

Submission Hearing on:

The Consultation Document “Framing our Future”, for the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan (LTP).

Thursday 13 May 2021 in Marton

| Submission (number/s) and name | Submitter’s organisation | Date and time | Summary of topic and context | Summary of key questions posed by Elected Members and responses |
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| (88) Brad Cassidy | Sport Manawatū | 13 May 21, 9.40am | <p><u>Investment into the Regional Sport Facilities Implementation Plan</u></p> <p>Sport Manawatū supports the Councils upgrade of the Traihape grandstand.</p> <p>Sport Manawatū would like the Council to be a signatory to the Implementation Plan MoU.</p> <p>Correction to the written submission: The amount of requested financial support is \$3,339 (not \$2,872).</p> | <p>The Mayor: To confirm, in addition to financial support, you are requesting that Council becomes a signatory and be a part of the representation for this plan? Answer: Correct.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: We would commit a representative to your steering group? Answer: Yes, each territorial authority appoints their own representative.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: What capacity does Sport Manawatū have for new builds? Answer: I oversee projects across the seven territorial authorities. Our role is to coordinate and identify specialists.</p> <p>Cr Dalgety: Where are we in your current three year term? Answer: Some councils did not adopt our framework at the time, so we worked on those councils that did adopt it. The idea is it would roll over every three years to align with Long Term Plans.</p> <p>Cr Wilson: What is your relationship with Whanganui Council?</p> |

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| | | | | <p>Answer: We are funded through Sport NZ. Sport Whanganui has their own relationship with the Whanganui Council. The other six territorial authorities did not have pre-existing relationships, so we are looking to make it a shared leadership role with the Whanganui Council.</p> |
| (1, 147) Greg Carlyon | Tutaenui Stream Restoration Society | 13 May 21, 9.50am | <p><u>Tutaenui Reserve Restoration Project</u></p> <p>Presented a slide show of project activities and works.</p> <p>200 – 300 people currently walk around the reservoir each week.</p> <p>The group aims to restore the mauri of the Tutaenui Stream and request a minimum flow is trialed.</p> | <p>Cr Lambert: Do you have a long term plan for the project? Answer: Yes, there was a report commissioned by Council through Boffa Miskell, although it is time to review it. We are ahead of the mark with public access. There are a lot of land owners to communicate with for this project.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: Do you have a template for volunteer interaction and management of them? Answer: Our volunteers have worked alongside Council staff on the project. We have talked to Mr Benadie about having a memorandum in place.</p> |
| (99), Jocelyn Hunt | | 13 May 21, 10.00am | <p><u>Cobber Kain Avenue</u></p> <p>There are 22 units on Cobber Kane Avenue, and the road is currently a dirt track.</p> <p>Cannot have windows open in summer due to dust that is generated by motor traffic on the road.</p> <p>Would like Council to pave the road.</p> | <p>Cr Wilson: Is this a submission by you or on behalf of the residents? Answer: Myself. If there are events running near my road, I sometimes get blocked into my own driveway. The playground and hall increased traffic and there is no parking. One lamp post would also need to be moved.</p> <p>The Mayor: In terms of the LTP, are you requesting both sealing of the road and car parking facilities? Answer: Yes.</p> |
| (165) Carolyn Bates | | 13 May 21, 10.10am | <p><u>General thoughts on current Council Activities</u></p> | <p>Cr Duncan: For WIFI, do you think it should be implemented in the whole district?</p> |

