

# Rural Recovery Update

13 JULY 2017

## Task Force Green

Properties at Waimana and Tāneatua have been the focus for Task Force Green teams during June.

A week was spent on clearing debris and reinstating fence lines on farms owned by Kevin and Bernie Clark. The land had been hit hard by the flood and the paddocks had taken a long time to dry out – hence the delay in Task Force teams being able to get in and help.

Large fallen trees on the farms still need attention.

A second team worked on making the Tāneatua Netball Courts usable again. The thick layer of silt that remained after the courts were flooded took the Task Force Green team three days to remove.



Task Force Green teams continue to work through scheduled jobs and are happy to be receiving positive feedback from people who have been assisted. Any farmers needing help to deal with flood damage can ring 0800 327 646 to have their job listed.

## MPI Update

Applications have now closed for the \$200,000 Bay of Plenty Primary Sector Flood Recovery Grant and all grants – of either \$2000, \$5000 or \$10,000 – have been distributed.

Fully completed applications that met the eligibility criteria were assessed by a Technical Panel, which made recommendations to the Assessment Panel, which in turn, made the final grant decisions.

All assistance for flood-affected people and businesses is listed on Whakatāne District Council's website: [www.whakatane.govt.nz/residents/whakatane-district-recovery-project/recovery-support-and-funding-assistance](http://www.whakatane.govt.nz/residents/whakatane-district-recovery-project/recovery-support-and-funding-assistance).

To talk about your options, including assistance available from Work and Income and Inland Revenue, as well as other forms of support, please talk to your local Rural Support Trust on 0800 787254 (0800 RURAL HELP) [www.rural-support.org.nz](http://www.rural-support.org.nz)



## Rural BBQs

Earlier this month the Rural Team held a series of 'Rural BBQs' and workshops to bring farmers together for a bit of R & R. Events were held in Galatea, Tāneatua and Nukuhou.

There are plans for more, so keep an eye out for information at [www.dairynz.co.nz/events](http://www.dairynz.co.nz/events)

## Bay of Plenty Regional Council Rivers and Drainage

The Rivers and Drainage team has completed work on three sites in Rūātōki and is now working on the following high priority areas of road damage and river erosion:

- Troutbeck Road river erosion repair on the Whirinaki River.
- Thornton Beach Road stopbank repair on the Rangitāiki River.
- Mangamate and Ruarepauare streams (Galatea) gravel extraction and desilting.
- Whakatāne River erosion repair at Simpson's, Ruatōki water intake and Waikirikiri Marae.
- There is a new site that has just started on the Tauranga River (Falkner's)

## Biosecurity



Be aware of the biosecurity risks that may arise when buying in feed, bringing in contractor machinery and when stock return to your property. Make sure they are all 'clean'. Monitor affected land for new weeds and grasses in the coming spring/summer. The Bay of Plenty Regional Council biosecurity team can provide an advisory service; if anything of concern is detected give them a call on 0800 884 880.

# Erosion Assessment Project

A project to quantify the extent of erosion, on sections of the Whakatāne, Waimana, Rangitāiki, Whirinaki and Horomanga Rivers, is nearing completion.

Aerial photography, taken in the days immediately following the April events, compared with file images, shows the significant levels of erosion and silting across river catchments, such as the example right.

Understanding the extent of the damage will provide statistics useful in the recovery process.



*Before and after views of a section of the Whirinaki River, near Murupara.*

## Archaeology – wāhi tapu and kōiwi

Please be aware that current repair and maintenance work, and shifting of earth, may uncover or come across archaeology sites. If you come across anything that you think may be an archaeological item, or the site of repair work is a known wāhi tapu, please get in contact with your local Iwi, or Rachel Darmody, Heritage NZ Regional Archaeologist.

## Rural Support (Bay of Plenty)

The Bay of Plenty Rural Support Trust assists farming families in times of need. The Trust is independent and confidential, and you can ask for advice to help understand your options. Contact RST on 0800 787 254 or visit [www.rural-support.org.nz](http://www.rural-support.org.nz)

- Stress and worry are normal responses to an abnormal event
- Identify your priorities for today – knock-off tasks one at a time
- You are not alone – there are people and organisations who are here to help
- Talk to trusted advisors
- Look after yourself, your family and neighbours
- Eat well, exercise, get some sleep, get off the farm
- Talk to your GP about managing stress, or in an emergency call 111

  
**RuralSupport**  
BAY OF PLENTY



## Upcoming events:

### LADIES MORNING TEAS

The Rural Support Trust is providing an opportunity for rural women to take a few hours out in each other's company this month; listen to a guest speaker; have a cuppa and enjoy delicious food you don't have to prepare! Please, let others know and come along.



- **Waimana Hall**  
Tuesday 18 July, 10am – 1pm
- **Red Barn Café, Thornton**  
Thursday 20 July, 10am – 1pm
- **Mou Mou Café, Tāneatua**  
Tuesday 25 July, 10am – 1pm
- **Galatea Memorial Club**  
Thursday 27 July, 10am – 1pm