

Aquatic Pest Co-ordination Group

Minutes for Tuesday 18 February 2014

Eastern Region Fish and Game office, Paradise Valley Road, Rotorua 1:30 pm

Present: Hera Smith, Leilani Ngawhika (TALT); Hamish Lass, Stephanie Bathgate, (Bay of Plenty Regional Council); Marcus Girvan (Boffa Miskell); Kristina Thompson (arrived 1:40pm), Caraline Abbott, Erin Patterson, Manu Rangihueua (DOC); David Mole (LINZ), Geoff Angell (Aqua-Ag Ltd.)

Chair: Richard Mallinson

Scribe: Jenny Clarke

Item	Details	Action	Responsibility / Timeframe
1. Apologies & introductions	Shane Grayling, Greg Corbett (BOPRC); Matt Osborne (Fish & Game), Paul Champion, John Clayton (NIWA)		
2. Matters arising from previous minutes	<p>Go through previous minutes of 12 September 2013</p> <p>Action points report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Circulate final Draft Annual Reporting and Planning Summary (Johlene, feedback by Tues 17 September) – completed 2. Draft Annual Reporting and Planning Summary presented to Council (Greg) – completed, presented to RTALSG 3. Identify locations for water intake points and update comms planning (BOPRC / Boffa Miskell, Richard / Marcus) – this was of concern during low water levels, as of Dec 2013, but not so much of an issue for 2013-2014 4. Organise for Diquat and spraying information to go on the Rotorua lakes website (Hamish) – still to do 5. Check out potential hornwort around Ōkāreka shoreline and feedback to residents (Don Atkinson) – this will be covered off with Hornwort monitoring, due to continue at Lake Ōkāreka in mid-March 6. Meet with DOC (Jeff Millham) regarding spraying around Dabchicks (Richard) – still to do, there are new DOC contact people 7. Speak to MPI regarding event organisations requirements for decontamination of North Island boating gear prior to taking to South Island (Richard) – completed, MPI advised to continue with “Check, Clean, Dry” message 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organise for Diquat and spraying information to go on the Rotorua lakes website 2. Meet with DOC to discuss spraying around Dabchicks 	<p>Hamish</p> <p>Richard</p>

3. Draft Annual Reporting and Planning Summary	Richard spoke to presentation - summary report on programme highlights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy and education • Weed cordon construction and maintenance • Aquatic weed monitoring and control • Pest fish surveys • Pond surveys • Didymo sampling • Hornwort sampling (new harvester coming from USA) 	3. Organise press release re. joint programme highlights	Richard M (BOPRC), Dave Mole (LINZ), Caraline Abbott (DOC)
4. Interim results of aquatic weed spraying programme 2013/2014	Update by Hamish: Pre-spray completed November, post-spray occurring later Feb. Incursion monitoring to take place for Ōkāreka / Ōkātaina in mid-March Marcus is keeping a log of communications / complaints received via 0800 number on signage. There are some new initiatives with notification, eg. putting real-time updates on LINZ website, including links to newspaper articles (note that the Resource Consent still specifies notification via newspaper)		
5. Transfer of Hornwort/Egeria /Lagarosiphon (enforcement procedures and options)	Richard informed that, for the past two years, staff and students have found Hornwort in the Rotomā weed-cordon. It is noted that a small minority of (local) lake users are not cleaning hornwort from trailers. Enforcement may be used, but there will be a lead-in advocacy process; education is preferred It was noted that with more jet-ski's from Waikato (observation), there is concern of catfish and koi carp transfer	4. Contact Rotorua Duck owners regarding boat cleaning protocol 5. Present Lucy Anderson's survey findings (PhD student from UK)	Hamish Hamish
6. Hornwort incursion Lake Ōkāreka	Update by Steph. There was an overall positive result from spray, just one small plant found after Christmas. New contractor being used, summer trial at end of February		
7. Hornwort incursion Lake Ōkātaina	Update by Hamish. Monitoring at four sites is to be done next month. Overall, positive containment results by control methods. Michelle Lee (Planner at BOPRC) is due to meet with the Lake Ōkātaina Scenic Board.	6. Contact Michelle Lee regarding update of the incursion programme	Hamish
8. Weed cordon programme	Update by Hamish on weed cordon programme. A potential cordon for Kennedy's Bay was researched; however, the maintenance would be very expensive for an exposed area. Discussion on whether this location is suitable for a boat ramp, as there is high risk of weed being transferred from there to another lake. The Otautu boat ramp is located nearby as an alternative. Question regarding reconfiguration of Ōkāreka weed-cordon (due to raupo harvesting); Hamish informed that considerable consultation was undertaken with local stakeholders, therefore any change is a low priority for funding at this stage	7. Approach RDC regarding removal of Kennedy Bay boat ramp	Hamish

	Hera informed that some Ōkāreka residents are interested in modifying the beach at the boat ramp area to enable recreational use..		
9. Catfish monitoring programme	Update (by Steph) on scheduled monitoring for lakes; Rotomā, Rotoiti, Okareka (late Feb/March). Some spot diving may be conducted at Tarawera		
10. 2014 Rotoehu hornwort harvesting	Overview of new harvester (by Richard); purchased from USA, will arrive soon for assembling in NZ (this will be tendered). This harvester will be available for hire. Hopefully will be operational by April Hera noted that the RTALSG approves of this project, for improving lake water quality		
11. 2013/2014 Awareness programme	Update by Hamish and Richard	8. Circulate 2013-2014 Student survey report	Hamish
12. General Business	<p>Draft signage on pest fish: (Caraline Abbott, DOC) information signs (including photos) of how lake users can identify and report pest fish. Aim is to locate signs at major boat ramps, fishing shops Richard advised these could go out with Fish & Game information (eg. licences, F&G newsletter)</p> <p>Protocol around death of person in lake and rāhui: (Hera) Hera discussed appropriate protocol around incidents where fatalities have occurred. The BOPRC Rotorua Harbournmaster Pererika Mikiha has an understanding of particular protocol and associated restrictions that may be related to individual Lakes. Reminder to contact Pererika in the first instance to establish the status of Lakes prior to work being undertaken .</p> <p>Feasibility of wash-down station (Manu): discussion of potential of these and suitable locations. Richard advised that a portable station was constructed and set up for events, but was not well patroned. There is a need to target people coming out of the lakes; a simple hose set-up could be more effective. It was suggested that advocacy at Waikato waterways could be helpful.</p> <p>Webpages for APCG: Richard advised there is a new APCG secure web area (via the Rotorua lakes website) contains past minutes, reports and links to related sites</p> <p>Lake spraying procedure: Marcus informed group that Boffa Miskell holds the consent for lake spraying. Reminder that the process is for any to work go through Marcus first; he will delegate</p> <p>Marcus informed group that LINZ have some funding to assist with pest eradication initiatives</p>	<p>9. Check rāhui protocols with Pererika, prior to lake spraying</p> <p>10. Discuss potential wash-down facilities / options</p> <p>11. Contact Waikato regarding advocacy at Waikato waterways</p> <p>12. Circulate APCG secure website link</p>	<p>All</p> <p>Richard, Manu</p> <p>Richard, Manu</p> <p>Richard</p>

Next Meeting	20 May 2012, 1:30 pm at the Rotorua Office of Bay of Plenty Regional Council Chair: Richard		
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Meeting finished at 3:50 pm