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| | | | <p>The Council regularly fails to communicate well., despite the efforts of staff.</p> <p>WIFI is a low priority, but if it was implemented it should go to the whole district.</p> <p>The Council makes too many plans and there is not enough action.</p> <p>There should be more funding for the Community Committees/Boards.</p> | <p>Answer: Yes, but it is a low priority compared to other things, such as the drinking water in Marton.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: What mechanisms would you like to see with regards to upgraded communications?</p> <p>Answer: More letter box drops, I constantly hear that residents do not know things.</p> |
| (154) Tinousi Tofa and Mary Laki | | 13 May 21, 10.17am | <p><u>Pasifika Community Fale</u></p> <p>We are looking at purchasing the community bowling building.</p> <p>We want to buy it for our church services, but it would also be a home for everyone in the community.</p> <p>We are seeking financial support.</p> | <p>The Mayor: What level of financial support are you seeking, and do you envision this being in the form of a donation or a loan?</p> <p>Answer: \$200,000, via a donation.</p> <p>Cr Balsham: Have you secured any funding to date?</p> <p>Answer: Yes, about \$100,000.</p> <p>Cr Wilson: What is the value of the building?</p> <p>Answer: \$300,000.</p> <p>Cr Hiroa: What is the size of the congregation?</p> <p>Answer: Over 100.</p> |

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| | | | | <p>Cr Raukawa: Do you have the plans made up and the people to deliver them? Answer: Not yet, but we would like our community to help.</p> <p>The Mayor: Would you consider a loan from Council? Answer: Yes.</p> <p>The Mayor: Have you spoken to Council staff to check that you can fit that many people into the building? Answer: No.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: Have you considered employing a professional fundraiser? Answer: Not yet, we are here at Council as a starting point.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: Do you have support from all of the Pasifika community? Answer: Yes. They may not all know that we are here at Council, but we are positive that they would support us.</p> <p>The Mayor: To clarify, we have a community organization called the Living Hope Church that is looking to move into community housing – are they the same organization as yours? Answer: Yes, Pasifika Community Fale is the name of the building, but it is under the Living Hope Church.</p> <p>Cr Dalgety: Can the bowling club still use the building? Answer: Yes.</p> |

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| | | | | <p>Cr Ash: Have there been conversations with the current owners about using the building in the lead up to a potential purchase? Answer: Yes, our pastor has had these conversations.</p> |
| (152) Jo Anson and Keith Gray | Koitiata Residents Committee | 13 May 21, 10.28am | <p><u>Koitiata</u></p> <p>The submitter talked through the presentation provided alongside their submission.</p> <p>There are around 160 houses, of which around 60% are permanently occupied.</p> <p>Would like upgrades/developments to the public toilets, WIFI, freedom camping bylaw and children's playground.</p> <p>Would like to develop and implement a reserve management plan with Council, Ngati Apa and Horizons, for the Koitiata Domain Recreation Reserve.</p> <p>Would like the Council land rezoned as a reserve.</p> | <p>The Mayor: Do we need to have a bigger discussion with the Koitiata community about what your future vision entails? Answer: Yes.</p> <p>Cr Wilson: Does the community have a view about the freedom camping bylaw? Answer: Yes, they have a negative view of freedom campers, as they are often out in the reserve and not self-contained.</p> <p>Cr Hiroa: Are all permanent residents part of the committee? Answer: There are twelve people on the committee, and the rest of the community receive email updates.</p> <p>Cr Lambert: Is the domain reserve a defined area? Answer: That is the wetland restoration project. The boundaries are not well defined.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: Have you thought about how climate change will affect your community? Answer: Yes, our two issues are dune erosions and flooding when there is a big down pour.</p> |
| (155) Paul Marcroft | | 13 May 21, 10.40am | <p><u>Taihape Grandstand</u></p> <p>The submitter is an architect.</p> | <p>Cr Raukawa: What is involved in a carbon comparison? Answer: You can compare the amount of carbon that is embedded in a variety of materials, from concrete to wood, etc.</p> |

