AGENDA AND SUPPORTING PAPERS FOR COUNCIL'S MAY MEETINGS

TO BE HELD IN THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH

TUESDAY, 12 MAY 2009

The programme for the day is:

10.30 a.m:

Resource Management Committee

Meeting

On completion of RMC Meeting: Council Meeting

Presentation by Forsyth Barr Ltd following completion of Council Meeting

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the **RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** will be held in the Offices of the West Coast Regional Council, 388 Main South Road, Paroa, Greymouth on **Tuesday**, **12 May 2009**

P.EWEN
CHAIRPERSON

S. MORAN

Planning and Environmental Manager

C. DALL

Consents and Compliance Manager

AGENDA NUMBERS	PAGE NUMBERS	BUSIN	IESS .
1.		APOL	OGIES
2.	1 – 4		TES Confirmation of Minutes of Resource Management Committee Meeting – 14 April 2009
3.		PRES	ENTATION
4.		CHAII	RMAN'S REPORT
5.		REPO 5.1	RTS Planning and Environmental Group
	5 – 6	5.1.1	Planning & Environmental Manager's Monthly Report
	7 – 10	5.1.2	Further Submission – Proposed National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management
		5.2	Consents and Compliance Group
	11 – 12	5.2.1	Consents Monthly Report
	13 – 15	5.2.2	Compliance & Enforcement Monthly Report

2-1 THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 14 APRIL 2009 AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.30 A.M.

PRESENT:

P. Ewen (Chairman), R. Scarlett, D. Davidson, B. Chinn, A. Robb, T. Archer, A. Birchfield, R. Barber (arrived 10.42)

IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), S. Moran (Planning & Environmental Manager), C. Dall (Consents & Compliance Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk), The Media

1. APOLOGIES

Moved (Archer / Scarlett) that the apology from T. Scott be accepted.

Carried

2. MINUTES

Moved (Scarlett / Archer) that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 10 March 2009, be confirmed as correct but at the request of Cr Birchfield comments made by Cr Chinn in relation to RC08198 are included. Cr Chinn voiced his concern during the consents report that Grey District Council were granted consent to disturb the bed of Lake Brunner despite Ferguson Farms not being allowed to do so by Environment Court for the purpose of humping and hollowing.

Carried

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3. PRESENTATION

Mr Jim O'Regan gave a presentation called "Understanding Beech". Mr O'Regan stated that he would be presenting to all four councils on the West Coast. He is seeking councils to jointly champion the reinstatement of Beech Forestry. Cr Scarlett stated that Mr O'Regan's presentation is a very considered paper and well put together. Cr Ewen stated that beech is a viable crop. R. Barber commented that this is an economic issue but queried how real is this option as most of the beech is on DoC land. Cr Davidson stated that the submission is brilliant and he is very supportive of the venture. Cr Scarlett suggested the next step would be to put a business case forward that worked through the financial viability and present that to government.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported that attending various tender openings, including the upgrade of the Greymouth Floodwall and the clearing of vegetation from Cobden Island.

Cr Ewen reported that he was invited to speak at a function for rural fire fighters held at Ikamatua recently.

Moved (Ewen / Davidson) that the Council receive this report.

