

Rangitikei District Council

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Marton Community Committee

Order Paper

Wednesday 12 April 2017 7.00 pm

Youth Club, Humphrey Street, Marton

Website: www.rangitikei.govt.nz Email: info@rangitikei.govt.nz

Chair

Carolyn Bates

Membership

Lyn Duncan, Jennifer Greener, Pip Hancock, Donna Harris, Belinda Harvey-Larsen, Lynda Hunter, Wendy Wagner His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson, (ex officio)

Councillor Lynne Sheridan and Councillor Dave Wilson

Please Note: Items in this agenda may be subject to amendments or withdrawal at the meeting. It is recommended therefore that items not be reported upon until after adoption by the Council. Reporters who do not attend the meeting are requested to seek confirmation of the agenda material or proceedings of the meeting from the Chief Executive prior to any media reports being filed.

Rangitikei District Council

Marton Community Committee Meeting





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The quorum for the Marton Community Committee is 4 plus an Elected Member.

Council's Standing Orders (adopted 3 November 2016) 10.2 provide: The quorum for Council committees and sub-committees is as for Council, i.e. half the number of members if the number of members (including vacancies) is even or a majority if the number of members is odd.

1 Welcome

2 Public Forum

3 Apologies

4 Members' conflict of interest

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of items on this agenda.

5 Confirmation of order of business and late items

That, taking into account the explanation provided why the item is not on the meeting agenda and why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting, be dealt with as a late item at this meeting.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Marton Community Committee meeting held on 8 February 2017 are attached.

File ref: 3-CC-1-3

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Marton Community Committee meeting held on 8 February 2017 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

7 Chair's Report

A verbal report will be provided at the meeting.

8 Combined meeting / workshop with Council and Community Committees

On Tuesday 7 March 2017 a combined meeting / workshop was held for Council and Community Committee members to discuss the Annual Plan. A verbal report may be made by any Committee members who attended.

9 Council decisions on recommendations from the Committee

There were no recommendations from the Committee to Council.

10 Council responses to queries raised at previous meetings

- Funds have not been released for irrigation equipment at the Marton Community
 Garden as quotes have not yet been received by Council
- An outline of the Marton Community Committee's Small Project scheme pledges and disbursements is attached as an Appendix to the Memorandum in item 17
- Update on BBQ area: the previously allocated Parks Improvement funding was not rolled over and is no longer available. Ms Anne George has recently put in a new application for funding for seating and a BBQ area.

11 Update from the Project Marton Co-ordinator

A verbal report will be provided at the meeting.

12 Update from the Marton Wastewater Advisory Group

The Committee's representative, Ms Lynda Hunter, will provide a verbal report at the meeting.

13 Update on Youth Services

Focus for the past two months has been:

- Establishing a Committee of high school students
- Surveying Rangitikei College students about their preferences for activities at the Youth Zone
- Recruiting volunteers to support activities
- Developing a programme of activities for the school holiday period.

14 Update on place-making initiatives

Mr Athol Sanson, Parks and Reserves Team Leader, noted that there was no surplus paint left over from painting the fence at Wilson Park. Mr Sanson will purchase more paint and will arrange for the painting to be completed when time allows.

15 Update on the Marton Civic Centre/Heritage Precinct project

The Annual Plan consultation process has just closed (31 March 2017). The draft Plan contained options for the proposed development in Marton and Council will have oral submissions on 20 April and deliberations on 27 April.

16 Marton / Council Street Table

Cr Lynne Sheridan will provide a verbal report from the latest two events: 4 March and 1 April 2017.

17 Small projects Grant Scheme update – April 2017

A memorandum is attached.

File ref: 3-CC-1-3

Recommendation

That the memorandum 'Small Projects Grant Scheme Update - April 2017' be received.

18 Current Infrastructure projects/upgrades and other Council activities within the ward

A memorandum is attached.

File ref: 3-CC-1-5

Recommendation

That the memorandum 'Current Infrastructure Projects/Upgrades and other Council Activities within the Ward, March 2017' be received.

19 Stray / feral / nuisance cats

The Committee requested that the report considered by Policy/Planning Committee in August 2016, with an update from Council staff, be brought to the next meeting of the Committee. The report is attached. There are no further updates to this report.

File ref: 3-PY-1

20 Update on town signage

A verbal report will be provided.

21 Geographical review of Census spatial units

A memorandum is attached.

File ref: 1-LTP-4-2

Recommendations

- 1 That the memorandum "Geographical review of Census spatial units" be received.
- That the Committee provides the following feedback on naming of the redefined spatial units for aggregation of Census data from 2018 onwards...

22 Repainting of Memorial Hall and Jubilee Pavilion

The Committee are invited to recommend paint colours for the repainting of the exterior of Memorial Hall and Jubilee Pavilion.

23 Chorus Cabinet Art programme

Chorus run a nationwide programme sponsoring artists to create artworks on their telecommunications cabinets. Artists are paid \$400-\$1000, depending on the size of the cabinet. There are four new cabinets in Marton (two on Wellington Road, one on Hendersons Line and one on Mill Street) and the Committee are encouraged to speak with local artists about this. The point of contact at Chorus is: Jo.Seddon@Chorus.co.nz

24 Late Items

As accepted in item 5.

25 Next Meeting

Wednesday 14 June 2017, 7:00pm

26 Upcoming meetings in 2017

- 9 August
- 11 October
- 13 December

27 Meeting Closed

Attachment 1



Rangitikei District Council

Marton Community Committee Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 8 February 2017 – 7:00 p.m.