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| | | | <p>The building is positioned perfectly and the timber that was used in the construction would have been of good quality.</p> <p>Would like both the grandstand to be restored and a new amenities block to be constructed.</p> <p>Other Councils have succeeded in investing in and adapting historic buildings for current community needs.</p> | <p>Cr Duncan: Should the Council choose to invest \$1,000,000 in the grandstand, how long do you see its lifetime extending to? Answer: I do not know enough about this, but could guess at least another 50 years. It depends on the construction though.</p> <p>Cr Duncan: What if there was no restoration? Answer: Perhaps another 4 years or so, it is difficult to tell.</p> <p>The Mayor: Are you aware of the new amenities building? Answer: Yes.</p> <p>The Mayor: Have you had a look at the retention upgrade that has been completed by a fellow architect? Answer: No.</p> <p>Cr Wilson: So your position is that you are in favour of Councils decision to invest up to \$1,000,000? Answer: Yes, very supportive of that.</p> |
| (158) Charlotte Almond (on behalf of Michael McCartney) | Horizons Regional Council | 13 May 21, 10.52am | <p><u>Horizon's Submission to the draft Long Term Plan 2021-31</u></p> <p>We want to encourage Council to make sure that there is enough provision within the LTP to consider water issues and how these relate to Te Mana o te Wai and the NPS-FM.</p> | <p>The Mayor: The Chief Executive and I met with Horizons and laid out a fairly considerable plan with regards to consenting approval – are your comments acknowledging that? Answer: Yes, and also to highlight that there is still some level of uncertainty in terms of the compliance regulations. Really to make sure that there is adequate provision with consenting and capital works.</p> |

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| | | | <p>Horizon's was pleased to see acknowledgement of climate change within the draft LTP.</p> <p>The regional risk assessment will be provided later in the year.</p> | <p>The Mayor: Does that take account of Horizons uncertainty around this too? Answer: Yes, we will not have a change to the Horizons One Plan until 2024.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: In the written submission, there is encouragement to see provision of active transport modes. Does that refer to things like cycle lanes? Answer: Yes.</p> <p>Cr Lambert: Is there a difference between the health of water and the wellbeing of water? Answer: It is an encompassing statement. The water itself has mana, and each community has to define what Te Mana o te Wai means for them.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: We have old wastewater treatment plants, with old technology and inflexible consenting processes. Why cannot we get a process that allows incremental change, in order to work towards the big picture? Answer: With the national policy statement for fresh water, we are required to identify short, medium and long term visions. If long term plans are unable to be met, we can start on incremental changes.</p> <p>Cr Wilson: Is Horizons uncertainty with regards to our draft LTP and consenting, or about our understanding of Te Mana o te Wai? Answer: It is about how stringent consenting requirements are going to be in the future. We would encourage you to</p> |

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| | | | | <p>ensure that there is enough funding in the LTP to deal with consenting and capital expenditures in the future.</p> <p>The Mayor: Do you have any comments on the Koitiata community?</p> <p>Answer: No, not at this stage.</p> |
| (161) Robert Snijders (via Zoom) | | 13 May 21, 11.15am | <p><u>General thoughts on current Council Activities</u></p> <p>The swimming pools are not open all year round. The money for the Taihape WIFI proposal would be better directed to the swimming pools.</p> <p>The Bulls Community Committee project went terribly.</p> <p>The rates increase is unwarranted.</p> <p>Local authorities are incompetent with managing water assets. There are Marton residents who spend money on their own water or water purification systems due to the quality of Marton water.</p> <p>I object to everything in the draft LTP.</p> | |

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| (217) Tony Booker and Brya Dixon | | 13 May 21, 11.35am | <p><u>Student Safety along Bredins Line and Hereford Street</u></p> <p>The current roading layout requires students from Rangitikei College who are travelling to or from the school via the east and south from school to cross the street twice, presenting a significant safety risk.</p> <p>Primary students from Marton School witness this behaviour and think that it is safe, putting them at greater risk.</p> <p>Students using the 'Lost Acre' pathway travel through the Marton School carpark, creating further hazards.</p> <p>Requesting the reduction in speed limit between the two schools and that Council eliminates the need to cross the road.</p> | <p>The Mayor: Are you happy with the roading design for Hereford Heights, for example the Give Way sign? Answer: Those exiting Hereford Heights should have some kind of indicator advising them to slow down.</p> <p>Cr Raukawa: How many students cross the road? Answer: There are 150 from Rangitikei College that travel in that direction to and from school. There are 180 students at Marton School who use a pedestrian crossing that operates during peak hours.</p> <p>Cr Lambert: Why do students not really use bikes? Answer: This is a nationwide trend. Parents are concerned about safety with biking.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: The 'Lost Acre' pathway has received a lot of development and is becoming more widely known as the 'Lions Walkway'. Would you be prepared to change your terminology? Answer: Yes.</p> <p>Cr Wilson: Have you submitted to Waka Kotahi about the speed limit? Answer: Not yet, but we will.</p> <p>The Mayor: How are you projecting your student numbers over the next few years? Answer: For Marton School, we are expecting the student roll to increase by about 15-20 children per year. For Rangitikei College we are expecting to be in the early 300's</p> |

