

## *Mangawhai EcoCare Update – May 2007*

### **Consents are granted, so why has construction not started yet?**

Following granting of Resource Consents by Northland Regional Council on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, three appeals were received by the Environment Court. Until the appeals can be resolved the construction of the EcoCare Sewerage Scheme is delayed.

In the meantime, if you are planning any building works such as fences, decks, sheds, driveways and alterations, please discuss with the EcoCare Team before proceeding so that we can coordinate locations with the proposed public sewers and property drains.

### **How long is the delay?**

We do not know how long the project will be delayed. If the appeals cannot be resolved by mediation then there will need to be an Environment Court hearing. A hearing date has not yet been allocated. The delay is adding time and costs to the project however this is part of the legal requirements and while not desired was expected.

### **What are we doing now?**

Council has appointed a legal advisor to manage the appeal process. Earth Tech is also working closely with Council to provide any additional information required as part of the appeal process.

### **Then what will happen?**

If and when the appeals are settled by negotiation or hearing, the EcoCare Team will quickly mobilise to begin construction.

Residents will be individually notified of the planned works and an information booklet provided to answer commonly asked questions. An EcoCare Project Office will be established to answer specific queries from the community and to display construction updates.

Information will be regularly published in local papers and be available at all times on the EcoCare website.

[www.kaipara.govt.nz/mangawhai\\_ecocare.htm](http://www.kaipara.govt.nz/mangawhai_ecocare.htm)

We will provide more detailed information on all of the above plus more, if and when the 'green light' to begin construction is given. Until then please contact the EcoCare Community Liaison Officer with any queries.

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## **What Is EcoCare?**

Those of you new to the area or who have not visited for some time may be asking this question.

EcoCare is the name given to the Waste Water Scheme proposed for Mangawhai. EcoCare will enable residents and visitors alike to continue to swim and gather shellfish in the estuary as well as helping to maintain and sustain the environment and long-term economic health of Mangawhai.

Council has contracted Earth Tech to design, build, operate and maintain the EcoCare Waste Water Scheme for 15 years.