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Present: Carolyn Bates (Chair)

Belinda Harvey-Larsen

Lynda Hunter
Wendy Wagner
Cr Lynne Sheridan
Cr Dave Wilson
Pip Hancock
Donna Harris
Lyn Duncan

Jennifer Greener (7.10)

In attendance: Cath Ash, Project Marton

Denise Servante, Strategy and Community Planning Manager

Gillian Bowler, Youth Development Coordinator

1 Presentation by Mr Graham Rolls

Mr Rolls is unwell unable to attend, Cr Wilson will provide the update to the Committee. Concept idea to create some freedom camping spots in Marton. Near Wilson Park, an area out the back of Memorial Hall and the car park by Shelton Pavilion on Totara Street. Stumbling block is access to toilets.

2 Apologies

That the apology for absence from His Worship the Mayor be received.

Cr Wilson/ Ms Harvey Larsen Carried

3 Members' conflict of interest

No conflicts of interest were declared in respect of items on this agenda.

4 Confirmation of order of business and late items

There were no late items on the agenda.

5 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 17/MCC/001 File Ref 3-CC-1-3

That the Minutes of the Marton Community Committee meeting held on 7 December 2016 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Ms Bates/Ms Harris Carried

The Chair requested that amendments are noted in full for future reference.

6 Chair's Report

No report was available to the meeting.

7 Combined meeting / workshop with Council and Community Committees

The Committee noted that there will be a combined meeting / workshop will be held for Council and Community Committee members to discuss the Annual Plan. The meeting will be held in the Bulls Town Hall Supper Room. All members are encouraged to attend. The Chair asked that committee members let the Council staff know if they will be attending for catering purposes.

8 Council decisions on recommendations from the Committee

The Committee noted that Council confirmed the appointment of Ms Lynda Hunter as representative on the Council's Marton Wastewater Advisory Group. (16/MCC/048)

9 Council responses to queries raised at previous meetings

There were no queries raised at the previous meeting.

10 Update from the Project Marton Co-ordinator

Ms Ash gave a verbal report. The Project Marton office has been back at work although not officially open for another week. Planning the year ahead – busy with scheduled events and activities and an election thrown in. Meet the candidates meetings will be held.

Weekly updates/newsletters begun again. Additional copies will be distributed at the COVI Motor Home Show in Auckland in March as part of the District Promotions strategy.

After 5 with Zizi Charida from Community Minds in Sydney is taking place at Mad Toms on 10 February.

11 Update from the Marton Wastewater Advisory Group

The Committee's representative, Ms Lynda Hunter, provided a verbal report at the meeting. There will be a meeting at the end of this month and after each meeting, the Advisory Group will be briefed about what is public information and what is confidential to the Group. Ms Hunter can also ask questions on behalf of the Group.

12 Update on Youth Services

Resolved minute number 17/MCC/002 File Ref 4-EN-12-4

That the memorandum 'Update on Youth Services January 2017' be received.

Ms Bates/Ms Harris Carried

Gillian Bowler was welcomed to the meeting. Ms Bowler has been recently appointed as the temporary Youth Development Coordinator for Marton. Currently running/planning services from the Youth Club, morphing into the Youth Zone, to extend services for young people in the town. It was noted that:

- The activities will build on the ideas identified by young people at last years' Level Up conference
- \$10,000 funding received from Community Partnerships and Action on Alcohol will be used to support a District-wide forum and sporadic activities for youth, including teens

13 Update on place-making initiatives

Resolved minute number 17/MCC/003 File Ref 6-RF-1-19

That the memorandum 'Place-making Marton' be received.

Ms Bates/Ms Harris Carried

It was noted that some members of the original Town Centre Plan Steering Group which undertook some place-making had dropped off the current circulation list for the Place-making group. Council staff will ensure that the current list is updated with the earlier members of the Town Centre Plan Steering Group.

Painting the fence at Wilson Park is still underway. Paint was provided by the Community Committee and Mr Sanson to be asked to ensure that surplus paint is donated to the place-making group so that it stays within the community.

The Chair will circulate Nardia Gower's public contact details so that those who are interested in place-making can contact her.

14 Update on the Marton Civic Centre/Heritage Precinct project

Cr Wilson tabled and spoke to a written update for the Committee.

15 Marton / Council Street Table

Cr Lynne Sheridan provided a verbal report. The most recent street stall had been quiet but important to have a presence that is visible. All Council and Council services information is available. Funding information (next item) will be prepared as a pamphlet to be distributed. Next street table will be 4 March, then 1 April. Volunteers welcome.

16 Grants and Funding information and opening dates

The Committee noted the opportunities for funding available through the Council and detailed in the memorandum "Grants and Funding overview 2017". It was recognised that this is key community information for circulation.

It was further noted that there is an online resource Generosity New Zealand that can be accessed through a library card. The link is http://generosity.org.nz/

17 Small projects Grant Scheme update – January 2017

Resolved minute number 17/MCC/004 File Ref 3-CC-1-3

That the memorandum 'Small Projects Grant Scheme Update - January 2017' be received.

Ms Bates/Ms Duncan Carried

It was noted that nothing had been circulated to the Committee regarding funding for the irrigation schemes: Council staff to double check whether the funding has been released.

Funding had been sought and agreed for a BBQ area and associated furniture through the Parks Upgrade Partnership Fund. The Committee had allocated funding from a previous year from the small projects grant scheme. The Committee was unsure where this project now rested and has asked Mr Sanson to provide an update for the next meeting. It was noted that there may be various options around the provision of BBQs. Ms Bates will liaise between Council and the Committee.

Council staff will provide details of how the Small Project Grants Scheme has been allocated since it was instigated.

18 Current Infrastructure projects/upgrades and other Council activities within the ward

The reports for November 2016 and December 2016/January 2017 were tabled to the meeting.

Purchase of Cobbler Building and repainting of Marton Library to include moveable artwork was noted.

Streetlight outages is a problem that is noted in the reports.

Resolved minute number 17/MCC/005 File Ref

That the memorandum 'Current Infrastructure Projects/Upgrades and other Council Activities in the Marton Ward, November 2016 – January 2017' be received.

