

### Titiroa Tide/Flood Gate Positive Effects

The Titiroa tide/flood gates are situated in Cell 7 in the Lower Mataura Catchment Control Scheme. Cell 7 is at the bottom end of the Matura catchment where the Mataura River flows into the sea.

It was identified that this cell 7 would be addressed first in the scheme acknowledging that high country rainfall and flood peaks appeared to be increasing in the catchment.

The Titiroa tide/flood gates are an integral part of the Lower Mataura Flood Protection Scheme. These gates provide both flood and tide protection with a land purchase area estimated 3,100 hectares in the Lower Mataura Floodway. The additional benefit is in the drainage that they provide for the area. Without these gates, the 10 percent internal rate of return on the government investment would not have been achieved. The economics and social impact of the Food Protection Scheme should be considered as a whole package and if any one component is removed, then a complete reevaluation should be considered.

To date, the benefits to the Mataura Catchment has been good in the form of financial gains, QE II trust in the floodway, wet lands established in the floodway, habitat encasement, drainage upgrade and farm fencing realignment for greater farm efficiency. The stopbanks on the right bank of the Mataura River has provided good protection against flood waters since the installation in 1988.

If these gates were to be removed or retired, the government investment in this project would show a lower internal rate of return and justification would be required for this action.

The area has been defined in the initial flood protection proposal in 1976 in the "Mataura Catchment Control Scheme Job No 617 - Phase 1" document that was present to Government and the "Mataura Catchment Scheme Economic Review March 1987 by R N Forbes" validates the project.

A complete Summary of the Works are documented in the Mataura Catchment Control Scheme Job 617 Phase 1 Works, May 1991.

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#### References:

Mataura Catchment Control Scheme phase 1 1991-Complete Summary, Southland Catchment Board

Mataura Catchment Control Scheme Job No 617 - Phase 1 - November 1976, Southland Catchment Board

Mataura Catchment Scheme Economic Review March 1987 by R N Forbes, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries- Palmerston North