E	C
			E	C

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Harbour objectives – Enterococci

- Clarification questions on the material provided
- Questions for Committee consideration
  - Spatial scale to set objectives?
  - Use shorter term and longer term objectives?
  - Levels to set objectives?

Harbour objectives – Enterococci

		Shorter term	Longer term
Onepoto Arm	Intertidal	C	B
	Subtidal	A	A
Pauatahanui Inlet	Intertidal	B	A
	Subtidal	B	A
Coast		B	B

OR

	Shorter term	Longer term
Onepoto Arm	C	B
Pauatahanui Inlet	B	A
Coast	B	B

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Urban wastewater – status quo

PNRP includes policy direction to:

- Progressively reduce wastewater discharges to freshwater and avoid new wastewater discharges to freshwater
- Minimise wastewater and stormwater interaction
- Progressively improve quality of wastewater discharges and reduce quantity
- Progressively reduce network overflows

Wellington Water initiatives

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Urban wastewater – policy options

- Improvements to wastewater treatment plant and network
- Identifying and addressing cross-connections
- Regulation

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Urban wastewater – improvements to plant and network

- Improvements to watstewater plant and network to meet *E.coli* objectives
- Wellington Water to identify the most cost-effective method to achieve improvements in water quality and reduce overflows
- Align assesment management plans with *E.coli* objectives for the whaitua

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Urban wastewater – cross connections

- Education to plumbers, property owners to avoid and address cross-connections
- Greater compliance monitoring of new builds and redevelopment to ensure pipes are correctly installed
- Other incentives?

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Urban wastewater – regulation

Amend PNRP to provide policy framework for wastewater discharges that ensures:

- All wastewater discharges are consented
- Wastewater discharges are consistent with the *E.coli* objectives
- Overflows (wet and dry) are reducing

Alignment of regional plans, district plans and asset management plans to achieve *E.coli* objectives

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On-site wastewater – status quo

PNRP:

- Permitted activity rules for existing on-site wastewater systems and new/upgraded systems
- Controlled activity rule for systems within community drinking water supply areas
- Conditions relate to performance, volume, compliance with AS/NZ Standard, odour etc.
- Discretionary activity when conditions not met

On-site wastewater – status quo

PCC by-law:

- Requires all on-site wastewater systems to have a licence and comply with relevant standards/codes
- No longer the ability to renew licence – up to owners to keep system in good working order
- 395 systems licenced – approx. 60 un-licenced
- Future focus of compliance monitoring on un-licenced systems

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Stock access and riparian planting – status quo

- PNRP stock access rules do not apply to waterbodies in the whaitua
- Limited support for riparian planting and fencing

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Rural wastewater – policy options

- On-site wastewater systems
- Stock access and riparian planting
  - Stock exclusion
  - Support for fencing and riparian planting
  - Retirement of land – public and private
  - Good management practices
  - Sub-catchment land user groups

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On-site wastewater – policy options

- Compliance monitoring of PNRP rules and PCC by-law, identify and address unlicensed systems
- Education to owners on maintenance, performance and compliance
- Other incentives??

Stock access and riparian planting – policy options

- Amend PNRP to provide stock exclusion throughout whaitua
- Support for fencing and riparian planting
- Retirement of land – public and private
- GWRC to work with landowners to promote good management practices, integrated farm planning
- GWRC to support sub-catchment land user groups

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Addtional recommendations?

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