

Aquatic Pests Co-ordination Group

Minutes for Tuesday 28 February 2012

Bay of Plenty Regional Council Office – Rotorua 1.30 pm

Present: Hamish Lass, Ian Phillips, Nick McRae (BOPRC); Robert Atkinson (RDC); Shane Grayling, Becky Lander (DOC)

Chair: Richard Mallinson

Scribe: Jenny Clarke

Item	Details	Action	Responsibility / Timeframe
1. Apologies & introductions	Matt Osborne(Fish & Game);, Matt Fanning (LINZ) John Clayton, Paul Champion (NIWA); Marcus Girvan, Sharon De Luca, Stephanie Jeffries (Boffa Miskell), John Mather, Tim Senior (BOPRC); Garry Page (RDC); Sarah Crump (DOC)		
2. Matters arising from previous minutes	Go through previous minutes of 7 September 2011 Action points report: 1. Copies of APR's Reports to be circulated (Richard) - completed		
3. Aquatic weed spraying programme 2011/2, including information required for July report	Update on aquatic weed spraying programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hamish is currently carrying out post-monitoring of sprayed areas• Hornwort monitoring is best carried out while at peak growth stage in March/April; therefore has not yet been done this year.• Lake Ōkātina has been put back for later spraying; areas proposed for treatment are locations of previous incursions and the boat ramp.• Richard informed the 2011/12 LINZ budget has been for 86 ha of spraying; priorities again being on possible vector sites with Kawaha Point sprayed for amenity purposes.• Excellent results achieved at Ōtautū Bay Lake Rotoehu have lessened the risk of Hornwort transfer to Lake Rotomā Information will be required for July report. Richard and Hamish are meeting with Stephanie Jefferies of Boffa Miskell		

<p>4. Aquatic weed control for Amenity Purposes on Rotorua Lakes (APR report) stages Two and Three</p>	<p>Update given by Richard</p> <p>The APR report, as an independent source of information, is useful for identifying new issues and also for feedback to Council</p> <p>Key points in report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biosecurity and Amenity prioritisation • Identifying key roles of agencies • Public expectations • Surveillance • Recommendation made for spraying at amenity sites, including Rotorua lake front and Boyes Beach 	<p>1. Circulate stages Two and Three of APR report</p>	<p>Richard</p>
<p>5. Weed cordon programme 2012</p>	<p>Update given by Hamish, the programming is progressing well.</p> <p>Richard informed that boats are will be directed to enter lakes via the ramps and through weed cordons for major events</p> <p>Next cordon installation is for the Homestead Arm boatramp at Lake Rerewhakaaitu</p> <p>It was agreed that the cordons are usual as an advocacy tool as well as practical intervention.</p>		
<p>6. Results and actions from the 2011/2 Summer Awareness Programme</p>	<p>Richard gave a summary of results from the 2011/2 summer awareness programme (spoke to power point presentation)</p> <p>Similar awareness issues as in most years were noted, including an increased number of jet skiers and jet boats. There are also quite a few visitors to Rotorua from Auckland, Waikato, and the South Island. Overseas visitors are often the biggest river users. It is therefore essential to continue with the advocacy programme.</p> <p>Shane informed that DOC is keen to work in with BOPRC for continued advocacy at events. It was agreed importance is placed on event organisers taking responsibility for decontamination. Richard informed that future rules in the Regional Pest Management Plan will include more emphasis on user responsibility, including provision for enforcement.</p> <p>Shane informed there has been a good response from flyers on pest fish, i.e. Public informing DOC of sightings. Some confusion with ID, e.g. goldfish often reported as Catfish or Koi Carp</p>	<p>2. Circulate hardcopy of students 2011/2 summer awareness programme report</p>	<p>Richard</p>

<p>7. General Business</p>	<p>Hornwort incursion Ōkataina: Update by Hamish. Will go out in March (5 days) to do surveillance to check treated sites and see if there are any more incursions; this will include a detailed shore survey.</p> <p>Aquathol consent: Richard gave background on Aquathol K and showed NIWA poster “Is it safe for Taonga freshwater species?” The NIWA study has compared overseas data and applied to NZ. A series of public meetings will be conducted.</p> <p>APR report suggested there could be provision for mix of private/public funding for some sites.</p> <p>It was suggested that a meeting take place with DOC and Fish & Game on use of Aquathol K</p> <p>Pond audit update: Update given by Nick on pond surveys. Most pondwater in the Rotorua area was originally sourced from the lakes. Some large applesnails found in some ponds at Spencer Road Lake Tarawera.</p> <p>There are a LOT of ponds in Rotorua area, with a variety of problems (currently looking at Hamurana area). Nick noticed that some ponds are linked. Hasn’t yet seen any carp. Will be working through the Ngongotahā area next.</p> <p>It was noticed that surveying has been useful for general public awareness, e.g. to advise on the best plants to put in ponds.</p> <p>Didymo: Richard informed of a reported sighting near Ruatāhuna. A site visit didn’t show an incursion (just brown slime).</p> <p>Becky advised that Tim Senior is interested in updating regional Didymo information</p>	<p>3. Arrange meeting with DOC and Fish & Game on Aquathol K use</p> <p>4. Arrange meeting for regional Didymo update</p>	<p>Richard / Becky</p> <p>Tim</p>
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>18th September 1.30 pm at the Rotorua Office of Bay of Plenty Regional Council Chair: Richard</p>		

Meeting finished at 4.30pm