Ms Bates/Ms Greener Carried

19 Items for future agenda

Feral/Stray/Nuisance Cats: The Committee requested that the report considered by Policy/Planning Committee in August 2016 with an update from Council staff be brought to the next meeting of the Committee in April 2017.

Update on town signage: Ms Bates reported that she had followed up with Mr Snijders and that he was still working on the survey and alternative concepts. Ms Hunter requested that the Committee bear in mind that the current signs belong to Project Marton and that collaboration/consultation was the key. Ms Bates will ask Mr Snijders to provide an update to the Committee including any proposals that are being canvassed in town.

20 Next Meeting

Wednesday 12 April 2017, 7:00 pm

21 Meeting Closed – 8.27pm

Confirmed/Chair:	 		
Date:			

Attachment 2



MEMORANDUM

TO: Marton Community Committee

FROM: Samantha Kett, Governance Administrator

DATE: 16 March 2017

SUBJECT: Small Projects Grant Scheme Update – April 2017

FILE: 3-CC-1-3

1 Allocation

1.1 The 2016/17 Small Projects Grant Scheme for the Marton Ward is \$3,232.

- 1.2 The allocation of the Small Projects Grant Scheme is for the period 1 July to 30 June each year. At its meeting on 29 February 2016, Council resolved to allow carry-forward from one financial year to the next of up to 100% of the annual allocation for any Committee's Small Projects Grant Fund, with the proviso that this be a specific resolution of the Committee.
- 1.3 At its last meeting for the 2015/16 year the Committee resolved to carry-over \$504.20, giving a total allocation for the 2016/17 year of \$3,736.20.

2 Breakdown

- 2.1 For the 2016/17 year the following amounts have been used by the Committee:
 - \$
- 2.2 For the 2016/17 year the following amounts have been earmarked by the Committee (but unspent):
 - \$250.00 irrigation equipment for the Marton Community Garden.

3 Remaining Budget

3.1 This leaves a remaining budget for the 2016/17 financial year of \$3,486.20.

Samantha Kett Governance Administrator

Appendix 1

Marton Community Committee: Small Projects Grant Scheme

2009	\$0.00	
2010	\$0.00	
2011	\$0.00	
2012	\$63.90	Oil stain for Main St horses
2013	\$60.00	Paint for Main St horses
	\$105.00	Marton Rose Society: 6x peace roses
	\$2,745.00	Restoration of carvings and pergola
	\$627.36	Hanging baskets
	\$500.00	Plaque on rock to commemorate Main St horses
2014	\$400.00	Paint for carvings
	\$384.86	Wilson Park upgrades
	\$301.24	Dingo hire for Wilson Park
	\$1,863.31	Timber for Marton Park
	\$1,519.77	Timber for Wilson Park
	\$168.64	Paint for Wilson Park
	\$803.19	Timber for Wilson Park
2015	\$179.06	Paint for Wilson Park
		Balance of year to Mayor's Flood Relief Fund
	\$1,100.16	Hop scotch pad at Wilson Park
		Marton Town Map at Countdown
2016		Paint and brushes for Wilson Park
	1	Van hire for Marton and District Pipe Band
		Suicide prevention workshops
	\$250.00	Pledged towards irrigation equipment for Community Garden (pending quotes)
2017		

Attachment 3

MEMORANDUM

TO: Marton Community Committee

FROM: Samantha Kett, Governance Administrator

DATE: 16 March 2017

SUBJECT: Current Infrastructure projects/upgrades and other Council activities within the Ward

FILE: 3-CC-1-5



COMMUNITY AND LEISURE ASSE	Feb-17					
Major programmes of work outlined in t	Major programmes of work outlined in the LTP/Annual Plan 2016/17					
Parks and Open Spaces	Design/ Scoping	Progress to date	Progress for this period	Planned for the next two months		
Turf Regeneration in Parks		Centennial Park irrigation installation, and turf renovation was carried out in August.		Fertiliser will be spread on Centennial and Marton Parks.		
Community Buildings	Design/ Scoping	Progress to date	Progress for this period	Planned for the next two months		
Re-Roof Marton Plunket Rooms				Re-assessment will be carried out.		
Re-paint Marton Memorial Hall		Painting specification completed.	Documentation for painting of Marton Memorial Hall has been placed on Tenderlink.	Painting to be completed by end of May.		
Re-paint Jubilee Pavilion at Marton Park	Preliminary work underway - estimate obtained, specification to be finalised. Awaiting confirmation of Heritage colours for paintwork.			Minor maintenance will be carried out prior to painting.		

Replace Ablution Block Roof at Dudding Lake Swimming Pools	Design/ Scoping	Progress to date	This work has been completed. Progress for this	Planned for the next
			period	two months
Fit Solar-Heating at Marton Swim Centre			·	
Chemical Shed at Marton Swim Centre	Order has been issued for this work.	Building Consent has been lodged. Building team have sought clarification from Builder on various items.	Building Consent was issued.	On-site work to commence.
Community Property	Design/ Scoping	Progress to date	Progress for this period	Planned for the next two months
Purchase Cobbler/Davenport/Abraham & Williams Properties as site for Council's Administration and Library Services, and undertake initial Heritage and Development Concept		Purchase of this property has been finalised. Opus was engaged to prepare a heritage assessment and concept development design. They undertook preliminary site investigations in mid-November.		Consultation on the extent of the present buildings to be preserved is being consultated on as part of the 2017/18 Annual Plan process.
Other major programmes of work carrie				
Projects	Design/ Scoping	Progress to date	Progress for this period	Planned for the next two months
Contribute to Multi-Purpose Turf Facilitiy in Marton				
Painting of Marton Library		Painting and signwriting completed. Discussion has been held with Julie Oliver regarding options for		This will be re- addressed in April.

painting the mural on
a medium that will
allow it to be
relocated at a future
date.

