Keeping safe on the water

Read about our new summer campaign inside

Remember, it takes three to ski – always have an observer when waterskiing

In this issue:

Keeping safe in and on the water Page 3
Learn the ropes Page 4
Rena Recovery update Pages 8 and 9
A very big year Pages 10 and 11
Kokako sing again in Ōtānewainuku forest

Spotting three kokako chicks in Ōtānewainuku forest near Te Puke is as good as an Olympic gold medal says Phil Wells, Chair of the Ōtānewainuku Kiwi Trust, known as the OK Trust.

Bay of Plenty Regional Council’s Environmental Enhancement Fund has contributed to the kokako restoration project.

“This is cause for serious jubilation for volunteers and the Ōtānewainuku Kiwi Trust. We are right in the midst of preparing for our annual blitz on possums and rats in the forest, and the news that our kokako population is having breeding success makes all the hard work worthwhile,” Phil said.

Kokako have been living at Ōtānewainuku, which is on public conservation land south of Oropi, on the outskirts of Tauranga since birds were relocated there by the OK Trust in conjunction with Department of Conservation (DOC) and tangata whenua. The forest is now home to 18 adult kokako, and visitors walking the forest’s several walking tracks can enjoy their song. The birds sometimes choose to sing during the day, though the best song is usually heard very early in the morning.

OK Trust volunteers monitor kokako and kiwi populations in the forest, trap stoats year round, maintain trap and bait station lines, provide educational talks and guided walks to the community and keep pest numbers low. Both kiwi and kokako are iconic species that have been translocated from other parts of the North Island into Ōtānewainuku.

Since the OK Trust was formed in 2002 thousands of volunteer hours have gone into restoring the forest and its wildlife.

How to contact your regional councillors

Tauranga

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Chairman
07 578 0001

Philip Sherry
Deputy Chairman
07 575 7868

Douglas Owens
0274 477 699

Paula Thompson
07 576 1373

Tiipene Marr
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Raewyn Bennett
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Kōhi

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Malcolm Whitaker
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Chairman’s message

After a wet and windy winter, we can finally celebrate spring in the Bay of Plenty and start getting outdoors to enjoy the best of the Bay.

For many people that means getting out in boats on our many beautiful beaches, rivers or on Rotorua’s lakes. In this issue of Backyard we’re launching a new campaign to keep people safe and ensure everyone can enjoy the water together, whether they are jetskiing, boating, swimming, surfing, fishing or just paddling in the shallows with the kids.

It’s everyone’s responsibility to stay safe in the water, whatever they are doing. Know the rules for safe boating, check your gear every time you head out onto the water and make sure everyone is prepared with lifejackets and instructions.

If we ever needed an example of how things can go badly wrong on the water, the grounding of the MV Rena one year ago this month is it. A year later, it’s gratifying to see how our region is coming back from the worst environmental disaster our country has experienced. Read inside how the anniversary of the grounding is being marked.

The Rena grounding had a major effect on the Bay of Plenty Regional Council’s work in the past year, but I am pleased to report that our Annual Report shows we ended the year with a surplus, with most projects achieved despite the demands of Rena on our staff and finances.

Enjoy the spring weather and make the most of the outdoors.

John Cronin
Chairman
Jet-ski safety campaign launches

If you enjoy getting out on the water the cartoon character on the cover of this issue of Backyard is likely to become a familiar sight as part of a summer campaign aimed at jet-ski safety.

As the holidays approach, jet-skis are being dusted off in preparation for some summer fun and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council wants to remind everyone to take extra care when out on the water.

The Council’s Harbour Masters and volunteers will be out and about this summer spreading the word about safe use of jet-skis.

There are more jet-skis on our waterways now and the number of incidents, accidents and near misses have also been on the increase, particularly at Mount Maunganui and on the lakes around Rotorua. Last year there was a jet-ski fatality on Lake Ōkāreka.

We want you to enjoy your jet-ski but to do so safely, without putting yourself or others in danger. Know the rules and learn how to handle your jet-ski. If you’re a novice, take extra care until you become more skilled.

The Bay of Plenty is a great place to spend summer but it gets busy on the water so always be aware of others, look after yourself and your mates and make this summer a memorable one – for the right reasons.

