

<b>R E P O R T</b>	<b>TO</b>	PAEROA RURAL DRAINAGE DISTRICT COMMITTEE
	<b>FROM</b>	DRAINAGE MANAGER
	<b>FILE REF</b>	45.700.999 – RE289515.rtf
	<b>DATE</b>	18 SEPTEMBER 2007
	<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>DRAINAGE MANAGER REPORT</b>

**RECOMMENDATION**

THAT The report be received

This report covers the period to the end of June 2007.

**1.0 OPERATIONS**

1.1 Spraying

Drains sprayed in the period are shown in the attached tables.

1.2 Mechanical Cleaning

Drains machine cleaned in the period are shown in the attached tables.

1.3 Maintenance/Fencing/Culverts (45.499.999)

No major items of maintenance were undertaken in the period.

1.4 Pump Operation

The summary of pump hour's operation for the 2006-07 year to date are attached.

Nine man-hours have been spent on pump screen cleaning in the period.

1.5 Floodgate Maintenance

No significant works undertaken.

1.6 Stopbank Maintenance

No stopbank maintenance works were undertaken

**2.0 BY LAW APPROVALS GRANTED**

No culvert approvals were granted in the period.

### 3.0 **SUBDIVISIONS COMMENTED ON**

Subdivisions were commented on in the period were as follows:

R Robinson, Robinson Road, Komata  
MF Ofsoske, Ryall Road, Paeroa

In both cases an easement was required to connect the severed lot to a Council drain.

### 4.0 **GENERAL**

#### 4.1 Drainage districts tour 29 June 2007

Members may wish to comment on aspects of the tour of the three constituent drainage districts.

#### 4.2 Report on July Storm Events

Although the date of these events is after the end of the reporting period, it is topical to present what was reported to Council in mid August. The Council report is reproduced for this meeting.

##### 10-11 July

A severe weather warning was issued by the Met Service for the northern North Island.

The warning issued at 8.38pm on Monday 9 July was for 'Heavy rain and damaging winds for the north of the North Island'. Specific warnings for the Coromandel Peninsula and the Hauraki Plains included 120-150mm rain, and severe gales of up to 120km/h.

Updated forecasts continued in the same vein until warnings were uplifted on Wednesday evening.

In the event, the wind warnings were largely correct, but rainfall amounts were considerably less than predicted.

The severe winds caused widespread power supply disruptions, with no power available to Scheme floodpumps from around 6pm Tuesday to late afternoon on Thursday.

Fortunately the catchment rainfalls were light, and no significant flows were recorded in any rivers. This allowed good floodgate action at most sites to deal with the rainfall received in the Council's drainage areas. The region's diesel powered pumps were generally available, although there were some problems experienced with Mill Road and Alexanders.

Rainfall was recorded as follows: (mm, at 9am the following day)

Site	Tue 10	Wed 11
Waihi	38	2
Waitekauri	65	15
Te Aroha	50	2
Paeroa	76	10
Ngatea	49	0
Maukoro Landing	18	2
Kaihere	12	1

The rainfall generally fell in the 15-18 hours from 6pm Tuesday to 12 noon Wednesday.

The highest wind gust recorded at Paeroa Racecourse was 113km/h, between 9 and 10pm on Tuesday.

The Tararu tide recorder high tides ranged from 1.3 to 1.5m over the period.

Significant short term ponding occurred in areas dependant on drainage pumping, ie Hopai Road and Rawerawe West in the WPDD, and Tee Head in EPDD, and parts of the Alexander, Stocks and Rotokohu catchments.

Council deployed standby generators to power water supply and sewer treatment pump in the Paeroa and Plains areas.

Overall it was fortunate that there was no significant rainfall to discharge at the time when power supply was interrupted, however provision for standby generator connection is currently being investigated for the critical Council owned drainage pumps in the WPDD, and, in conjunction with EW, for the critical grid powered flood pumps in all Council's drainage districts.

#### 29 July – 3 August

Further heavy rainfall warnings were issued by MetService for the Coromandel Ranges for the weekend of 28 and 29 July. Falls were recorded generally as forecast, with 60-150mm in the ranges, and 50-60mm in the southern catchments of the Waihou and Piako Rivers on Sunday.

The ranges rainfall caused sharp rises in the Ohinemuri and Kauaeranga Rivers, with two peaks in the Karangahake Gorge reaching alarm levels of 15m, 1m below the SH2 closure level. South of the district the Waihou reached 10.2m at Te Aroha, approximately an annual event level, and raised Tirohia to 6.5m, and Puke Bridge to 3.0m at high tide. The Piako system rose relatively rapidly to 6.7m at Paeroa-Tahuna Road, and maintained 2.7m at Maukoro Landing for several days. Tide levels were around ordinary spring tide (1.5-1.6m RL).

These freshes in the main rivers denied gravity floodgate action for several days, requiring a considerable period of pumping.

All drainage district pumps ran during of the event. Some outages due to blown pole fuses and pumps requiring resetting were experienced, but the general availability of power was good.

Pump hours for July 2007 are tabled below.

<b>Drainage District</b>	<b>July hours</b>	<b>% of Annual total</b>	<b>% of 2006-07 total</b>
WPDD	4,935	59	93
EPDD	2,605	45	78
PRDD	963	59	260
Paeroa Urban	129	74	416
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,632</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>96</b>

Thus the total hours run in July is just short of the total for all pumps for the 2006-07 year, and over half the annual average total. (Note that the early August pump running which dealt with the rainfall late in July, has raised the total hours to 84% of the annual average total.)

All drainage networks performed well, with little weed problem. Staff were rostered on pump monitoring duties, with assistance from contracted labour to cover all shifts. Preliminary estimates of labour and plant deployment on maintaining weed screens are less than 450 man-hours, and less than 5 machine hours. A further 140 man-hours were spent on weed screen cleaning in August.

Ian McLeod  
Drainage Manager