



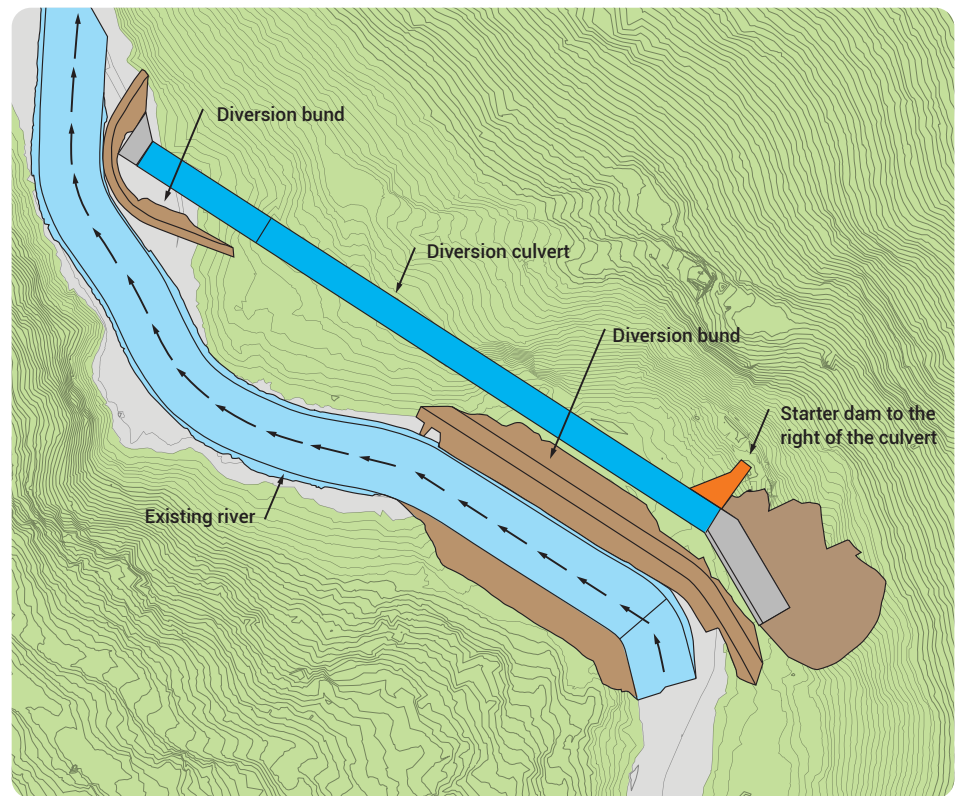
Building water security for our region's future

Message from the CEO

The months since our last newsletter have been busy and successful for the project, despite facing challenges.

We are pleased to report that the Waimea Community Dam is now close to 40 per cent complete. This is a mammoth achievement by everyone involved, and I would like to thank our project team; WWL, Fulton Hogan Taylors, Damwatch, GHD Engineering, Rawlinsons and supporting consultants for their contribution to this legacy project.

Our 2019/20 Annual Report will have more detail about the project's achievements, so look out for the report on our website in the coming weeks. The diagram below shows at a glance the project's construction progress so far.



First Step: Construct the Diversion culvert

The goals for this current 2020/21 year are outlined in our [2020/21 Statement of Intent \(SOI\)](#). Now more than two months into the new financial year, we had hoped to be slightly further along, but last year's geological and design issues, coupled with the ongoing impacts of COVID-19 have had cost and schedule implications. The dam is due for completion at the end of summer 2021/2022, six months late, with the reservoir to be filled over the 2022 winter.

As a ratepayer, I appreciate that the cost of this project, New Zealand's first large dam in a generation, is a lot for a small community,

and we are doing all we can to mitigate cost increases. However, looking to the future, the impact of the global pandemic to New Zealand has only reinforced how necessary the Waimea Community Dam will be to our economic recovery.

In most recent news, we welcome Margaret Devlin to the Waimea Water Limited (WWL) Board. Margaret is a highly experienced director, who will be an asset to the Board. You can read more about Margaret below.

We also enjoyed the blessing of the completed Diversion Culvert last month - a significant milestone in construction.

The 165-metre-long culvert is key infrastructure for the project, as it allows the river to be diverted to create the dry construction site for the reinforced dam. Read more about the morning's celebration on page 3.

Also included in this newsletter is an update on our environmental activities and an outline of the next steps in construction. Feel free to like our Facebook page www.facebook.com/waimeawater for regular updates from the project.

Ngā manaaki tanga,
Mike Scott, CEO

BLESSING OF THE DIVERSION CULVERT

On 14 August, Ngāti Koata blessed the Waimea Community Dam Diversion Culvert, marking a significant construction milestone, almost a year to the day since site excavation started. The culvert allows the river to be safely diverted, creating the dry construction site for the reinforced dam.

The ceremony was attended by the WWL Board and staff, Tasman District Council Mayor Tim King, Nelson MP Nick Smith, Labour Party Nelson candidate Rachel Boyack, and representatives from main contractor Fulton Hogan Taylors and dam engineers Damwatch Engineering. The karakia, led by Te Waari Carkeek (Ngāti

Koata, Ngāti Toa), celebrated the cycle of the seasons and the importance of paying respect to the deities of nature, as well as emphasising the safety of the site and those who work there.

