

MEMORANDUM

To: Jamie Cox
From: Hamish Lowe & Angela Lane
Date: 28 February 2017
Subject: Task A3I5 Wairoa River Recreational Use Survey

The attached information is the basis of a recreational survey to gain an understanding of recreational activities in the immediate area around the Wairoa township, with the intention of gaining foresight as to the extent of recreational use of the Wairoa River.

This work corresponds to Task A3I5 - Wairoa River Recreational Use Survey (previously A4I2) of the wastewater consenting package.

The timeframe from scoping to final report are outlined as follows:

- Preparation of survey to begin Dec 2016
- Draft survey for review by client Jan/Feb 2017
- Conduct survey Feb/Mar 2017
- Draft analysis report Mar 2017
- Final report to client Apr 2017.

WAIROA RIVER RECREATIONAL USE SURVEY

Information for Staff/Overview*BACKGROUND*

The Wairoa wastewater treatment system (WWTS) requires re-consenting and a possible upgrade. The existing discharge of treated wastewater into the Wairoa River estuary is one of several discharge options that will need to be considered. Actual and potential relationships between any river or estuary discharge and recreational uses of the river and its margins will need to be taken into account when considering any future estuary discharge or the river.

The purpose of this survey is to characterise the use and relationship of the Wairoa River and its margins (plus estuary) by Wairoa residents for recreational purposes. This will assist in consideration towards the re-consenting of the WWTS.

To avoid participant concern towards recreational use of the Wairoa River and estuary, and additionally to minimise bias of opinions towards the use of the Wairoa River and its margins, this survey has included outdoor recreational activities relating to land based, closed water and open water activities.

METHODOLOGY

The following methodology includes what questions were selected and how the survey will be conducted.

Selection of Questions

To minimise bias towards the recreational activities involving the Wairoa River and its margins, a selection of land based, closed water based and open water based recreational questions were chosen. Additionally, this will minimise any concern that respondents may have regarding the Wairoa River and its margins.

Questions were selected to account for all aspects of recreation within the Wairoa District. The type of activities are as follows:

- Land based
 - Activities such as but not limited to biking, netball, rugby, walking, hunting, relaxing that are within:
 - Parks, Reserves, Domains, outdoor Netball courts;
 - Private Land; and
 - Roads.
- Closed water
 - Activities such as but not limited to swimming that are within a swimming pool, spa pool (not connected to the river or sea).
- Open water
 - Activities such as but not limited to kai gathering, whitebaiting, fishing, surfing, swimming, boating, water skiing, Waka Ama that are on or in the:
 - Wairoa River (total wet width of river);
 - Whakamahi and Ngamotu Lagoons (up to the edge of the river);
 - River mouth/estuary (covers the area not included as lagoon or river); and
 - Sea (water body on the seaward side of the Wairoa River bar).

These three (3) groups form the base of five main questions to cover:

- The type of outdoor recreational activities that are participated in;

- What outdoor recreational clubs' participants belong to? (i.e. Anglers, Fishing, Pony Club, Ski club, Waka Ama, Yachting);
- Where participants undertake outdoor recreational activities;
- How often participants partake in outdoor recreational activities; and
- The value placed on the recreational environment.

These questions have been set to answer the purpose, that is, to characterise the type, and frequency of use with which the Wairoa River and its margins are receiving from local residents.

Selecting Participants

This survey will aim to sample 10% of the 4,000 residents in Wairoa¹. Participants will be interviewed via a door-knocking exercise. Each household will complete one survey, all occupants living at the address will be included in this survey. This is to minimise bias away from the one person who answers the door. Additionally, having all members of a household included in the survey will decrease the amount of door-knocking needed to reach the 10% target.

The number of houses selected will be based on each house having four occupants. To account for the 10% target, this equates to 100 households.

Households will be selected at random, firstly based on street name, then street number. For example, 20 streets will be selected and five (5) households will be selected per street, equating to 100 households in total.

RESOURCING

Undertaking Survey

This survey involves obtaining information on the participation in outdoor recreational activities of approximately 400 people. For this exercise to be completed within a reasonable timeframe it would be advisable to use a group of interviewers to visit houses and undertake individual surveys.

To encourage interviewers to assist with this exercise, a monetary contribution should be made. A local group (e.g. YROA YNOT, Waka Ama) could benefit from this, whereby the monies will contribute towards fundraising for their club. Using a local well-known club to undertake the surveying could also encourage locals to be involved in this survey rather than decline to answer.

Analysis and Reporting of Outcomes

Is it proposed that on completion of the survey, all questionnaires will be forwarded to Lowe Environmental Impact (LEI). These answered surveys will then be compiled and summarised by LEI to provide an indication to the frequency and type of use that is occurring within and around the boundaries of the Wairoa River, estuary and local coastal environment. This summary will act as an initial step towards a more detailed investigation into the use of the Wairoa River by the locals and what effect, if any, that the Wairoa WWTS discharge could be having on the health and safety of recreational users now and more importantly for any future discharge into the estuary. This survey will additionally form as a resource for understanding

¹ This survey will only include residents within the Wairoa community and will not include outdoor recreational users from further afield.

the assimilative capacity of the Wairoa River, estuary and ocean upon discharge of municipal waste at its current location and what restrictions may need to be applied or adhered to when the public are frequenting these areas.