Carried

5.1. PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

5.1.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT

- S. Moran spoke to his report. He advised that the Environment Court pre hearing conference for appeals on Variation 1 (Wetlands) was held in Greymouth on the 6th of April. The result of the hearing was to get a timeframe in place to get mediation underway. S. Moran reported that the first hearing is expected to take place in the last quarter of this year. Cr Scarlett asked if anything radical had come out of the pre hearing conference that Council needed to be especially aware of. S. Moran confirmed that the parties were a long way apart and that the main parties involved are the Department of Conservation, Friends of Shearer Swamp, Forest and Bird, Federated Farmers, Solid Energy and OceanaGold.
- S. Moran reported that further submissions on the Coastal Plan Change 2 closed on the 27 of March. He advised a total of four submissions were received.
- S. Moran advised that further submissions on the Proposed National Policy Statement of Freshwater Management would be circulated to Councillors later today.
- S. Moran reported that the Civil Defence Emergency Management Group met on the 6th of March. He stated that a coordinated training approach between the three District Councils and the Regional Council is being progressed.
- S. Moran reported that the West Coast Engineering Lifelines Group met on the 17th of March. One of the key topics discussed was an update on fuel and Fast Moving Consumer Goods sectors. National Contingency Plans are being developed and the Group will be writing to the Director requesting that the West Coast be used as an example on how to continue service in these sectors, as this region is remote and a high risk area.

Submissions for the Land Transport Programme for the West Coast close today, eight submissions have been received and a further three are expected. A hearing for the submissions is scheduled for the 29th of April. Cr Scarlett spoke of the meeting he and N. Costley attended with Jo Kane, Chair of the Regional Land Transport Committee. The reconstruction of the Mingha Bluffs to Rough Creek section of State Highway 73 was discussed at this meeting. S. Moran advised that the West Coast Regional Council Transport Committee would be making a submission in support of the upgrade. He stated it is hoped that the upgrade will take place sooner rather than later as costs are currently estimated at \$12.3M but if the upgrade is left until years to come the costs could go as high as \$20M. Cr Birchfield stated that this upgrade is long overdue and that the narrow winding road is very dangerous for trucks coming to and from the West Coast. He is surprised that there haven't been more serious accidents in this area over the years. S. Moran spoke of the importance in ensuring that the current 5 cents / litre R Funding petrol tax is retained after 2014 / 15 as this ensures flexibility for roading activities at local level. Cr Scarlett stated that the focus seems to have come off ports and onto the roading areas.

- S. Moran reported that Resource Science staff are commencing a new water sampling project aimed at gaining a better understanding of water quality in West Coast lakes. Lakes Kaniere and Haupiri are included in the project.
- S. Moran reported that water quality at contact recreation sites is good overall.

Moved (Scarlett / Chinn) that the report be received.

Carried

5.1.2 DOC RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS - DRAFT WEST COAST CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

- S. Moran spoke to this report and took it as read. Cr Chinn drew attention to the matter of gravel extraction and he wondered what DoC considers a business opportunity to be. S. Moran responded that duplication of regulatory processes needs to be considered in these areas.
- Cr Scarlett stated that the word "significant" is an interesting aspect of DoC's interpretation of the RMA. S. Moran responded that under the Conservation Management Act, DoC see the term "significant" as meaning all conservation values whether of high or low value seem to be termed as "significant" but under the RMA the term "significant" is far more specialised i.e. rare or threatened habitats.

Moved (Scarlett / Archer) that this report be received.

Carried

5.1.3 DRAFT SUBMISSION ON RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (SIMPLIFYING AND STREAMLINING) AMENDMENT BILL

S. Moran spoke to this report. Discussion took place relating to maximum fines, Clause 141. Cr Chinn and Cr Birchfield did not agree with the level of fines for offences increasing. Cr Chinn stated that a fine \$200,000 for an individual is high enough and is not in favour of the fine for an individual being increased to \$600,000. Cr Scarlett stated that this he feels that high fines for individuals could be financially crippling. Cr Birchfield stated that \$200,000 was a maximum fine and it should not be increased to \$600,000. Some Councillors also considered the fine for a body corporate being increased from \$200,000 to \$600,000 excessive. Crs Davidson and Archer and R. Barber were in favour of the increase in fines and suggested for a particularly harmful and deliberate discharge, higher penalties might be appropriate. The majority agreed that the submission be put without Clause 141 on page 23.

Moved (Ewen / Scarlett)

That Council approve the submission on the Resource Management (Simplifying and Streamlining) Amendment Bill 2009 but without Clause 141, on page 23 of the agenda.

