Starting a community conversation

This is the first issue of ICMP News, where we will be updating Wellingtonians about how we plan to improve our coastal water quality. We will be focusing on reducing the adverse effects of stormwater and wastewater on our beaches and harbours. This means we will be looking at how our land uses and infrastructure affect Wellington’s waters.

Let us know what you think

If you have any questions about stormwater and wastewater discharge consent-related activities or feedback on our newsletter, please contact us:
Email: info@wellingtonwater.co.nz (please add “ICMP News” in the subject line)
Additional contact details are on the back page.
Web: www.wellingtonwater.co.nz

What is wastewater?

Wastewater is water that has been used in homes (kitchen, bathroom and laundry wastes) as well as shops, offices and other buildings. It includes water used by industries and other large operations such as hospitals and hotels. It flows through pipes to a treatment plant where it is treated before being discharged into the environment.

What is stormwater?

Stormwater is rainwater that runs off impervious surfaces such as roofs, roads and car parks. This then flows directly into waterways or is channeled into stormwater pipes, which eventually discharge to the coast.

Want to stay in touch and get involved?
Get on our newsletter email list: info@wellingtonwater.co.nz
What is an ICMP?
An integrated catchment management plan (ICMP) is a plan for the sustainable management of fresh and coastal waters and ecosystems. ICMPs integrate scientific and technical information with legislative requirements and community aspirations. The map on the left shows Wellington’s main catchment boundaries.

Two Stages
In Stage 1 of the ICMP process, we collected information about the catchments shown in the map. In Stage 2 we will work with Wellington City communities to prepare detailed management plans for these catchments.

Key outcomes - Stage 1
1. We assessed the types, sources and loads of sediment and key contaminants in stormwater.
2. We divided Wellington city into eight catchments based on the characteristics of their shared coastal waters and recreational uses.
3. We identified five priority catchments for which we will develop Stage 2 ICMPs by 2018. These are: Lambton Harbour; Evans Bay; Island Bay/Houghton Bay; Lyall Bay and South-east Coast (numbered 1 to 5 on the map, left).
4. We will prepare ICMPs for the remaining three catchments (Owhiro Bay, Kaiwharawhara and Ngauranga) at a later date, when we can align this work with the regional plan that Greater Wellington Regional Council is developing and the Ministry for the Environment’s National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.

What’s in the next issue?
Update on the initial investigation of Lambton Harbour (Northern CBD) catchment.

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