Follow these simple jet-ski rules:

- You must slow to 5 knots within 200m of shore or 50m of other vessels and water users.
- If towing anything or anyone behind your jet-ski you must have an observer on board.
- Wear a life jacket so that if something does happen and you end up in the water, you’ll be safe and seen.

What’s a Harbour Master?

The Harbour Masters are the people who manage navigation safety in the region.

This means they’re the ones who make sure the region’s navigable waterways are kept safe – whether that means ensuring people are obeying the Navigation Safety Bylaws, alerting people to any hazards in the water and also making sure any navigation safety markers are working and kept maintained.

They’re assisted by Maritime Officers in their work.

Harbour Masters also have an important role in oil spill and navigation incident response – when the Rena hit Astrolabe Reef a year ago at 2am, our Regional Harbour Master was one of the first to board the vessel and assess the situation.

There’s a lot of water our Harbour Masters have to keep an eye on – it’s not only the area from the beach to 12 nautical miles offshore – it also includes all the rivers, lakes and harbours in the region.

Keeping safe on the water – it’s everyone’s job

If you’re someone who likes to 'get out on the water for the day', then the Bay of Plenty is certainly the place for you!

With a coastline that stretches from Homunga Bay north of Waihi Beach in the west, to Lottin Point near Cape Runaway in the east, a day on the ocean is a popular pastime with many people.

If you’re a freshwater fisher, then you might enjoy our eight major rivers or one of the 12 lakes in the region. And don’t forget the two major harbours and five large estuaries.

All that water adds up to a lot of boats, jetskis, kayaks, waders and contikis. And there are the divers, swimmers and surfers who also enjoy our region’s beaches and waterways.

With such a wide range of people using our waterways for a wide range of activities, it’s important that everyone has the opportunity to enjoy them safely.

That’s why there are a number of people at the Regional Council and other groups and organisations that we work with whose main focus is on making sure that happens. At the Regional Council that includes our Harbour Masters, the laboratory staff who check water samples and our officers who help manage the use of our lakes and harbours.
Tips for the fishing season opening

The region’s lakes provide some of the country’s best freshwater fishing experiences New Zealand can offer. And in many of the region’s waterways, 1 October marked the start of the trout fishing season.

- Make sure you’ve got an appropriate licence for where you’re fishing – visit www.fishandgame.org.nz to find out more.
- Stop the spread. If you’re taking your boat and trailer, or other fishing gear between lakes, make sure you clean it thoroughly and check for any lake weed after you leave one lake and before you enter another. Don’t help the hitchhikers.
- If you’re planning a day out on the lake, don’t drink and boat. Alcohol and boating don’t mix.

Learn the ropes before you hit the ramps

Don’t get caught out - get up to speed before you leave home! Bay of Plenty Regional Council has a number of free resources available to you to help you make the most of your day on the water.

First up is our key points bylaw booklet – a must for any skipper in the Bay.

If you’re a regular user of our harbours or the Rotorua lakes, then check out our harbour and lake guides. With a map on one side highlighting features to be aware of, and a summary of the rules and regulations that are relevant to each area on the other, they’re useful to have in the boat.

To get a copy of any of the above, visit our website www.boprc.govt.nz > water > navigation safety and download a copy, email us on info@boprc.govt.nz or call us on 0800 884 880.

As well as our website, other good information can be found on Maritime New Zealand’s website www.maritime.govt.nz and the Coastguard website www.coastguard.co.nz

Coastguard also run courses that you can do in the evenings or even home study courses that you can do at your own pace at home.

Did you know

On the old sailing ships, there was no GPS or other way to measure speed or distance. The sailors measured their speed by throwing a “log” or triangle of wood into the water with a piece of rope tied to it. They would time it using an hourglass and when the hourglass sand ran out, they would stop the rope and measure how much rope had been fed out. The rope was tied with knots at regular intervals, to make it easy to measure how much rope was used. The sailors just counted how many knots had been fed out – and that gave them their speed – in knots.

Don’t forget about those below the water

As well as enjoying a day on the water, many of us like to spend time below the surface exploring to see what’s in our lakes and ocean.

Whether you’re a diver or a boatie, make sure you know the signals to look out for to keep you and your crew safe.