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| | | | | <p>in the next few years. Currently sitting at 290. Both are somewhat dependent on how housing developments proceed.</p> |
| (163) Ron Burton | Wilson Park Development Group | 13 May 21, 11.45am | <p><u>Wilson Park</u></p> <p>One of the groups not mentioned in the written submission are the Samoan community. They are big users of Wilson Park, for church groups, volleyball, etc.</p> <p>We are looking at the formation of a charitable trust.</p> <p>Stage 1 of our plan is to look at the peripheral track around the playground area. We want to install exercise equipment for adults.</p> <p>Stage 2 of our plan is to build a children's road for scooter and small bikes. We would also like to install a commercial quality barbecue facility.</p> <p>Stage 3 of our plan is to put in a dog agility and exercise area.</p> <p>The trees are not of much value. They provide too much shade in winter, and not enough shelter from wind.</p> | <p>The Mayor: Have you reached out to Rotary to increase support? Answer: Yes, they are very committed.</p> <p>The Mayor: As part of the \$400,000 that is budgeted for it, has your group considered having a professional designer? Answer: Yes, we think it is an important thing to do.</p> <p>Cr Ash: How is the plan coming along as far as getting design on paper? Answer: The bones are there, but we do not want to confirm a layout until community consultations are completed.</p> <p>The Mayor: You have asked Council for \$50,000. Often Councils will commit to being the 'final funder' – are you asking us to fund you now, or are you asking us to be a final funder? Answer: Our group were not expecting to have Council support, but members became aware of this submission process and realised that they could ask. We would want funding earlier, if possible.</p> <p>Cr Raukawa: If the trees were removed, would you have any idea about fencing for the creek, and would this stop children from entering the creek? Answer: Yes, strategic planting is being considered, there is currently a fence there.</p> |

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| | | | | <p>Cr Belsham: You mentioned that drainage was a historic concern – is it a focus of your group? Answer: Yes, but I need more information about this from our group.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: Will you please go back to your group and confirm this to us? Answer: Yes.</p> <p>Cr Ash: If you set up the group as a charity, is it your intention to take ownership of the park and ensure ongoing maintenance? Answer: We are definitely looking at reducing the requirement for maintenance, if at all possible.</p> |
| (221) Gretta Mills (viz Zoom) | | 13 May 21, 12.50pm | <p><u>General thoughts on current Council Activities</u></p> <p>Queried why Council still needs to obtain information about local businesses. She is able to find information about businesses on the internet.</p> <p>Congratulated Council on its decision regarding the consideration of Maori wards.</p> <p>Would like to see Council promote the equity of women.</p> | <p>The Mayor: There was a question in relation to economic development in your submission; you are saying that it should not be increased, but further on you state that existing work money should be a function of Project Marton. We fund Project Marton – should we fund them? Answer: No, you are saying that you are going to spend time over the next few years finding out about our local businesses. I would have thought this was an essential role of Council. It is not that hard to find information about local businesses.</p> <p>Cr Wilson: You commented that we should not indebt ourselves with \$20,000,000 worth of debt, is there anything more to this comment?</p> |

