

Our environment

September update

What we've been up to

It's been a busy month at Hawke's Bay Regional Council.



Aerial survey - until the end of October we're surveying the riparian margins of our waterways in the region. It's a way for us to build a picture of the condition of our riparian areas as we work to improve the freshwater quality in our region.



Flood protection - we're working to protect our community from climate change now and in the future. One of our projects is reviewing the flood protection 'assets' beside the Tūtaekurī, Ngaruroro and Clive rivers. Over the next two years you'll see us around these rivers upgrading flood protection assets.



Have your say - send us your submission on our proposed representation arrangements ahead of the 2022 elections. The Regional Council proposes to change the current configuration of nine councillors and five constituencies, by adding a further two Māori constituencies. What do you think? See hbrc.govt.nz, search: #representation



Join our amazing team - right now, we are looking for hardworking, competent people in a diverse range of roles! If you are passionate about the environment, and want to make a difference in our community, then check out our current vacancies at hbrc.govt.nz, search: #hbrcjobs

Rates penalty deferred in response to recent lockdown

We sent annual rates invoices out to ratepayers in August. The invoice says that the due date was 20 September with a penalty to apply to unpaid balances from 21 September this year. In response to the recent lockdown, we deferred the penalty until 1 November 2021 to help people experiencing financial pressure and uncertainty.

Any questions? We're here to help. Phone our rates service desk on 06 835 9200 (8am-5pm) or email rates@hbrc.govt.nz

Pay your rates by direct debit

You can pay your rates bill by direct debit each month, instead of one lump sum. To work out how much it will cost you each month, and sign up, go to hbrc.govt.nz, search: #ratesdd



Kia ora koutou

Spring has sprung. With longer, warmer days, you can get out and enjoy our beautiful natural environment. Luckily, we have the freedom to do so.

A walk, jog, or bike along a Regional Council stopbank gives a great elevated view of what's around. These impressive assets also protect us during big floods.

Nature thrives at this time of year, a time when we work hard to control plant and animal pests - such as feral cats - to protect our natural habitat and wildlife. Native birds like the banded dotterel lay their eggs and raise chicks on our braided river systems, but introduced rats, stoats, hedgehogs and wild cats each pillage dotterel nests. This bird only lives here, and when it's gone, it will be gone forever.

We each need to do our bit along with the Regional Council, to protect our natural environment for future generations to enjoy as we do.

Ngā mihi Rick Barker
Chair, Hawke's Bay Regional Council



Shorebirds are thriving

Our river bird survey results are encouraging. Shorebirds continue to thrive on the Tukituki, Ngaruroro, and Tūtaekurī rivers. Healthy functioning biodiversity is one of our priorities and we make sure our flood protection work around riverbeds avoids disturbing any birds.