Top tips for divers:

- Always fly a dive or alpha flag from your boat when you’re diving
- Have a dedicated boat person to keep an eye out for your divers
- If you’re diving from the shore, you should tow a float with a dive flag on it
- Avoid diving in ski access lanes; shipping lanes; or reserved areas
- Beware of the strong currents in the harbour, especially at the two entrances

For more detailed information about designated no boat zones, water ski areas or passive recreation areas, read the Navigation Safety Bylaw. You can download a copy at www.boprc.govt.nz > knowledge centre > bylaws > Navigation Safety Bylaw
Getting the boat ready for summer fun!

Labour Weekend is just around the corner, and it’s the time when many of us get the cobwebs off the boat and trailer in anticipation of the warmer days ahead.

Tauranga Harbour Master Jennifer Roberts has some pointers for what you need to check before you hit the water after your boat’s been out of action during winter.

Check your battery

If you’ve ever had your car sitting for a couple of weeks while you’ve been away on holiday, you may have experienced the dreaded flat battery. When the problem is sitting on dry land it’s not such an issue. But imagine yourself after a day’s fishing, ready to head in with your catch, and not being able to start the motor. Remember that your radio, depth finder and any other electrics on board will drain a battery quickly if it hasn’t had a proper charge recently.

Check for corrosion

Salt water and moisture are invasive, and adversely affect any metal touched. Anti-corrosion sprays work well, but a “spanner check” on all controls and mechanical and electrical connections will uncover many problems. Liberal use of waterproof grease will keep items working and free from corrosion.

(Safely) get rid of old fuel

If you’ve got old fuel that you’ve had in storage during winter, it’s best to get rid of it and start fresh.

Familiarise yourself with how everything works

You may have spent hours reading up on how that new radio you bought last summer works, but how much do you remember beyond turning it on and off? In an emergency you don’t want to have to waste time reading the manual. Give everything a test run before you really need it.

Check your lifejackets

Are they still in good condition or has the dog used them as a chew toy during winter?

Check your equipment

Flares and fire extinguishers have expiry dates – are they still current? What about other equipment on board that uses batteries? Do they still work or do you need to replace them?

Harbour Wardens

Throughout the year the harbour masters in Rotorua, Tauranga and Whakatâne co-ordinate a team of volunteer wardens who help to educate boaties and other water users.

The wardens spend time on the boat ramps and beaches, chatting to people and helping everyone understand the rules that apply to the area.

If you want to help keep the harbours, lakes and rivers safer this summer, you might like to consider becoming a volunteer warden. Training is given to all wardens on how to approach people and get the boating safety message across.

If you’d like to help this summer, contact Bay of Plenty Regional Council on 0800 884 880.

Enjoy a day on the lake

The Rotorua lakes are enjoyed by many groups and organisations.

Did you know that sometimes parts of the lake may be closed or their use restricted while events are held?

You can get all the latest information on our website, including more about the difference between a lake closure and lake use.

Visit www.boprc.govt.nz > environment
Before you leave

Have a day on the water planned? Make sure you’re prepared should the worst occur. One incredibly simple thing you can do is the Two Minute Form. It takes just two minutes!

Write down the following information, and make sure someone knows that you’ve left it available for them before you leave (putting it on the fridge in a prominent place is a great idea):

- [ ] Date
- [ ] Leaving time
- [ ] Leaving from
- [ ] Going to
- [ ] Return time
- [ ] No later than
- [ ] Number of people

Extra information that could be useful includes your car registration (if you’re leaving the car and trailer at a carpark), cell phone numbers of those on board and the boat/vessel name.

Boating safety

Stay safe on the water this summer.

Some activities are not permitted on Lake Ōkataina, but are allowed on the other Rotorua lakes. These include waterskiing, wakeboarding, ski biscuiting and jet-skiing.