ROADING AND FOOTPATHS GROUP OF ACTIVITIES 2016/17				Feb-17
Major programmes of work outlined in the LTP/A	nnual Plan 2016/17			
Pavement Rehabilitation	Route Position Length	Status	Start date	Completion date
Wanganui Road	0-544		Jan-16	Nov-16
	Report on the Wanganu	i Road Project. This proje	ct is now completed	
Marton - Bond Street/Skerman Street (94m)		Completed	Feb-17	Feb-17
Marton - Wanganui Road/Skerman Street (70m)		Completed	Dec-16	Dec-16
Streetlight renewals	Design/ Scoping	Tender/Contract docs	Under construction	Complete
The proposed LED streetlight replacement program will initially target areas in Marton as there are several large streetlight circuits which intermittently suffer from outages due to overloading. Installation of LED's will reduce the connected load and alleviate these issues. Once this stage of the program is completed it is anticipated that the program will continue through to 2018 in other areas of the district as current renewal budgets allow. In 2018 progress will be re-assessed and and any additional that is required may be sought through the 2018 – 2021 NZTA funding cycle		Approx 85% of the LED'S have been installed in the Marton Urban area.		Complete the upgrade to LED's
Footpath Renewals	Design/ Scoping	Tender/Contract docs	Under construction	Complete
Marton – Lower High Street	Design - 100% complete (length 30m)	Contract 1008	completed	Completed May

WATER SUPPLY GROUP	Feb-17				
Major programmes of work outlined in the LTP/Annual Plan 2016/17					
Projects	Design/ Scoping	Tender/Contract docs	Under construction	Complete	
Marton: WTP Seismic assessment of Clarifier & strengthening (\$300k)	Detailed seismic investigation underway.	EOI invited, tender awarded to Calibre	Investigation only		
Marton: Complete replacement of line from Calico Line bore and commence design for replacement of Tutaenui Road falling main from Jeffersons Line to Town (\$748k)	Renew existing 100 mm AC water main down Calico Line towards Nga Tawa School. Upsize to 150 mm to provide fire flows. Broadway water main renewal will now take place in 2016-2017, this budget will be used for that project instead, and Calico Line will instead take place in 2019-2020 as per the Long Term Plan.	Broadway watermain designed and being prepared for tender.			
Major projects Carry- forwards 2015/16	Design/ Scoping	Tender/Contract docs	Under construction	Complete	
Marton: Broadway duplication (\$140k)	Programme was for 2015-2016 ahead of major Roading work; approx. 460 m between High St and Signal St; duplicate existing 150 mm AC on east side with new 150 rnrn on west side. Design only and defer to year 6 or later to align with replacement of AC main. We will now instead renew the main in the Follett to Signal block, upsizing from 150 mm to 200 mm.	Design only - underway			

STORMWATER GROUP	Feb-17			
Major programmes of work	outlined in the LTP/Annual Plan 2016/17			
Projects	Design/ Scoping	Tender/Contract docs	Under construction	Complete
Marton: Hammond Street Stormwater Renewal	Historic flooding at rugby grounds etc.; design work carried over to 2014-2015. Stage 1 of construction, from the Tutaenui Stream to Hair St, was programmed for 2015-2016. Stage 2 follows, from Hair St to the roundabout at the intersection with Broadway. Work must be completed ASAP in 2016-2017 so that Roading can hotmix in the vicinity of the roundabout. Refer to existing brief for further details. Retic network under investigation and design. (est \$225k)	Contract awarded to Blackley Construction 30/4/16	Works programmed to commence late May. Construction Works commenced. Outlet to Tutaenui Stream on hold pending "dry" conditions in accordance with resource consent conditions.	Outlet design complete. Discharge consent granted from Horizons. Stg1 works completed.
Marton: Pukepapa Road Stormwater renewal	Replacement of steel mains from Wilson Pl to Pukepapa Rd.	Design underway		
Marton: Harris Street Stormwater renewal	Section of Armco culvert in poor condition being investigated with a view to lining or replacement.	Design underway		
Marton: Wanganui Road Stornnwater renewal				Work completed in 2015-16

SEWERAGE AND THE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE GROUP OF ACTIVITIES 2016/17				Feb-17
Major programmes of work outlined in the LTP/	Annual Plan 2016/17			
Projects	Design/ Scoping	Tender/Contract docs	Under construction	Complete
Marton: Upgrades or changes to treatment system to improve effluent quality, solids removal etc.	Most work on hold pend	ding results of treatment a	at landfill.	
Marton : Anaerobic pond desludging	Desludging of pond on h	nold until leachate from la	ndfill is no longer discha	arged to Marton.
Other major programmes of work carried out do	uring 2016/17			
Projects	Design/ Scoping	Tender/Contract docs	Under construction	Complete
Marton WWTP - essential renewals prior to full	Works needed to	1) Assets team is		
assessment and drafting of consent application	assist with Consent	responsible for		
(\$302k)	renewal (subject to	consent. 2) Design of		
	successful treatment	road is completed and		
	of leachate and advice	will be started after		
	from Advisory Group) to prepare for consent	Christmas.		
	renewal in 2018.			
	Sucker truck dump site			
	required, to be			
	installed before			
	Christmas.			

Samantha Kett Governance Administrator

Attachment 4



Memorandum

To: Policy/Planning Committee

From: Michael Hodder

Date: 4 August 2016

Subject: Investigation of a policy on feral cats

File: 3-PY-1

At its meeting on 28 July 2016, Council considered the recommendation from the Marton Community Committee to investigate/develop a policy on feral cats.

Regional councils typically have information about feral cats, and how to control them. While pests, and very destructive of birds and native lizards, fish and frogs, control is voluntary. Because of this, having a stricter policy within the Rangitikei is unlikely to be supported by Horizons. That council's information on feral cats, together with that from the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Greater Wellington and Environmental Southland is attached as <u>Appendix 1</u>.

