

From: Don Paterson <nat.opc@xtra.co.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2018 2:54 PM
To: 'Pim De Monchy' <pim.demonchy@boprc.govt.nz>
Cc: 'aileen.alty@westernbay.govt.nz' <aileen.alty@westernbay.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: Maketu Estuary Kaituna River interaction potential

Hi Pim

When you had mentioned full diversion of the Kaituna River through Maketu Estuary to the Maketu Community Board last evening you had implied to them that it was my recommendation which was I believe a cheap shot. I have never recommended full diversion as you are aware. I would have called point of order had I speaking rights.

Another cheap shot was you stating that I could not find an engineer to support my recommendations. Alan Willoughby had done so for nothing in the Appeal Court before he died. If you put up the money I will purchase engineering advice with it in the same way that you have with public money. We are supposed to be living in a democracy with a level playing field, not a dictatorship which is what your public consultation quoted had been witnessed to be while you told public meetings what you were going to do.

Your justification used of money spent so far on purchasing a water right from 3 puppets for continuing towards partial diversion through Fords Twin Cuts that can never ever be a solution to Maketu Estuary woes, is I believe a very weak argument. What is the point of continuing in the wrong direction if you are never going to reach your goal, which is the re-establishment of Maketu Estuary ecosystem food chains in connection with the Kaituna River and deepening the lower Maketu Estuary and stabilising the Maketu Estuary Spit without risk of flooding Maketu Road, or adjacent farmland, or houses?

The Maketu Community have long asked Council to divert the Kaituna River back through Maketu Estuary. I have described how that can be done without risk of flooding. I request that you abandon your present expensive plan which can never be a complete success, and which will require ongoing management of a gate with a potential to fail and until you have modelled my recommendations please. Note if you use the same engineers influenced by the same planner then you are bound to get the same answer.

Maketu Community Board had last evening refused to accept my petition that showed hundreds of locals do support my views, because some of the community whom they represent had demonstrated on the petition with emotion and without the same level of education as all but one of the Community Board members, that they believe very strongly in what I have written. Maketu Community Board are not I believe in a position to judge others while they have their heads in the sand and do not acknowledge the opinions of the community that they are supposed to be representing.

I wonder why it is Pim that you do not want to make the best possible job of Maketu Estuary restoration that you can make in support of ecosystem production?

Kindest regards

Don Paterson
CLM; HbT SRF SNTR

Chairman, History Focus Group
Kaituna River & Maketu Estuary Management Strategy
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From: Don Paterson <nat.opc@xtra.co.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2018 10:27 AM
To: 'Pim De Monchy' <pim.demonchy@boprc.govt.nz>
Subject: Maketu Estuary Kaituna River interaction potential

Hi Pim

Further to our 7 March discussion while Te Wano Walters was driven away to his grave there is nothing that he wanted more than to see the original pipi beds returned adjacent to Whakaue Marae. He had expressed that to me over 30 years. Your proposed 20% return of Kaituna River flow to Maketu Estuary from an unnatural position could not achieve this. How many older Maori are going to have to die frustrated at Pakeha destroying the natural environment and ecosystems like Maketu Estuary that had used to support coastal fisheries of which Maori are now the major quota holders?

We have recently witnessed the ocean overtop Maketu Road independent of Kaituna River flow. We can expect to see this occur more often with predicted sea level rise. We can see photographic evidence of the Maketu Spit foreshore retreating over the last 30 years because of sea level rise and it is now approximately 10 meters back from where I was photographing it then.

BOPRC does not want to open the Ford Road stop bank to allow floods to re-enter Maketu Estuary to recreate what had been there originally, I believe because of fear of flooding Maketu Village and adjacent farmland. Maketu Estuary does though need Kaituna River floods back occasionally to rebuild the ecosystem that was lost to the region when Kaituna River flow was taken from Maketu Estuary.

Your proposed and unnecessarily expensive diversion works are not able to remedy the situation, nor are they able to return the pre-existing ecosystem food chains through Maketu Estuary which is what the public have been wanting and asking of Council for half a century. Your proposal could again I believe be seen to be another waste of public funds as has everything that Council has spent to date on attempted restoration capital works to try and remedy the situation since the construction of the unsuccessful Fords Twin Cuts.

A low-cost and far more practical long-term solution could be to excavate a v-drain wetland on Council land adjacent to the Kaituna Wetland Reserve to create tuna (eel), galaxius (whitebait) and bully habitat to seed the fishery and so rebuild ecosystem commercial and recreational fisheries production, and to use the excavated fill to raise Maketu Road and the stop bank around Maketu Village.

You could then ideally remove Ford Road Stop-bank completely to allow floods to occasionally recreate an original Maketu Estuary ecosystem without cost and without further expense. Floods would carry silt and could raise maritime marshland between the existing Kaituna River Course and Papahikahawai Island. Maritime marshland that would regrow within the upper Maketu Estuary would trap Kaituna River flood sediment and so could potentially and gradually increase in height and so could continue to provide ideal galaxius spawning habitat that is only covered on a spring tide. As the sea level rises in the immediate future so could the height of the maritime marsh beds.

Alternatively, you could dissect Ford Road stop-bank with numerous large culverts that would maintain recreational access to the sea at Te Tumu, or alternatively Ford Road access to the beach could be via Papahikahawai Island. The Te Tumu exit would continue to carry most of the Kaituna River flow and so would eliminate any risk of flooding Maketu Village or low-lying current farmland.

The mole could be moved down the beach towards Maketu to allow floods to exit to the sea more easily. To clarify that statement for you I ask you to imagine a bath full of water on a lawn above a bank as representing lower Kaituna River water during a flood and close to a lower ocean and emptying slowly through the plug hole which in this instance would be Te Tumu exit. Now imagine the mole is moved down the beach towards the western end of Papahikahawai Island and the Fords Road stop bank has been removed or breached by culverts. The effect would be like tipping the bath sideways and the Kaituna River flood would be quickly dissipated onto the ocean at Te Tumu and at Maketu with both entrances able to expand through sand.

Drainage of farmland within the lower Kaituna River catchment including land surrounding Maketu Estuary could be improved as flood waters were more quickly able to reach the ocean from the lower Kaituna River. This is a low cost, low maintenance, maximum potential fisheries production increase solution to a drawn-out saga that your staff have been unable or unwilling to correct because I believe of misplaced loyalties to individual friendships.

This is an easy to complete low cost solution opportunity with maximum potential benefits just waiting for Councillors to take it. I believe that it would be criminal for Councillors not to take the opportunity being presented to them for the good of the region and with an ability to demonstrate national and international fisheries food production increase potential.

It could cost comparatively little to put Maketu Estuary ecosystem back how it was and to stop-bank Maketu Village and to raise Maketu Road. Both of which are works that are

inevitably going to have to occur anyway due to sea level rise. Natural Kaituna River floods interacting with the ocean could then recreate original ecosystem production and maintenance without cost.

Council could now please protect the natural environment from agrichemical poisons destroying life as they are scientifically proven to do: Reference Don Huber, World Authority on glyphosate toxicity. Kahawai currently being caught at the Kaituna River mouth have been witnessed lately and for months to be predominately more thin than usual and some are carrying bite marks. I wonder if agrochemicals approved for use by Council and by Government have been destroying ecosystem reproduction and so reducing their food supply chain and making the fish in the immediate area hungrier than they otherwise would be?

Kindest regards

Don Paterson
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