### Crossword

**Across**

1. Magnetic navigation aid
2. White light that shines forward over 225 degree arc
3. Stops small boat sinking
4. Shoreline to leeward of a boat
5. International VHF radio distress frequency
6. Abbreviation for lifejacket
7. Interior wall in a boat
8. Word used on marine radio to indicate distress
9. Emergency signal of three short; three long; three short
10. Word used on marine radio to indicate distress
11. Word used on marine radio to indicate distress
12. Essential to wear when crossing a river bar
13. Colour of navigation light shown by kayak at night
14. Increases your chance of being seen on a ship’s radar
15. Responsible for safety of boat and all on board
16. Height of boat’s deck above the water
17. Measurement of speed at sea
18. Report sent by radio to Coastguard before departure
19. Measurement of speed at sea
20. Maximum boat speed in knots within 200m of the shore
21. How many people does it take to water ski?
22. Side to keep red beacons when entering harbour
23. Correct side of narrow channel
24. Vertical movement of water
25. Up and down movement of a boat
26. One of the colours of an Isolated Danger marker
27. How many people does it take to water ski?
28. Colour of navigation light shown by kayak at night
29. One of the colours of an Isolated Danger marker

**Down**

1. White light that shines forward over 225 degree arc
2. White light that shines forward over 225 degree arc
3. Stops small boat sinking
4. Shoreline to leeward of a boat
5. Used to measure atmospheric pressure
6. Used to measure atmospheric pressure
7. Introductory Coastguard boating education course
8. Used to measure atmospheric pressure
9. Protractor printed on a chart
8. Word used on marine radio to indicate distress
9. Protractor printed on a chart
10. Word used on marine radio to indicate distress
11. Word used on marine radio to indicate distress
12. Essential to wear when crossing a river bar
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**Answers on page 10**

By Jennifer Roberts, Harbour Master Bay of Plenty

**Backyard feature - Keeping safe on the water**
Big lakes, big oceans, big swells

There’s sometimes a mistaken idea that because a lake is land-locked and not subject to the same tidal conditions as the ocean, it’s a safer place to take the family for a day out.

Rotorua Harbour Master Pererika Makiha says whether you’re headed out to sea or on a lake, people still need to take the same precautions to ensure their safety.

Pererika says all it takes is a bit of wind and the swell in the Rotorua lakes or on one of the harbours can be just as large as out at sea.

“That’s why it’s really important that people make use of as many tools as they’re able to ensure the safety of themselves and their crew, before they head out on the water,” Pererika says.

“For example, don’t just rely on a quick check out the window to find out what the weather’s doing – listen into the Coastguard channel for the full marine forecast or look it up online. Listen to what others are saying about the conditions. And when you know, use it to inform your actions; don’t ignore what you’re hearing, no matter how much you were looking forward to going out.”

Pererika says depending on what your plans are for the day, there are also resources on the Bay of Plenty Regional Council website which people can use to help ensure they’re making the best decision.

Monitoring buoys on Lakes Rotoehu, Rotoloti, Rotorua and Tarawera provide readings of wind speed, what the air temperature is and even the temperature at various depths of the lake. The coastal wavebuoy – located 13 km off Pāpāmoa Beach – records wave height, wave direction and water temperature.

To view the live monitoring buoy information on our website visit www.boprc.govt.nz > live monitoring

The three person sport

Waterskiing – at first glance, it looks like a solo sport. But it’s not, because you can’t ski without someone to drive the boat. But that’s only two you say – where’s the third person?

Eastern Bay of Plenty Harbour Master Brian Spake says the third addition to your waterski team is the observer.

“Many people don’t realise that you’re legally obligated to have a person on the vessel that’s doing the towing who’s designated as an observer,” Brian says.

“It’s just not possible for the skipper of the boat to be aware of everything that’s going on in front of them and behind them, so the third team member has a really important role.”

Brian says the region’s lakes and harbours also have designated waterski access lanes and reserved areas – before you hit the water make sure you’ve checked them out.

Many people don’t realise that you’re legally obligated to have a person on the vessel that’s doing the towing who’s designated as an observer

“Our harbour and lake guides clearly show where these areas are, so pick up a copy from our offices or download them from our website www.boprc.govt.nz“.
Rena – One year on

Friday 5 October is one year since the grounding of the MV Rena on Astrolabe Reef.

One year on we want to acknowledge what our community has been through and provide an update of where things are today with operations, restoration and people in the community.

Bay of Plenty Regional Council continues to be involved in many aspects of response and recovery including: Harbour Master duties, coordinating volunteers, oil spill response operations, environmental monitoring, resource management and supporting the Long-Term Environmental Recovery Plan.