Following the blessing, Melanie McGregor (Ngāti Koata) led the visitors in a waiata. The 165-metre long culvert was opened at its top, allowing river water to flow through.

WELCOME TO MARGARET DEVLIN



The Tasman District Council appointed Institute of Directors' Chartered Fellow Margaret Devlin to the Waimea Water Ltd (WWL) Board in July.

Margaret brings extensive governance and executive experience in the water and infrastructure sector, both within New Zealand and internationally. Tasman Mayor Tim King said Margaret's experience complements that of the current Board, reinforcing the interest this project has for those widely experienced in major infrastructure investments. WWL Board Chair David Wright welcomed Margaret's wealth of sector and governance experience, which will be of immense value as the dam's construction progresses and it becomes operational.

Devlin is Chair of Watercare Services, Lyttelton Port Company Limited, the Women in Infrastructure Network, and Hospice Waikato. She has directorships with Waikato Regional Airport, Titanium Park, IT Partners Group, Aurora Energy, and Infrastructure New Zealand.

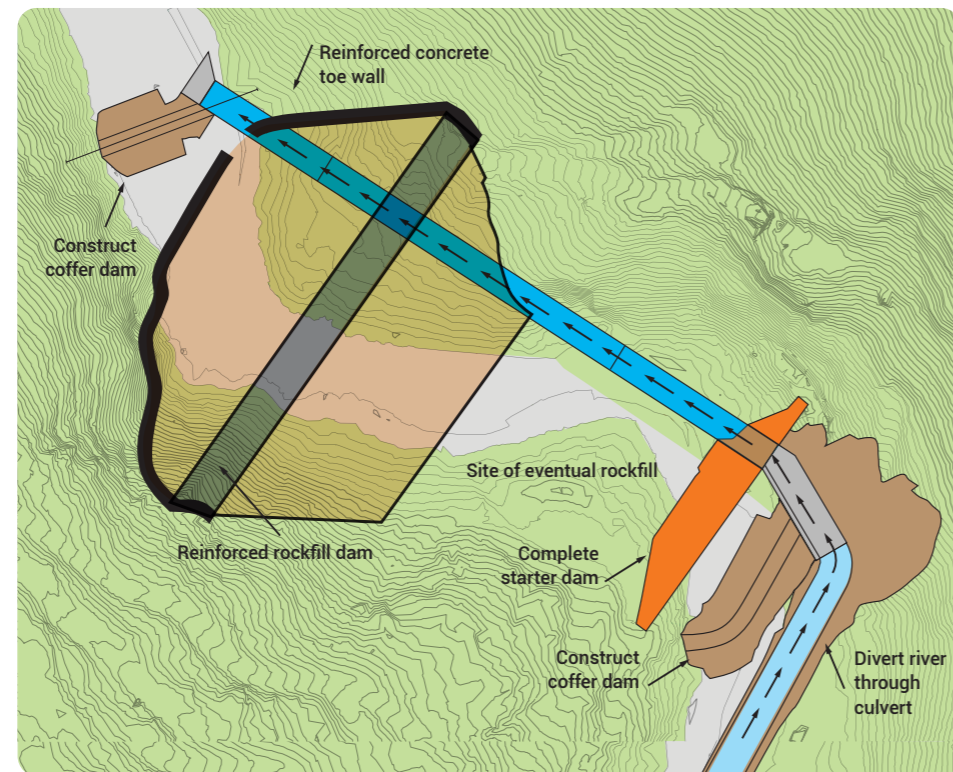
She is also the Independent Chair, Audit and Risk Committee, Waikato District Council, Councillor at Waikato University, Deputy Chair of WINTEC and a Member of the Institute of Directors Waikato Branch Committee.

WHAT'S NEXT FOR CONSTRUCTION

The diagram below illustrates that now the Diversion Culvert is complete, two coffer dams will be constructed to divert the river into the culvert, enabling construction of the larger reinforced rockfill embankment. Then, a starter dam will be constructed, the revised spillway continued, and the plinth completed.



The river was diverted through the culvert on 2 September.



Next Step: Divert river and construct downstream reinforced rockfill dam component to enable main dam construction.



KEY FACTS ABOUT THE DIVERSION CULVERT:

165m long **5.6m** high (external)
7m wide
4500m³ of concrete roof and walls **0.8m to 1.6m** thick

BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES ADVANCED

Over the last year, our biodiversity management activities have progressed well, with five ecological restoration projects underway within the Waimea catchment. Of significance is the planting of

11,000 native trees on Rough Island, with a further 24,000 to be planted in the coming year, and 12,000 trees the year after.



Environment and Sustainability Manager Alasdair Mawdsley and team planting on Rough Island.

RIVER HEALTH POSITIVE

At every point of construction WWL strives to protect the environment, recognising the importance of its health to the regional economy, to flora and fauna, and to river visitors. Fortnightly assessments by independent ecologist SLR Consulting to verify river health during construction show positive results to date.



SLR Consulting's Emma Woods verifies river health indicators fortnightly.

