

Aquatic Pests Technical Advisory Group

Minutes for Wednesday 19 August 2009

Environment Bay of Plenty Office – Rotorua 1.30 pm

Present: Richard Mallinson, Jenny Clarke, Ian Phillips, John Mather (arrived 1.45 pm), Matt Bloxham, Greg Corbett, Rob French (left 2.55 pm) (Environment Bay of Plenty); Johlene Kelly (Department of Conservation, left 4.20 pm); Matt Osbourne (Fish & Game); Matt Fanning (LINZ); Paul Champion (NIWA); Sharon Deluca (Boffa Miskell)

Chair: Richard Mallinson

Scribe: Jenny Clarke

Item	Details	Action	Responsibility / Timeframe
1. Apologies and introductions	<p>Andy Bruere, Hamish Lass, Tim Senior, John Mather (lateness) (Environment Bay of Plenty), Hera Smith (Te Arawa Lakes Trust), Gary Page (RDC), Rebecca Lander, Sarah Crump (DOC),</p> <p>Welcome to Sharon Deluca from Boffa Miskell</p>		
2. Matters arising from previous minutes	<p>Go through previous minutes of 17 March 2009</p> <p>Action points report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Follow-up on Endothall consent process (Richard) – Spoken to Kirsty Brown, now have certificate of compliance for drainage. Need to contact ERMA to check on further compliance for lakes. 2. Send copy of Lake Benmore Endothall consent conditions to Richard once completed (Graeme F) – Need to follow-up 3. Circulate weed incursion spreadsheet (Richard) – Will be circulated in November when updated 	<p>1. Follow-up on Endothall consent process</p> <p>2. Forward Lake Benmore Endothall consent conditions to Richard</p> <p>3. Circulate updated weeds incursion spreadsheet in November</p>	<p>Richard</p> <p>Matt F</p> <p>Richard (November)</p>

	<p>4. Forward Koi operation cost details to Greg (Johlene/ Beccy) – More follow-up needed</p> <p>5. Complete resource consent for future weed cordons (Hamish/ Matt B) – Met with DOC and Fish & Game, still waiting on approval from Fish & Game</p> <p>6. Discuss Weeds student with Matt B (Richard) – Some of this work has been superseded with later programmes, prefer to use student money for current advocacy programmes</p> <p>7. Circulate results of Uni of Waikato testing on catfish (Johlene) – Completed</p> <p>8. Discuss revision of pest fish response plan (Johlene/ Beccy) – In progress; it is planned to amalgamate this with other plans</p> <p>9. Check with RDC on resource consents for using reserve land near waterways for commercial activities (Richard) – To follow-up</p> <p>10. Check with Te Arawa Lakes Trust on conditions of consents for using lakes (Richard) – To follow-up</p> <p>11. Forward information to Richard on promotional hand sanitisers (Graeme) – To follow-up</p> <p>12. Collate and forward response on “Didymo collateral templates” to CCDAG (Richard) – Completed</p> <p>13. Update team of Okataina hortwort infestation progress (Richard) – refer General business</p> <p>14. Speak to RDC regarding possibility of formulating a by-law or other measures for restricting boat launch sites (Richard) – To follow-up</p> <p>15. Forward CD with Lakes monitoring information (Hamish) – Completed, refer Action</p>	<p>4. Follow-up on forwarding Koi operation cost details to Greg</p> <p>5. Update on DOC pest fish response plan</p> <p>6. Check with RDC on resource consents for using carparks near waterways for commercial activities (follow-up)</p> <p>7. Check with TALT on conditions of consents for using lakes (follow-up)</p> <p>9. Speak to RDC regarding possibility of formulating a by-law or other measures for restricting boat launch sites (follow-up)</p>	<p>Johlene/Beccy</p> <p>Johlene/Beccy</p> <p>Richard</p> <p>Richard</p> <p>Richard</p>
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	<p>point 3</p> <p>16. Report amount of nutrient removed from Lake Rotoiti to Andy (Richard) – This has been completed, relatively small amount of nutrient need to be removed.</p> <p>17. Send invite to Lake Rotorua Recreation Strategy group for demonstration of portable washdown unit (Richard) – This was completed and well received</p> <p>18. Put team on list for circulation of Regional Pest Management Strategy discussion document in March/April (John) – Completed</p>		
3. Pest Fish	<p>Richard informed that a dive took place to look at catfish in Taupo</p> <p>Pest fish update given by Johlene:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of pest fish sampling programme and updating of bird data, assisted by a BOP Polytechnic student - Considering doing more advocacy - Read out update from Beccy; data base records are now up-to-date - AEE Rotanone application is in progress, however no funds for '09/10 treatment sites yet (advise Greg if no funding available) - DOC Tauranga will submit application to drain a private pond. A comment was made that there have been other private pools drained - Currently drafting an article for Rotoiti newsletter on catfish awareness - Has funding for summer students and will be doing press releases – more work will be done over Taupo and Waikato conservancy boundaries <p>A comment was made that there is concern for the lack of funding available by DOC for pest fish. EBOP has provided some voluntary assistance to DOC Whakatane with pest fish and reports, but a response person is needed from DOC in summer</p>	<p>10. Check funding availability for Rotanone application and advise Greg</p> <p>11. Discuss pest fish funding for DOC at national level</p> <p>12. Follow-up on the need for a pest fish contact in DOC Whakatane</p>	<p>Johlene</p> <p>John M</p> <p>Johlene/ Beccy</p>
4. CCDAG (Check Clean Dry Advisory Group) formulation and activity	<p>Richard gave an update and background of the activities of CCDAG. The group has representation from Biosecurity NZ, DOC, Fish & Game and regional councils. There is a wish to aim advocacy at gaps, eg. People in 20's/30's and Maori. A recent independent survey reported 71% people in both North and South Islands always did CCD; this could be optimistic!</p> <p>Showed MAF Biosecurity DVD "Check Clean Dry – A guide to cleaning water related equipment to help slow the spread of freshwater pests"</p> <p>Comment made that messages need to be tailored for various waterways/users/pests, the advocacy summer programme does help to meet this need</p>	<p>13. Circulate Biosecurity NZ Check Clean Dry DVD's to local groups</p>	