Salvage Update:

- Operations at the wreck site have resumed with Resolve Salvage and Fire working to cut and remove pieces of the bow section of the wreck.
- Braemar Howells continues to collect debris from the seabed and along the coastline.
- The Regional Council is managing oil spill response. If you see any oil on the beach call the Regional Council Pollution Prevention Hotline on 0800 884 883.
- The owners and insurer are currently investigating options for dealing with the remaining sections of the wreck.

How far do you think we have come in getting things back to the way they were?

I think we have got a long way to go, we are just waiting to hear what they are going to do with the wreck.

Matahihira Wikerepa, Patuwai ki Motu

There is very little oil coming up now and it’s actually energised us to do some environmental surveying of our own.

Elaine Tapsell, Kaitiaki, Maketu

It could be said we are roughly 90% back to normal because of the 10% drop in commercial accommodation visitors. Some operators are still hurting though.

Max Mason, Chamber of Commerce, Tauranga
The Rena Recovery team is fast expanding with a number of partners coming on board to support long-term monitoring and research.

We are looking forward to welcoming postgraduate students to Rena Recovery who will complete a range of studies during the summer to help us better understand the impact the grounding has had on the Bay of Plenty environment.

One year on, monitoring is well underway while we continue to be wary of the potential for further impacts from the wreck. We have built strong relationships with local iwi, and the Te Mauri Moana Tertiary Partnership will soon have results of the winter round of sampling from along the coastline.

I would like to personally thank iwi, scientists and the local community who continue to support our work and join us on this journey to recovery.

We look forward to keeping you updated with the work that we do.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Taylor
Rena Recovery Manager

Rena numbers

The size of the Rena oil spill was approximately 350 tonnes. The top 10 oil spills in maritime history are all more than 100,000 tonnes in size.

More than $215 million has been spent by owners and insurers so far. This has been one of the most expensive salvage and clean-up operations in international maritime history.

Approximately 1,300 tonnes of heavy fuel oil was recovered from on board the Rena during response operations.

365 oiled little blue penguins were cleaned and returned to the wild.

As at 27 September, 1003 of the 1368 containers from the Rena have been recovered.

100 volunteer beach clean-up events had been carried out by the fourth week of the response, with more than 8,000 people registering to help. Nearly 1,000 tonnes of oily waste was recovered.

100

1,300

1003

365

1,300

www.renarecovery.org.nz

Rena Recovery update

We want to keep you informed

Join our e-newsletter mailing list and receive the latest updates by email about Rena Recovery.

To sign up go to our website www.renarecovery.org.nz or email us at info@renarecovery.org.nz.

Don’t forget to join our Facebook page to keep up to date.

www.facebook/renarecovery

www.renarecovery.org.nz
Our Annual Report

A very big year!

We’ve just released our Annual Report, with details about the work we’ve done during the past year and how we’ve funded it.

We’ve certainly had some unexpected challenges during the past year!

The MV Rena grounding in October affected the entire region, but it also rallied both our Regional Council staff and the whole community to "muck-in" on the clean-up. And despite the increased workload and changes to priorities, we’ve still delivered on what we said we would.

This includes major projects, such as developing and adopting a new Ten Year Plan 2012-2022, adopting decisions on the proposed Regional Policy Statement and progressing our major programmes for Rotorua Lakes and Tauranga Harbour, as well as our day-to-day activities such as consenting and monitoring.

We’ve produced both a summary and full Annual Report this year, and they’re on our website www.boprc.govt.nz. If you’d like to read hard copies, call us on 0800 884 880.

Improving Rotorua’s air

We’re implementing measures to improve air quality in Rotorua, which has the worst air quality in the North Island.

In May this year the ‘Point of Sale’ rule came into force, requiring home buyers and sellers to remove or decommission wood or coal burners that are not clean air-approved before a property is sold. In March we continued our ‘Good Wood’ campaign to promote early and correct wood storage and raise awareness of the importance of burning dry wood.

We’ve also continued our clean heat Hot Swap scheme, helping homeowners to convert to clean heat appliances with an interest-free loan, with 336 conversions last financial year.

Protecting Rotorua lakes

We’ve made considerable progress in protecting and restoring Rotorua lakes this year.

This included research, monitoring and on-the-ground measures, as well as policy development and stakeholder consultation.