Feral cats typically avoid humans, so complaints about 'feral cats' in urban areas are really about unwanted, stray cats. Wellington City is currently considering mandatory microchipping as a way of distinguishing between domestic and stray cats.

Further investigation and developing a policy would be best founded on knowing what outcome(s) the Committee wished to achieve.

Recommendation

That the memorandum 'Investigation of a policy on feral cats' be received.

Michael Hodder Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager

Appendix 1

Feral Cats

Felis Catus

Feral cats are domestic cats that have gone wild. They often look scruffy and may be very wary of people. Wild cats are widespread throughout New Zealand, including most offshore islands. In many cases, populations have been established by people dumping unwanted pets. They are very territorial animals which have a home range from 30 to 80 hectares. Feral cats are mainly active at night.

Why are Feral Cats a pest?

- It is estimated that wild and pet cats kill up to 100 million birds in New Zealand each year. Many of the victims are natives such as tuis and pigeons.
- Cats also eat lizards and frogs.
- Feral cats can carry tuberculosis with the potential to infect cattle.
- They also carry parasites and toxoplasmosis which causes abortions in sheep and illness in humans.



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Control

Trapping is the best control method for feral cats. They can be difficult to trap as they are naturally cautious and a previous bad experience will make them shy. Because care must be taken to avoid trapping domestic cats, live capture boxes are preferred. Horizons supports the neutering of pet cats to reduce the breeding of cats in the wild should pets later be abandoned.

Horizons provide advice and information to assist the control of these troublesome cats. We also have cage traps available for loan.

Live cage traps or leg hold traps can be used. Both can be purchased from stock and station agents. The main advantage of live capture traps is that if you catch a pet it can be released unharmed. We remind you that the animal should be euthanized in a quick and humane manner. Your local vet may be able to dispose of the animal for you if you are unable to euthanize it yourself.

The Feral Cat is identified in Horizons Animal Pest Management Strategy as a 'Non-Strategy problem animal'. This means that it is an animal which is undesirable, but has not met all the criteria for inclusion as an animal pest. Where values in High Value Conservation Areas (HVCA) are at risk and in other exceptional circumstances these animals may be controlled by Horizons. HVCA's are important areas of native bush and wildlife habitat in the Region.

Felis Catus Linnaeus

Feral cats

Cats were brought to New Zealand by the early European explorers from 1769 onwards, as ships were heavily infested with rats and they were used to help control them. Later, farmers took them from the cities to release them on rabbit-infested farmland which assisted their dispersal into the wild.

Adult feral cats range between 2-5 kg and have a head and body length between 440-514 mm.

Diet

On the mainland, the regular diet of feral cats consists of small mammals (young rabbits) rodents, hares and possums. Common bird species included in the feral cat's diet consist of California quail, starling, yellowhammer, silvereye, fantail and New Zealand pigeon. Along coastal areas cats prey on chicks and eggs of Pied Stilts and Black Stilts. Lizards and invertebrates make up a smaller portion of their diet.

On island situations, birds form a larger part of their diet. Seabirds are a large proportion of birds eaten. Parakeets disappeared from Here Kopare Island soon after cats became established and Kakapo were eaten on Stewart Island. In all areas studied, birds and insects were both present in feral cats diet, depending on available food sources.

Where are they found?

Feral cats are widely distributed throughout all three main islands of New Zealand. Some are fully

feral, while others visit human settlements for food and shelter.

They are also present, or have been present, on at least 25 islands ranging from small (50 ha) to large biologically important reserves such as Raoul, Campbell and Auckland Islands.

Feral cats live in most terrestrial habitats in New Zealand, including sand dune, pasture, tussock, scrub, exotic plantations and native forests from sea level to 3000 metres. In the North and South Islands feral cats generally inhabit areas that harbour rabbits or are close to human habitation.

Status as a pest animal in the Bay of Plenty

Feral cats are a Restricted Pest Animal (refer to the Bay of Plenty Regional Council Regional Pest Management Plan).

Landowners are not required to control feral cats on their property but are encouraged to do so.

Field sign

The most characteristic and obvious signs are scats (droppings). Domestic cats usually bury their scats, but feral cats often deposit them in conspicuous places on tracks or clumps of grass.

The scat usually consists of about 3-6 cm round to elongated segments, which contain matted fur, feathers and bones and is dark in colour. Food remains are not specifically diagnostic as field sign of cats. Small birds are eaten



entirely, except for some body, wing or tail feathers being left. Rodents and young rabbits are usually completely eaten, except sometimes the tail and pieces of skin. Remains of older rabbits often include the stomach and the skin turned inside out over the rabbits head.

Behaviour

Cats are often considered to be solitary animals, but their social organisation is complex. Domestic cats maintain a small core area of their home range as exclusive property, but tolerate other cats in the rest of their areas. Groups of cats usually comprise of several related adult females, their young of both sexes and an adult male whose range includes other groups of females. Young females usually remain in the group and breed there, or leave to establish a new colony elsewhere, they rarely, if ever, join another group. Young males are either driven out or leave from the group at 1-3 years old, as they reach sexual maturity.



Reproduction

Gestation period of a domestic cat averages 65 days with most kittens being born between spring and autumn. Cats may produce two, sometimes three litters per year with litter sizes between 1-10 kittens (the average size is approximately 4). In farmland in the Hawkes Bay region for example, litters consist of 2-5 kittens, of which only 1-2 usually survive. New born kittens remain in dens where born until they weigh about 500 grams (5-6 weeks old), and are usually moved by the mother to a series of temporary sites, staying a few days in each. Growth rate is similar to domestic cats until they reach 500 grams, thereafter the feral kitten growth rate slows.

Significance to the New Zealand environment

Cats have both harmful and beneficial effects on native fauna. On the mainland these are difficult to separate from the effects of other predators (rats, mustelids, man), diseases, destruction and degradation of natural habitat. On islands the effects of cats are more evident. For instance there are historical records of species disappearing from islands after cats were introduced.

