

## Aquatic Pests Co-ordination Group

### Minutes for Tuesday 18 September 2012

Bay of Plenty Regional Council Office – Rotorua 1.30 pm

**Present:** Mark Sherburne (Fish & Game); Hamish Lass (BOPRC); Dave Mole (LINZ); Stephanie Jeffries, Marcus Girvan (Boffa Miskell); Gary Page (RDC); Katrina Knill (DOC)

**Chair:** Richard Mallinson

**Scribe:**

Item	Details	Action	Responsibility / Timeframe
1. Apologies & introductions	Matt Osborne(Fish & Game);Paul Champion (NIWA); Sharon De Luca (Boffa Miskell) ,Tim Senior (BOPRC);  Dave Mole and Katrina Knill were welcomed to the group.		
2. Matters arising from previous minutes	Go through previous minutes of 7 September 2011  <b>Action points report:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Circulate stages Two and Three of APR report (Richard) – completed</li><li>2. Circulate hardcopy of students 2011/2 summer awareness programme report (Richard) –completed</li><li>3. Arrange meeting with DOC and Fish &amp; Game on Aquathol K use (Richard) – completed</li><li>4. Arrange meeting for regional Didymo update (Tim)</li></ol>		

<p><b>3. Results of aquatic weed spraying programme 2011/2, including information required for annual report.</b></p>	<p>LINZ have released their annual report that detailing areas that have been controlled over the 2011/12 year, feedback from areas that have been controlled is good, spraying twice in the one season has resulted in low levels of weed at Otautu Bay Lake Rotoehu and at Otaramarae Lake Rotoiti. Mark reported good results from the treatment of areas requested by Fish and Game at Ruato Bay Lake Rotoiti, The Kawaha Point weedbed presented fewer issues, although RDC still spent in the vicinity of 50K to clean up strandings in reserve areas.</p> <p>An annual report including the spraying programme and other aquatic pest activities that the group has been involved in will be drafted up for circulation.</p>	<p><b>1. Draft and circulate annual report of APCG activities</b></p>	<p><b>Richard</b></p>
<p><b>4. Proposed 2012/13 aquatic weed spraying programme</b></p>	<p>Priorities for control will firstly be boatramps, vector points, corrdon areas and hornwort incursion sites. Followed by high value amenity sites and complaints that may be impacting private areas.</p> <p>Discussion took place around the processing of public complaints. These are to be forwarded through to Marcus, the use of cost sharing where there is significant private benefit should be encouraged.</p> <p>Areas additional to last years treated sites that will need assessing include Boyes Beach Lake Ōkāreka and the Ngongotaha weedbed.</p> <p>Hamish and the dive crew will be monitoring proposed treatement areas prior to treatment to assess the state and extent of weedbeds.</p> <p>Control will be carried out in late November.</p> <p>Hornwort incursion sites at Lakes Ōkataina and Okareka will be assessed in Feb/March 2013, when hornwort growth is more evident. Control will be carried out in March.</p> <p>The benefit of Boffa Miskell making a diver available to check on sites to ensure that conditions are still optimal for control immediately prior to contactors carrying out control was discussed.</p>	<p><b>2. Boffa Miskell and BOPRC to liase to identify areas that may require treatment for 2012/13</b></p>	<p><b>Hamish, Marcus Stephanie, and Richard</b></p>
<p><b>5. Weed cordon programme 2012</b></p>	<p>Hamish gave a presentation on the use and suitability of weed cordons, Hamish will be giving the same presentation at the Australasian Pest Plant Conference to be held in Melbourne during October.</p> <p>Results from replicated trial work conducted by Hamish illustrate that the cordons are working well.</p> <p>The next cordon installation is programmed for the Homestead Arm boatramp at Lake Rerewhakaaitu.</p>		

<p><b>6. 2012/13 Summer Awareness Programme</b></p>	<p>The start of the Trout Fishing Season is on Monday the 1<sup>st</sup> of October. BOPRC will have 5 staff working out on boatramps passing out information on Aquatic pests including Didymo.</p> <p>BOPRC and Fish and Game to get together prior to the season starting up to share collatoral.</p> <p>MPI will be again be funding BOPRC 20K toward two students to carry out aquatic pest advocacy over the summer period, these vacacies are currently advertised.</p> <p>Mark suggested the students combine with ER Fish and Game surveys to pass out information.</p>	<p><b>3. BOPRC and Fish and Game to coordinate opening activities.</b></p>	<p><b>Matt O and Richard</b></p>
<p><b>7. General Business</b></p>	<p><b>Signage</b></p> <p>Gary pointed out that lakeside signage needs to be installed to an agreed standard; RDC will be reviewing existing signage to ensure that signage complies.</p> <p><b>Pest Fish</b></p> <p>Reported sightings of pest fish were discussed</p> <p><b>EPA submissions</b></p> <p>Currently two submissions to the EPA on behalf of collective Regional Councils are being undertaken by Latitude planning the first covers the use of four herbicides for emergent species over water the second aims to reduce the restrictions around the use of Aquathol.</p> <p><b>Pond audit update:</b></p> <p>BOPRC are continuing to carryout pond audits within the Rotorua Lakes catchment, currently contractor Nick Macrae is surveying the Brunswick park area. To date surveys have found sites of Senegal tea and eel grass.</p> <p><b>Hornwort Harvesting</b></p> <p>BOPRC have sought expressions of Interest from contractors to carry out hornwort harvesting for nutrient management in Lake Rotoehu. Mighty River Power has indicated that their harvester will not be available to carry out this work from 2013.</p>		

<b>Next Meeting</b>	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2013 1.30 pm at the Rotorua Office of Bay of Plenty Regional Council <b>Chair:</b> Richard		
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Meeting finished at 4.30pm