The overall aim is to improve the health of the lakes, using short-term measures including alum dosing, phosphorous locking and de-nitrification operations to remove nutrients, while looking for long-term solutions, such as land use and land management changes.

Lake Rotoehu – at its healthiest in 20 years

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Lake Rotoehu – at its healthiest in 20 years

Our achievements include:

- Land management and land use change policies, and provision in our Ten Year Plan for rates remission to encourage forestry and bush.
- Annual lake health reporting in December 2011 showed stable water quality at Rotoiti, Ōkareka, Ōkataina and Rerewhakaaitu, and improvements at Rotorua, Rotoehu, Rerewhakaaitu, Rotomā and Titikakaka compared to 2010 results. Lake Rotoehu is the healthiest it’s been for nearly two decades.
- Working with the community on a revised Strategy for the Lakes, including a public workshop and an art and storytelling competition for youngsters, and ‘Café au Lakes’ discussions, the first step towards developing a Lake Tarawera Action Plan.
- A study showing Rotorua businesses, iwi, lakeside communities and recreational bodies strongly support our lake weed control operations.
- Alum dosing at Lake Ōkaro to deal with a toxic blue-green algal bloom.
- Positive news from Lake Ōkāreka, where nutrient reduction targets to improve water quality look likely to have been met, thanks to valuable input from the community.
- Environment Court approval to operate Ōkere Gates at Lake Rotoiti and Ōhau Weir at Lake Rotorua.

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- Land management and land use change policies, and provision in our Ten Year Plan for rates remission to encourage forestry and bush.
- Annual lake health reporting in December 2011 showed stable water quality at Rotoiti, Ōkareka, Ōkataina and Rerewhakaaitu, and improvements at Rotorua, Rotoehu, Rerewhakaaitu, Rotomā and Titikakaka compared to 2010 results. Lake Rotoehu is the healthiest it’s been for nearly two decades.
- Working with the community on a revised Strategy for the Lakes, including a public workshop and an art and storytelling competition for youngsters, and ‘Café au Lakes’ discussions, the first step towards developing a Lake Tarawera Action Plan.
- A study showing Rotorua businesses, iwi, lakeside communities and recreational bodies strongly support our lake weed control operations.
- Alum dosing at Lake Ōkaro to deal with a toxic blue-green algal bloom.
- Positive news from Lake Ōkāreka, where nutrient reduction targets to improve water quality look likely to have been met, thanks to valuable input from the community.
- Environment Court approval to operate Ōkere Gates at Lake Rotoiti and Ōhau Weir at Lake Rotorua.
Buses break more records

It’s been another record-breaking year for public transport. During the year:
- Rotorua bus service use was 23 percent higher than the previous year;
- Rural bus service use was 15 percent higher; and
- Tauranga passenger transport use was 11 percent higher.

More trips were added to the Te Puke - Tauranga commuter route in November, with an unprecedented 65 percent increase in patronage from 2010.

Planning for the future

We’ve achieved a number of important planning goals last financial year.

Our Ten Year Plan, which sets Council’s high-level direction for the next 10 years, was adopted in June, on schedule - a major achievement considering disruption from the Rena grounding.

Work continued on the Proposed Regional Policy Statement (RPS), which provides an overview of the region’s significant resource management issues, and sets out policies and methods to help us manage them. A total of 183 submissions and 57 further submissions were received and 145 submitters heard in Council offices and at Whakaeue Marae at Maketu.

Decisions on the Coastal Environment and Water Quality and Land Use provisions were released in March, and the other 10 topic areas were adopted in June.

After extensive consultation a new Regional Pest Management Plan outlining management of pests in the Bay of Plenty for the next five years was approved in July last year.

The Regional Land Transport Strategy 2011 - 2041 (RLTS) was adopted in November, taking a long-term view of the issues facing the region’s transport system and setting a direction for the next 30 years. Road safety is a key principle underlying all network improvements, with a strong and on-going focus on economic growth and productivity.

We also adopted the Regional Public Transport Plan (RPPT) in April, detailing how we will achieve an affordable, integrated, safe, responsive and sustainable land transport system.