Information for Respondents

Outdoor recreational activities are an important aspect of the Wairoa community, whether it be for collection of kaimoana, fitness or pleasure. Maintaining and enhancing Wairoa's recreational options is important for the community's health and wellbeing.

The following Outdoor Recreational Survey has been prepared by the Wairoa District Council to assist with understanding the type and frequency of outdoor recreational activities that occur within and around the Wairoa community.

This survey is aimed at an individual household's involvement with outdoor recreational activities within the Wairoa township. Your participation in this survey will be greatly appreciated and used to assist with future improvements of recreational areas within the Wairoa District.

Your household's use of recreational areas within and around Wairoa will give an understanding to the value that is placed on land and water recreational areas and the importance of Council keeping them maintained.

Questions have been selected to account for all aspects of recreation within the District:

- Land based
 - Activities such as but not limited to biking, netball, rugby, walking, hunting, relaxing that are within:
 - Parks, Reserves, Domains, outdoor Netball courts;
 - Private Land; and
 - Roads.
- Closed water
 - Activities such as but not limited to swimming that are within a swimming pool, spa pool (not connected to the river or sea)
- Open water
 - Activities such as but not limited to kai gathering, whitebaiting, fishing, surfing, swimming, boating, water skiing, Waka Ama that are on or in the:
 - Wairoa River (total wet width of river);
 - Whakamahi and Ngamotu Lagoons (up to the edge of the river);
 - River mouth/estuary (covers the area not included as lagoon or river); and
 - Sea (water body on the seaward side of the Wairoa River bar).

The five main questions include:

- The type of outdoor recreational activities that your household participates in;
- What outdoor recreational clubs' participants in your household belong to? (i.e. Anglers, Fishing, Pony Club, Ski club, Waka Ama, Yachting);
- Where participants in your household undertake outdoor recreational activities;
- How often participants in your household partake in outdoor recreational activities; and
- The value placed on the recreational environment.

Thank you for your contribution towards this survey.

Questionnaire as Follows:

1. How many people normally live in your house? (circle one)

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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2. What are their ages?

Age	Number of People
0 – 18 years old	
19 – 35 years old	
36 – 65 years old	
>65 years old	

3. Within your household, how many people are involved in outdoor recreation within and around Wairoa? (circle one)

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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4. Of those involved in outdoor recreation, what are their ages?

Age	Number of People
0 – 18 years old	
19 – 35 years old	
36 – 65 years old	
>65 years old	

5. What are the numbers in your house that get involved in the following?

Activity	Number of People
Land Based (e.g. biking, netball, rugby, walking, hunting, relaxing)	
Closed Water Based (e.g. swimming pool, spa pool) not connected to the river or sea	
Open Water Based (e.g. fishing, boating or swimming in the Wairoa River, Lagoons, Sea)	

6. What clubs do people in your household belong to within and around Wairoa (e.g. Anglers, Deer Stalkers, Fishing, Pony Club, Ski club, Waka Ama, Yachting)? (list as many as possible)

List Recreational Clubs Participants Belong To	
1.	7.
2.	8.
3.	9.
4.	10.
5.	11.
6.	12.

7. What area do you use for recreation:
 a. If on land where? (enter number of people per location)

LOCATION	Number of People
Adjacent to the Sea	
Adjacent to the Wairoa River Mouth	
Adjacent to the Whakamahi and/or Ngamotu Lagoon	
Adjacent to the Wairoa River (downstream from Wairoa Bridge)	
Adjacent to the Wairoa River (upstream from Wairoa Bridge)	
Other areas away from the Wairoa River, Whakamahi and Ngamotu Lagoons, Sea	

- b. If on the water, what and where? (enter number of people per location/activity)

ACTIVITY	Sea	Wairoa River Mouth	Whakamahi and/or Ngamotu Lagoon	Wairoa River (downstream from Wairoa Bridge)	Wairoa River (upstream from Wairoa Bridge)
Fishing/ Gathering/ Whitebaiting					
Swimming/ Surfing					
Fishing					
Boating/ Waka Ama/ Yachting					
Water Skiing/ Tubing					

8. How often does your house take part in outdoor activities? (tick relevant boxes)
 a. On the land

Seasons	Nil	Daily	Weekly	Monthly
Summer (Dec-Feb)				
Autumn (Mar-May)				
Winter (Jun-Aug)				
Spring (Sep-Nov)				

b. On the water

Seasons	Nil	Daily	Weekly	Monthly
Summer (Dec-Feb)				
Autumn (Mar-May)				
Winter (Jun-Aug)				
Spring (Sep-Nov)				

9. List what is important to make recreational activities safe and healthy?

Activity	
Land Based (e.g. biking, netball, rugby, walking, hunting, relaxing)	
Closed Water Based (e.g. swimming pool, spa pool) not connected to the river or sea	
Open Water Based (e.g. fishing, boating or swimming in the Wairoa River, Lagoons, Sea)	