

# Clive River dredging consent withdrawal

## Kia ora to our Hawke's Bay community

**The Regional Council has decided to withdraw its resource consent application to discharge sediment (silt) to the coast as part of dredging the Clive River bed.**

We have done this in response to community concern about the effects on our coastal environment. We want to move to a better environmental solution.

We know how important this river is to tangata whenua, the community, and water sports users and we are committed to upholding our community's aspirations for a more sustainable dredging alternative.

We need to dredge because over time sediment builds up in the river and at low tide this makes it challenging to carry out water sports – rowing, waka ama, water-skiing. We are also planning to remove the tubeworm infestations around the bridge at the same time to improve the health of the river.

The proposed dredging operation was similar to what we've done previously, including the use of a cutter-section dredge and discharge of sediment to the foreshore and seabed near the river mouth. This approach is lower in cost than a land based disposal and could be accommodated within existing budgets.

However, this time achieving a consent was going to be more difficult than last time and is now not universally supported.

It has become clear that as we had signalled for the future, land based disposal is now the community's preferred approach. A land-based solution will achieve a better outcome for the environment but will cost more.

We have listened to the community and will fast track the move to a land based disposal of sediment and get on with the necessary planning and budgeting. However, this will take

more time and so we ask for patience while we work through a better solution for our coastal environment.

We look forward to consulting with the community further about the land based disposal approach.

**Ngā mihi nui,  
Hawke's Bay Regional Council  
Chief Executive, James Palmer**

  
**HAWKES BAY**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O TE MATAU-A-MĀUI

