

HAVELOCK NORTH DAMS AND STREAMS



Community newsletter

30 August 2024

Kia ora and welcome to the August 2024 newsletter for the Havelock North dams and streams community.

In this issue we update you on stream work and strategy development and what is coming up.

Work in July 2024

In the last month we have:

- Held our first Programme Steering Advisory Group (more below)
- Finalised contract with the new maintenance contractor: Hawke's Bay Regional Council Works Group
- Undertaken ongoing debris clearance, minor works and design related to several key locations along the Mangarau and Herehere streams
- Undertaken fish passage investigations with NIWA (more below)
- Walked four of the five streams so far, from dam to Karamū Stream to identify, inspect and map structures further to the survey work and provide updated information where maintenance is required from the new maintenance contractor.
- Continued to develop the hydraulic model to inform future planning and design
- Continued to work with landowners on the design of bank repair solutions
- Continued developing stream-wide bank remediation guidance
- Continued to work on options to improve and make more robust stream crossings, and planning for longer term solutions which may involve relocating or undergrounding the crossings
- Continued to develop the Emergency Action Plan and PICs for the dams ready to be tested with our new Project Steering Advisory Group and then the wider community and emergency management teams.
- Continued to develop our Council/ landowner stream responsibility guidance
- Gathered more survey and aerial imagery of the dams for an upcoming annual safety review, and to inform future maintenance and catchment planning
- Lodged dam safety Potential Impact Classification reporting with Regional Council

Work coming up

In the next month to six weeks the team is planning to:

- Have our design partner work on designing the first stage of the 2c area construction

- Complete the upgrade of the stormwater model, and expect to have it in a state whereby it can be used for many purposes, like planning, design and informing scenarios
- Walk the final stream from dam to Karamū Stream to identify, inspect and map structures further to the survey work and provide updated information where maintenance is required from the new maintenance contractor.
- Have the maintenance contractor commence the first quarterly inspections and related physical debris clearance etc.
- Have the maintenance contractor work on clearing outstanding customer enquiries
- Have the arborist undertake condition assessments of trees along the streams, identify which are at risk of possibly falling in or degrading in the future, that will then allow us to prioritise and plan to take action alongside landowners, depending on whether in public or private land
- Test draft stream bank remediation guidance with the Community Advisory Group
- Develop and document historic, current and possible future stream levels of service
- Start master planning work as an extension of the Stormwater Strategy first iteration
- Undertake annual dam safety review inspections, recommendations and reporting
- Develop a planting plan and guidance document to support bank remediation
- Finalise and purchase stream monitoring equipment to be installed at first stage of locations, approximately nine of the 15 locations planned for first stage.

HN Streams and Dams Programme Community Advisory Group

The first Programme Community Advisory Group meeting was held in mid-August.

The purpose of the first meeting was to agree the [terms of reference](#), provide group members with a comprehensive rundown of the background, current state and future work programmes, and the plan for the next couple of years, and to answer their questions.

One of the group's tasks is to consider and provide input into the Emergency Action Plan and associated community notification plan.

Additionally, at this stage, the group will consider the wider bank remediation guidance, and landowner responsibility matrix based on current levels of service.

The group will next meet in early October.



Funding for the programme

We're pleased Hawke's Bay Regional Council has confirmed that it will provide up to \$2.485m for the Havelock North Streams Flood Resilience Project, as agreed [at its 7 August meeting](#).

This fulfils its obligations under a formal co-funding agreement signed between the Crown and Hawke's Bay Regional Council. HDC will lead the delivery of the programme, but HBRC will rate for and deliver this tranche of funding.

We understand that HBRC will be consulting on a targeted rate in its 2025-26 Annual Plan. The remaining funding for operational and non 2c capital expenditure will be funded by Hastings District Council, currently through its general rate: \$430,000 is set aside for operations and \$1,525,000 for capital works in FY 2024/ 2025.

Stream walk

Hastings District Council is working to improve the district's streams for future generations, future fauna, and critically, future weather events.

In August, members of the project team walked the length of the Havelock North streams with Regional Council ecologists and NIWA environmental advisors to investigate fish passage issues where there are waterfalls and weirs.

The team discovered that some species, such as eels, had no issue in travelling the streams and climbing vertical waterfalls. However, given the distance between the streams and the coast, the majority of species entering them are small and young, and cannot pass some of the existing weirs and waterfalls.

The team learnt from NIWA how a waterway should be designed under ideal conditions to create a fish-friendly environment, keeping any drops in elevation to 50mm with the distance between pond drops at least two metres. This allows fish to climb up the streams and creates low turbulent areas for rest.

Throughout this project, existing structures within the streams may be modified or removed to improve the ecological system of the streams. Each structure will be reviewed looking at the modelling to ensure flow capacity is maintained, while also providing grade and bed control to manage sediment movement down the stream, and reduce stream bed scouring.



Dams drone survey

A drone survey was taken of dams in Havelock North (Herehere, Mangarau, Te Kahika, School and Karituwenua), Te Awanga, and Clifton in the last week of August as part of the annual dam safety review, and to support maintenance investigations and future works.

This survey work supports and sits alongside the information gathered from a drone survey completed earlier in the year along the five Havelock North streams. Following this survey, engineers are due to inspect and assess the dams as part of the annual intermediate dam safety review in early September.

This image below shows the areas surveyed.



Work on Joll Rd

Following further heavy rain, a retaining wall on Joll Rd along the Mangarau Stream that was already damaged has continued to worsen. Our maintenance contractor, Regional Council Works Group, quickly responded to the damage and removed the risk of material falling into the stream.

The works mean that the risk of land eroding into the nearby Mangarau Stream is reduced while we continue the design works in advance of this area planning to be tackled as part of Stage 1 construction between Nov 2024 and Apr 2025





TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O HERETAUNGA
HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL

207 Lyndon Road East, Hastings 4122 | Private Bag 9002, Hastings 4156
06 871 5000 | customerservice@hdc.govt.nz | hastingsdc.govt.nz

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