When cats have been eradicated from islands, the subsequent changes in the population of surviving species and the successful reintroduction of species that disappeared are indirect evidence of the effects of cats. The beneficial role that cats play is the effect they have on vermin such as rabbits and rodents. A 10-year study of an enclosed population of rabbits proved that cats (and ferrets) reduced rabbits to very low numbers; and take all young rabbits before, or as soon as, they appeared above ground. Rodent populations have also shown significant changes due to the significance of cat numbers

in mainland forests, for example as cat numbers fall, rat numbers increase.

Control in rural areas

Trapping

The use of a Timms possum kill trap is an effective method of controlling feral cats. The entrance to the Timms trap must be modified to accommodate the length of the cat's whiskers. A cat won't put its head through an entrance that its whiskers won't fit through, as this is the width of a cat's body. Modification is a simple matter and requires approximately 25 mm to be removed around the entire opening. By baiting with fish, rabbit or other suitable food that attracts cats, trapping of this nature should be successful. Kill traps are capable of killing domestic as well as feral cats, if using in a rural setting with other houses in close proximity talk to neighbours about your intentions. One options is to set the traps only during night while domestic cats are safely locked

Cage traps can be used in rural areas, especially close to houses. This trap can also be used for possums and when cats are the target, the bait needs to be changed to suit, for example meat or fish. If a domestic cat is caught, it can be released unharmed.

Shooting

The use of a .22 rimfire with telescopic sights is an effective measure against feral cats. Centrefire calibres (for example .22 Hornet, .223 Rem) could be used in areas where long shots are required. Shotguns can be utilised around areas of heavy cover where shots are generally close and moving. Cats can be hunted in day light as well as night, Cat's eyes shine a brilliant green at night in a spotlight beam. Hunting feral cats during day or night should be

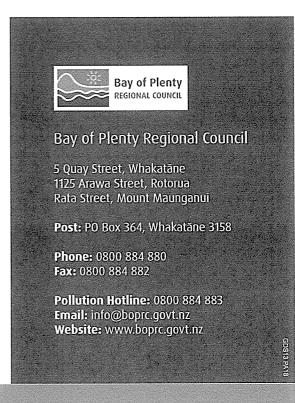
concentrated in areas of available food sources, such as rabbit populations. See rabbit control options handbook for guidance on effective night shooting techniques.

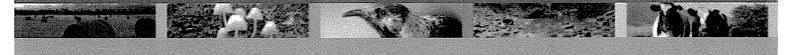
Control in urban areas

Cage or live capture traps

This is the only safe method to catch unwanted cats in an urban environment. The traps must be set in areas frequented by the cats and baited with suitable food. Once a cat is caught it should be disposed of in a suitable manner. Veterinary practitioners, RSPCA officers are all able to humanely put down captured cats and may be able to offer this service.

For more information contact a Bay of Plenty Regional Council Land Management Officer.





Feral and unwanted cats

PEST ANIMALS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

Felis catus

Why are feral and unwanted cats a problem?

Feral cats have been branded as 'the ultimate predators' in New Zealand and have been nominated as among 100 of the "World's Worst" invaders. New Zealand's unique native wildlife is particularly vulnerable to predation by cats. Having evolved without predators, many of our bird species nest on the ground, and are flightless or poor flyers.

Threat to our wildlife

Feral cats:

- kill young and adult birds and occasionally take eggs
- prey on native lizards, fish, frogs and large invertebrates.

Cats are highly efficient predators, and have been known to cause local extinctions of seabird species on islands around the world. Both sea and land birds are at risk, particularly those that nest or feed on or near to the ground. Killing behaviour is independent of hunger. Feral cats will, if the opportunity arises, kill any suitable prey they can, and store the surplus for future use.

Threat to stock, pets and humans

Feral cats are implicated in a small way in the spread of Bovine Tuberculosis, with the potential to infect cattle. They also carry parasites and toxoplasmosis that causes abortions in sheep and illness in humans.

Feral and stray cats can be aggressive towards pet cats. Through fighting they cause severe injuries sometimes resulting in the pet cat having to be put down. Stray cats are likely to interbreed with the un-neutered domestic cat population and may spread infectious diseases.



Cat preying on a tui

How do I know if I have feral or unwanted cats?

The most characteristic and obvious signs are scats (droppings). Domestic cats usually bury their scats, but feral cats often deposit them in conspicuous places on tracks or clumps of grass. The scat usually consists of about 3-6 cm round to elongated segments, which contain matted fur, feathers and bones and is dark in colour.

Feral and unwanted cats are always timid around humans. They are usually short haired, slightly built, with a large head and have very sharp features. Once caught in a cage they will act aggressively, hissing, growling and spraying. Feral and unwanted cats do not meow or purr. This is a trait of contented domestic cats only.

Feral cat in dense bush

How do I control them?

There are two options available for control of feral or unwanted cats, trapping and shooting.

Before you undertake control talk to your neighbours and advise them to keep pets inside or well identified.

Trapping

There are two types of traps, live capture cage traps and kill traps.

Do not use kill traps near residential areas or if there is any risk of catching a domestic pet or farm cat.

Live capture cage traps are the only safe method to catch unwanted cats in an urban environment. Cage traps provide a safety measure, as pets can be released unharmed.

How to use a capture cage trap:

- set the traps in areas frequented by the cats
- bait traps with cat food, fish, rabbit or other meat products.



Traps are best set in areas where cats frequent i.e. near food sources

Feral cats can be difficult to trap as they are naturally cautious. When using cage traps, it is best to fix the door open for two or three nights until the cat is comfortable entering the trap. Then set the trap. Ensure the traps are set between dawn and dusk as cats are more active at night.