How we did financially

Here are the areas where we spent funds last year

- Regional Leadership: $1.65m
- Natural Environment: $27.56m
- Sustainable Development and Infrastructure: $16.4m
- Corporate Services: $36.5m

Our high performing region

We reviewed and updated the three-year-old Bay of Connections economic development strategy this year to ensure it remains current in a changing economic climate.

Earlier this year the Bay was ranked second to top performing region in economic development in New Zealand in 2011, according to a report from Business and Economic Research Ltd, and the Bay of Connections strategy has been critical to this success.

Work continues on energy, aquaculture, forestry, transport and logistics sector strategies, and new strategies are being developed for information and communication technology, and Māori economic development and land use sectors.
Funds for community projects

The Regional Council’s Environmental Enhancement Fund has made grants to a wide range of volunteer groups across the region working on projects to improve the Bay of Plenty.

### Large projects:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kaokaooa 386 Ahu Whenua Trust</td>
<td>To complete track design work, mark and clear the track and design information panels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ngāti Ruahine Manahaki Whenua</td>
<td>Restoration and maintenance of Waimapu wetland, river and streams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canoe Slalom New Zealand</td>
<td>Further develop Tarawera River for canoe slalom and kayaking - weed eradication and native planting along river banks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maketu Ongatoro Wetland Society Inc</td>
<td>Revegetate Ford Road and Maketu Road roadside verges with native plants - Stage 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aongate Forest Restoration Trust</td>
<td>Pest animal control in more than 300 hectares in Kaimai-Mamaku Conservation Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Te Hui Amorangi ki Te Manawa o Te Wheke</td>
<td>Remove canopy and ground cover of exotic trees and weeds along riparian margins of lower Waingaehe Stream, revegetate with indigenous vegetation - Stage 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merivale School</td>
<td>Create an Interactive Native Garden Trail - sensory, beach, estuary and bush gardens on unused school land at Merivale School - Stage 1 - Sensory Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society</td>
<td>Forest restoration and pest animal control over 720 hectares in Aongate Forest near Tauranga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ngāti Rongo Farm Trust</td>
<td>Re-afforest margins of Ōhinemataroa River adjacent to Ngāti Rongo Farm, Rūātoki</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whānau Enterprise Development Trust</td>
<td>Extend previous projects - Poukura Native Plant Nursery, Poukura Wetland and Lagoon, pathway and infrastructure between plant nursery and school</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Projects under $10,000:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Huirua Block Ahu Whenua Trust</td>
<td>Restore cultural and ecological values of spring and wetlands on the property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amand Trust Restoration Trust</td>
<td>Restore retired pasture with native vegetation and enhance existing stand of native trees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends of Summerhill / Summerhill Recreation Farms</td>
<td>Improve and extend walking and mountain bike trail between Pāpāmoa Park and Summerhill Recreation Farm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Tutu Eco-Sanctuary Trust</td>
<td>Replant in three sites where exotic pine and poplar were removed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ōpōtiki Community Theatre Trust</td>
<td>Upgrade Nibble Nook area of foyer in De Luxe Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whirinaki Concessionaires Pest Control Group</td>
<td>Enhance existing pest control work in Whirinaki area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lions Grove TECT Park Committee</td>
<td>Plant trees to help save and protect our environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ngāti Marukukere (tia) Marae Hapū</td>
<td>Incorporate educational learning with action to improve water quality in Awolapu Lagoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whakatāne Intermediate School</td>
<td>Re-afforest margins of Ōhinemataroa River adjacent to Ngāti Rongo Farm, Rūātoki</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ōmokoroa Golf Club Incorporated</td>
<td>Improve quality of water going into the harbour, habitats for wildlife and public education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galatea Reserve Management Committee</td>
<td>Retire and plant an area adjacent to rugby field into native plants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest &amp; Bird Te Puke Branch</td>
<td>Protect and restore breeding habitats of native New Zealand dotterel western end of Pukehina sandspit.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### He Mātāpuna Akoranga ā Hāwea Vercoe – Hawea Vercoe Commemoration Fund projects:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Waitaha Kohanga Reo</td>
<td>Extend and revegetate existing garden at Waitaha Kohanga Reo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kura Toitu o Te Whātū Nui-a-Toi</td>
<td>Develop Ngā hua a Tāne programme - establishing water quality and research programme based on Whirinaki catchment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information about the fund visit www.boprc.govt.nz/eef