<p>5. '09 programme of aquatic weed monitoring/ spraying</p>	<p>It was advised that the EBOP monitoring programme will start up in November. The first lake to be targeted will be Okataina.</p> <p>An update given on the Okataina hornwort weed fragment, no sign was found, but 12 ha were sprayed around the area to try and eliminate the parent plant. A comment was made that encouraging the growth of native plants helps to keep out incursions.</p> <p>Sharon spoke to her presentation on the proposed aquatic weed spraying programme for the Rotorua Lakes. There was a discussion about weeds incursion programmes</p>		
<p>6. '09/10 Aquatic Pest Awareness Programme</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was advised that the support and funding from MAF and BNZ will roll on for this year's summer advocacy. • Start of trout season is 1 October 2009. • There is continuing involvement with international trout tournament in November. Richard will advise of dates • "Stop the spread" beanies are now available (samples given out) • There is a need to develop a summer Communications plan 	<p>16. Meet regarding Aquatic pest Awareness Programme prior to start of trout season</p> <p>17. Meet with Alex G regarding communications for the summer advocacy programme</p>	<p>Johlene/Richard/ and Matt O</p> <p>Richard/Johlene</p>
<p>7. Weed cordon – 2009 programme</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt B gave an explanation of a field trial conducted at the Merge Lodge Cordon with Hamish on weed cordon retention and also locating lagarosiphon weed fragments. There was an approximately 80% retrieval rate of fragments. Further research work would be useful and also improve this rate. <p>The consent is still to be finalised (refer Action point 5) reports of weed cordon monitoring efficiency and liberated fish by-catch/ survivability to be provided to DOC and Fish & Game prior to approval.</p> <p>EBOP divers will check the impact of weed cordon nets on September trout release</p> <p>Matt advised that Sanfords have made a significant contribution. Ways of acknowledging this were discussed.</p>	<p>18. Organise date for continuation of weed fragmentation trials</p> <p>19. Arrange dive inspection of impact of net on September trout release</p> <p>20. Contact Sandfords manager and invite to visit weeds cordon</p>	<p>Matt B/ Richard</p> <p>Matt O/ Richard</p> <p>Hamish</p>

<p>8. General business</p>	<p>An update of the Okataina hornwort infestation progress was given by Richard (refer Action point 13)</p> <p>Update of NIWA activities was given by Paul Champion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applying for a consent to research weed species. Some contacts information are still required (iwi and Fish & Game) - Endatholl trials are being conducted in Southland <p>Sharon would like contact details for Water Quality Lakes Assn (John/Ann Green) – Richard will forward</p> <p>Greg informed that the Regional Pest Management Strategy is now up for review (copies of the RPMS were circulated). It was mentioned that a compliance and fine system may be introduced for the breaching of activities, eg. for contaminated trailers. Further information is available from the website or contact Greg or John M. Feedback is also welcome.</p> <p>Matt B noticed that perch was not on the list</p> <p>Matt B raised the possibility of introducing grass carp into Okaro to eradicate the pest weed Alodea and then restocking with native fish. This was discussed and Paul outlined feasibility options</p> <p>Matt B is keen to follow-up on the idea to restrict access to Rotoma launching sites</p> <p>It was informed that Richard and Johlene gave an interview recently on Rotorua TV detaining the threat that aquatic pest fish and plants pose.</p> <p>Kelly Hughes from Advanced Traffic Supplies will be carrying out maintenance on the three electronic signs over the next week.</p>	<p>21. Forward iwi contacts details to Paul</p> <p>22. Forward Water Quality Lakes Assn. details to Sharon</p> <p>23. Discuss compliance for breaching pest activities</p> <p>24. Add “Perch” to RPMS list</p> <p>25. Follow-up restricting access to Rotoma launching sites with Andy</p>	<p>Matt B</p> <p>Richard</p> <p>Johlene, Matt O, Greg, John M</p> <p>John M</p> <p>Richard</p>
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>November 24th 1:30 pm at the Rotorua Office of Environment Bay of Plenty Chair: Richard</p>		

Meeting finished at 4.30 pm