Do not attempt to remove a captured feral or unwanted cat from the cage trap alive. They are very aggressive especially once trapped. Do not attempt to touch or pick up a feral or unwanted cat or kitten. They bite and scratch and can spread disease. See a doctor if you get bitten by a feral or unwanted cat.

Captured feral or unwanted cats will need to be humanely put down. Contact your local veterinarian or RSPCA officer. They may be able to offer this service. Check that they will be able to offer this before you begin trapping.

Once trapped, a feral cat must be humanely disposed of. Under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 all traps must be checked at least once every 24 hours.

Traps are available from hardware and farm supply stores. In some areas, Greater Wellington and the Cats Protection League may loan or hire cage traps.

Shooting

Shooting is an effective method of control in rural areas only. Feral cats can be hunted during the day as well as at night. Cat's eyes shine bright green at night in a spotlight beam. For effective hunting of feral and unwanted cats, concentrate in areas where suitable food and shelter is available for them, such as rabbit-prone land and farm sheds.

Categories of cats

While all cats are the one species, *Felis catus*, they fall into different categories. Greater Wellington has assistance or management programmes for each category.

Domestic cats live entirely with humans as 'companion' cats. They rely on humans to provide food, shelter and veterinary care. Their opportunities to breed are largely controlled by humans.

Stray or unwanted cats are un-owned but have some of their basic needs indirectly supplied by humans. Stray cats rely on human populations for some of their food and shelter i.e. farm sheds. Stray cat populations often breed with abandoned domestic cats.

Feral cats are wild animals that have none of their needs provided by humans. They live far from human populations, and survive through hunting their food. Their population size fluctuates independently of humans.

Greater Wellington's assistance and control programmes

Greater Wellington:

- provides financial assistance to domestic cat de-sexing programmes run by the RSPCA and some veterinary clinics
- will work with communities to remove populations of stray or unwanted cats
- carries out feral cat control in areas with high biodiversity value.

Responsible cat ownership

Cats have been domesticated for over 3,000 years. They are spread throughout the world. Their role as a companion animal has long been recognised. In New Zealand, cats are the most popular domestic pets with nearly 50% of households owning at least one cat. Our cat per human ratio is one of the highest in the world.

Domestic cats that are cared for according to 'best practice' are welcome human companions. If these cats become unwanted or feral they develop into a major threat to New Zealand's native bird and reptile species. By following the principles of responsible ownership, the impact of domestic cats on native wildlife can be minimised.

Always spay or neuter your cat

To minimise the number of unwanted or feral cats, all domestic cats should be neutered, even if they are farm cats. De-sexing of both male and female cats is essential. A single un-spayed female cat can produce three litters per year, with an average of four to six kittens per litter.

De-sexing:

- avoids unwanted behaviour such as spraying, yowling and roaming
- is better for the cat's health; males have less chance of being injured in fights and females will have a reduced chance of mammary cancer
- avoids unwanted litters of kittens.

Check with your local vet or SPCA for discounted services.

Never abandon or dump a cat

If you don't want a pet any more or if it has kittens you can't keep, do not abandon them – contact the SPCA or take them to the vet to have them re-homed or put to sleep.

Abandoned cats suffer in the wild; most of them lead a miserable existence. They do not know how to fend for themselves and often starve to death. They also contribute to the stray and feral cat problem.

It is illegal to abandon a cat under Section 29 (g) of the Animal Welfare

Take responsibility - care for your cat

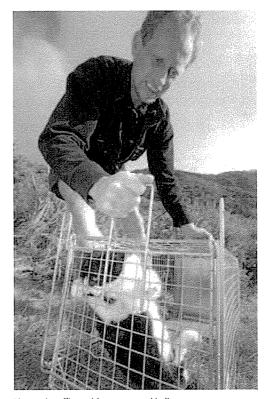
A pet cat is an ongoing commitment. They are likely to live for 12 years or longer. You need to provide appropriate food, shelter and water and ensure regular vaccination and de-worming.

In spite of being fed by humans, cats can range up to a kilometre from

their 'homes' and will prey on wildlife, including native species if available. The predatory instinct is present in all cats. Even well fed domestic animals will hunt if given the oppourtunity. However, when cats are responsibly owned their negative impacts can be minimised.

You can help:

- do not give cats or kittens as gifts. It is a commitment that the new owner needs to make
- keep your cat inside from dusk till dawn
- identify your cat with a collar
- feed your cat indoors and do not leave food out for stray or feral cats.



Biosecurity officer with cat captured in live capture cage trap

Where did feral cats come from?

The house cat, *Felis catus*, was domesticated in the eastern Mediterranean c. 3000 years ago. Cats were introduced to New Zealand in 1770 by ships carrying the early European explorers. Ships were infested with rats and so carried cats to control them. Despite this early introduction, cats did not become feral until at least 50 years later. They were established in the North Island by the 1830s and in the South Island, by the 1860s. When rabbits became a major problem, the feral cat spread increased because cats were bought in from the cities and released to control rabbit infested farmland.



Unwanted cat in cage trap

Description

Feral cats resemble domestic cats in both size and colouration. Coat colours vary from pure black to orange tabby and some resemble the striped dark and pale grey of the true European wild cat. Feral cats commonly revert to black, tabby or tortoiseshell with varying extents of white starting from the belly and breast.

Adult male cats are generally larger than the females. Wild cats can weigh up to five kg. Domesticated cats may be considerably heavier.

Feral cats tend to be solitary and territorial while stray or unwanted cats tend to form colonies. Territory is marked by scent secreted from anal glands and by spraying urine. Feral cats are mainly active at night. Their vision and hearing are acute.

Habitat

Feral cats live in most terrestrial habitats from sea level to the snowline. Habitats include agricultural areas, coast land, tussock, scrub, wetlands, exotic plantations and native forests. They are also present, or have been present, on at least 25 islands ranging from small (50 ha) to large biologically important reserves such as Raoul, Campbell and Auckland Islands.