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| | | | <p>Raised concerns about not received a response to an email sent to Elected Members and the Chief Executive.</p> | <p>Answer: We are a very small Council and we have basic needs of water, housing, safety and roading to meet. Some of the strategies that are there could apply to a city of more than 50,000 people. You have to tailor your economic development in line with the districts population size and spend ratepayers money more wisely.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: Do you accept that using debt is a good way of funding intergenerational assets?</p> <p>Answer: Yes, if it is a top priority and is equitable for all ratepayers.</p> |
| (213) Tim Matthews and Andrew Steward | Federated Farmers | 13 May 21, 1.03pm | <p><u>Submission on the draft LTP</u></p> <p>A handout with rates examples was provided.</p> <p>On behalf of the rural sector, we hope that you do not have to borrow money to meet the future requirements of the Three Waters reform.</p> <p>The draft LTP had very little in the way of providing rate examples, which should have been included.</p> <p>Noted the decrease in UAGC has impacted the general rate.</p> | <p>Cr Wilson: Can you elaborate more on the forestry comments?</p> <p>Answer: Forestry locks up a big chunk of the district for two or three decades and requires a lot of low use roading, which is expensive. We have suggested a rating mechanism to account for that. Whanganui and Ruapehu have a 1.5x differential for forestry.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: The change in CV of our rural properties, especially in the northern part of the district, there was a similar change to the southern part of our district 3 years ago, can you recall the impacts on those rates?</p> <p>Answer: The move in dairy was significant. Those values have now fallen slightly. Upcoming issues like the Three Waters reform may put a bit of a dampener on dairy. The economics of hill country farming have not increased, as those CV values would suggest.</p> |

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| | | | <p>Rural land on the northern and western side of the district are looking at very large CV (capital value) increases.</p> <p>Lifestyle blocks are facing big rates increases. Suggested that Council changes their 3 yearly re-valuation to make it more often, so that it is more accurate.</p> <p>Suggested that Council looks at rating forestry.</p> | <p>Cr Gordon: What other mechanisms might we use to fund asset provisions, roads and water? Answer: Generally it is either loan funding from the government or rates, GST could be an option. A problem from the farmers point of view is that we have an asset that requires an enormous amount of capital, but our income could be lower than a lawyers.</p> |
| (216) Tim Matthews and Julie McClay | Rangitikei District Council Western Residents Group | 13 May 21, 1.16pm | <p><u>Kauangaroa-Okirae-Mangatipona-Turakina Valley</u></p> <p>A handout with rates examples was provided.</p> <p>There are roughly 35/40 residents in our area.</p> <p>There are substantial rate increases for our part of the district and these are probably out of proportion with the rest of the district.</p> <p>Our message is to save as much money as possible, manage programs as carefully as possible and be careful about what you commit to in the LTP.</p> | <p>The Mayor: What percentage of property should be in forestry to determine its rating? Answer: There are QV categories to determine this. Farms tend to do their infrastructure in the summer, whereas forestry would do it all year round. There is significant damage to our road caused by forestry traffic, due to them carting in metal for forestry.</p> <p>Cr Lambert: Is there a need for a hall out there? Answer: It is 20 minutes to the closest hall for us, so we would not ask for a hall.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: The rates have gone up on farm properties, because the values gone up, so who is buying them and pushing up the value? Answer: There are larger ones up the valley that got sold due to liquidation, and some bee keeper sales, but you can't really look to that to explain the increase in values.</p> |

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| | | | | <p>Cr Belsham: Some of the properties you have signaled, has there been significant capital investment that would explain these increases? Answer: No not really, it is not wide spread.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: Do you think that the mechanisms that are in place for valuation in New Zealand have flaws? Answer: I have objected to their ratings, but it is the law so there is not much we can do.</p> |
| (211) Felicity Wallace | Interested Residents of Marton and Rangitikei | 13 May 21, 1.30pm | <p><u>Submission on the draft LTP</u></p> <p>The submitter read out their written submission.</p> <p>The consultation process was too short and the consultation document chose select issues to highlight. The overall impression is that Council does not want feedback.</p> <p>Our group would like to participate in future consultations for housing developments and waste water projects.</p> | <p>The Mayor: Are you able to advise how big your group is? Answer: No, we do not want to disclose that.</p> <p>Cr Dalgety: Are you able to just give us the numbers of your group? Answer: No.</p> <p>Cr Belsham: How would you propose we fund upgrades relating to the Three Waters reform? Answer: We do not support Council management or investment in the Three Waters at all, we want it to go to a new government entity.</p> <p>The Mayor: Ultimately you have got to pay for water delivery, have you considered this in your position? Answer: Yes.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: Do you support the district-wide funding of assets?</p> |

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| | | | | <p>Answer: The issue we have is that the information the Council has provided to the community is very unclear. It is hard to find the information you need, so how can we provide a comment on it? The LTP is very hard to sift through. We want to see more co-ordination.</p> <p>The Mayor: Did you access the QR code in the document to give you more information?</p> <p>Answer: We downloaded all the documents ourselves.</p> |
| (162) Phil Teal (via Zoom) | Fish & Game New Zealand | 13 May 21, 1.46pm | <p><u>Submission on the draft LTP</u></p> <p>The scientific literature for riparian planting suggests planting them 6-8 metres apart, but these are going to be used for keeping out cattle, and so probably will not meet this.</p> <p>Would encourage the Council to work with Horizons Regional Council to look at opportunities for the restoration of rural catchments.</p> <p>Request more emphasis on reduction of infiltration to the stormwater network from wastewater, the detection of nutrients and contaminants in storm water and how much this flows into river water.</p> | <p>Cr Gordon: You mentioned community groups in the environmental space, would you consider allowing your staff to step into that space and share their knowledge, and become partners?</p> <p>Answer: Yes, we are happy to put energy and resources into those projects.</p> <p>Cr Dalgety: Regarding wetlands and restoration, how do you see the role of the regional council versus the district council?</p> <p>Answer: I probably see the regional council taking the lead on this stuff, especially for catchments. It would also be positive for the district councillors to promote wetlands. There are three or four major work programs from overseas where they have worked out how much nutrition stripping each type of wetland would produce, on similar catchments in size to the Rangitikei.</p> |

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| | | | <p>There are more innovative ways to deal with stormwater pulses. Some regions have rain water collections on houses. It can be incorporated into new areas, or retro-fitted.</p> <p>Please be aware of additional funding that is available from central government, for projects around improving water ways. It is something to be putting your hand up for.</p> | |
| (164) Malcolm Leary | | 13 May 21, 1.57pm | <p><u>Bird Scarer</u></p> <p>A neighbour uses his bird scarer for a couple of hours in the morning, beginning at 5.15am, an hour at lunch time, and around two hours at the end of the day, until about 10.00pm.</p> <p>Gave background on the issues that have been occurring for a number of years.</p> <p>Would like Council to change the rules on the use of bird scarers, as although his neighbours use is currently within the law and Council regulations, it is unreasonable.</p> | <p>The Mayor: What you are seeking is a change to the way in which sound is measured within our current rules. Can you explain to me why your neighbour uses a bird scarer? Answer: When he is putting in crops or stock feed. No one else around us uses it. He is not a horticulturist, just normal stock feed or crops. It has been more reasonable in recent years. In the past it just went on constantly, but at 5.15am I do not want to listen to that, and 10.00pm is too late.</p> <p>The Mayor: If we looked at changes in the District Plan to prevent use in dark hours, would that suffice? Answer: it would help for late at night, but probably would not cover the morning use.</p> <p>Cr Gordon: Are there any national regulations that restrict the use of noise and its proximity to a house or residence?</p> |

Long Term Plan Submission Hearings, 13 May 2021

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| | | | On the handout for rates increases across various towns, the last ones are getting off scot-free. | Answer: I am not aware of that. When it first became an issue I approached Horizons, but they directed me to RDC. |