Food

Their prey includes fish, mice, rats, birds, lizards and rabbits. They prefer live vertebrate prey but animal carcasses may be scavenged and large insects taken occasionally.



Stomach contents of a feral cat showing 13 undigested lizards

Breeding

Cats are sexually mature at one year old. Females usually come on heat in July or August when the males are noisy and wander extensively. Gestation normally takes 65 days. If conditions are favourable they can have three litters per year. Average litters are four to six kittens.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Greater Wellington Biosecurity Pest animals P O Box 40847 Upper Hutt

T 04 526 5327 F 04 526 4171

E pest.animals@gw.govt.nz www.gw.govt.nz Greater Wellington Biosecurity Pest animals P O Box 41

T 06 378 2484

E pest.animals@gw.govt.nz www.gw.govt.nz Cats Protection League P 04 389 9668

Wellington SPCA 305 Mansfield Street Newtown Photography

Cat preying on a tui, biosecurity officer with trap and cat in trap — Rob Suisted www.naturespic.com

Feral cat in dense bush — Rex Williams

Stomach contents – Crown Copyright Department of Conservation Greater Wellington is the promotional name of the Wellington Regional Council

Published August 2006

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Feral cats

Feral cats live independently of humans, and are widely distributed throughout Southland. On Stewart Island, feral cats are the only introduced predator and can have a major impact on native bird populations.

What is it?

Feral cats tend to avoid contact with people and are solitary, nocturnal hunters. They can be found in a wide range of habitats including sand dunes, pastures, scrubland and forests from sea level up to alpine areas.



What is the problem?

Feral cats impact the biodiversity of Southland by preying on native species of birds, reptiles and insects. The predation of native birds can reduce pollination of some native forest species and impact forest regeneration. Feral cats can also spread parasites and diseases including toxoplasmosis and tuberculosis.

How to control it

Control Method	Example
Trapping	Live capture traps (cages and leghold traps), kill traps (timms trap).
Shooting	For rural landowners only a with firearms licence. Most effective at night using a .22 rifle or shotgun.

For more details on control methods, read the feral cats factsheet.

Classification

Feral cats are a suppression animal on mainland Southland. They are too well established to eradicate from the mainland and Stewart Island/Rakiura, so our aim is to suppress their numbers to minimise impacts on the community and the environment. Feral cats are an exclusion animal on all other offshore and inland islands.

Rules

Any public control of feral cats is voluntary. Cage traps should be used to capture feral cats if domestic cats are also on or near the property.

Attachment 5



Memorandum

To: Te Roophu Ahi Kaa

Bulls Community Committee

Hunterville Community Committee

From: Denise Servante

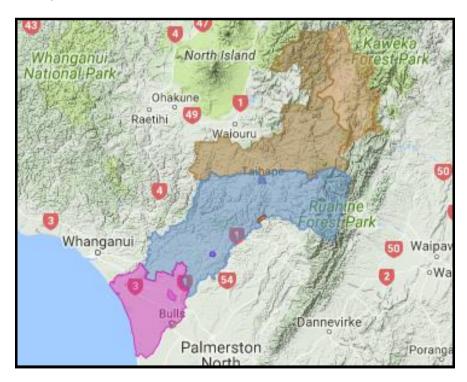
Date: 29 March 2017

Subject: Geographical review of Census spatial units

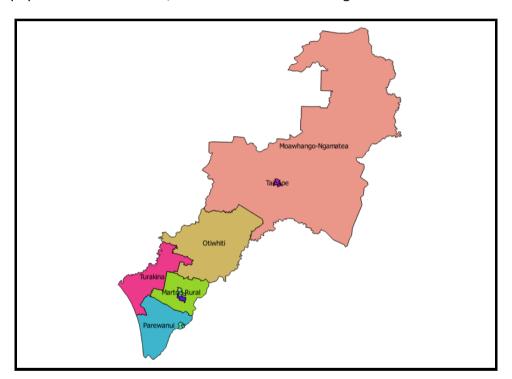
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1 Background

- 1.1 In preparation for the 2018 Census, Statistics New Zealand have been undertaking a geographical review to ensure that their data is captured at a spatial level that is useful to key users, including territorial authorities. As part of this, a meeting and discussion has taken place between staff from Statistics New Zealand and Rangitikei District Council.
- 1.2 Previously, data was available at an area unit level as shown below.



- 1.3 From north to south of the District they are:
 - Ngamatea
 - Moawhango
 - Taihape
 - Mangaweka
 - Pohonui-Porewa
 - Hunterville
 - Marton
 - Lake Alice
 - Ratana Community
 - Koitiata
 - Bulls
- 1.4 It is proposed that the spatial unit used for aggregating data is changed to cover populations of at least 1,000. This is shown in the figure below:



- 1.5 From north to south the proposed new areas are:
 - Moawhango-Ngamatea
 - Taihape
 - Otiwhiti
 - Turakina
 - Marton North
 - Marton South
 - Marton Rural
 - Parewanui
 - Bulls

- 1.6 Statistics New Zealand have requested local input into the naming of the two "new" spatial units. For now they have been named according to an area/locality within them (Parewanui and Otiwhiti).
- 1.7 In addition, new definitions for localities have been generated with the criteria of 200 1000 population and/or > 60 dwellings. The list of localities (towns and settlements is as follows):
 - Marton
 - Bulls
 - Taihape
 - Hunterville
 - Ratana
 - Koitiata
 - Mangaweka
 - Scott's Ferry¹

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the memorandum "Geographical review of Census spatial units" be received.
- 2.2 That the Komiti/Committee provides the following feedback on naming of the redefined spatial units for aggregation of Census data from 2018 onwards

Denise Servante Strategy & Community Planning Manager

¹ Statistics New Zealand staff have agreed to include Scott's Ferry as a locality although it doesn't quite meet the criteria but is currently a meshblock in its own right.