Carried

5.2 CONSENTS AND COMPLIANCE GROUP

5.2.1 CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT

C. Dall spoke to this report. He stated it has been a relatively quiet month in the Consents Department. Cr Ewen asked if the contractors extracting gravel near the Cobden Rail Bridge have separate work areas. C. Dall responded that they are all working close together and to date there have been no issues. He added that Council staff are mindful that this area could become problematic and are keeping a careful eye on this area.

C. Dall reported that the Environment Court held a pre-hearing conference on the 6th of April on the appeals against the consents granted to TrustPower Ltd for their proposed Arnold Valley Hydroelectricity Power Scheme. It is expected that the hearing will take place early next year which allows TrustPower time to work on resolving appeals lodged by submitters.

A meeting with Grey District Council staff, Council's lawyer and TrustPower Ltd have resolved much of TrustPower's own appeal.

Moved (Chinn / Scarlett) that the April 2009 report of the Consents Group be received.

Carried

5.2.2 COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT

- C. Dall reported that staff have been busy carrying out dairy shed inspections. He stated that effluent ponding has been an ongoing non-compliant issue. Cr Scarlett asked if this is the result of effluent irrigators having stopped. C. Dall confirmed that in most cases irrigators have not been moved or they have broken down and this has led to the ponding of dairy effluent.
- C. Dall reported that OceanGold's self-monitoring results were fully compliant during the reporting period. He added that a prolonged wet weather period has not been encountered for some time.
- C. Dall reported Pike River Coal notified Council of two non-compliant discharges during the month, neither of which breached receiving water standards. He advised that Pike River Coal were granted a change to the conditions of some of their discharge permits, and this change does not compromise water quality in Pike Stream.
- C. Dall reported that monitoring of Solid Energy mine sites showed good compliance during the reporting period.
- C. Dall drew attention to the fact that there were 10 infringement notices issued during the month and not 12 as stated in his report as two infringement notices in the Waitaha area were documented twice.
- C. Dall reported the sinking of the Glen Cora fishing vessel. He advised that to date there have been no reported onshore affects from this oil spill.

Discussion took place regarding net and gross gravel takes off Blaketown beach. Cr Ewen queried whether the permit holder might have taken more gravel than their consent allows. He asked whether once the rejected gravel has been reinstated to the beach does this then count toward the consented amount again.

A

C. Ingle advised that in the past conflicting advice has been given by Council on this issue, but that now we are clear that all matters of mining permit interpretation should be referred to Mike Slater from the Department of Conservation.

Moved (Robb / Archer)

- 1. That the March 2009 report of the Compliance Group be received.
- 2. That the Council release the bond for RC04137 and the remaining bond amount for RC95056.

Carried

5.2.	GEN	IERAL	. BUSIN	ESS

There was no general busines
The meeting closed at 11.58 am.
Chairman

.....

Date

5

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for:

Resource Management Committee Meeting - 12 May 2009

Prepared by:

S. Moran - Planning & Environmental Manager

Date:

30 April 2009

Subject:

PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT

PLANNING

Hearing on the RMA (Simplifying & Streamlining) Amendment Bill

Staff attended the Government's Select Committee hearing on the Bill on the 30th April. The main points of the submission were reiterated with a focus on how the proposed changes could impact on the West Coast community. For example, imposing 'one size fits all' National Environmental Standards is not appropriate if they create significant additional costs without any tangible benefit.

Transport

Regional Land Transport Programme (RLTP)

A total of 22 submissions were received on the draft RLTP (3 received after submission period closed). Due to increased number of submissions received the hearing date was moved to the 11th of May to provide the Regional Transport Advisory Group the opportunity to fully review the submissions received in preparing the Recommending Report for the Hearing Panel.

The Regional Transport Committee is scheduled to meet on the 21st of May to adopt the RLTP following the Hearing Panel releasing decisions on submissions.

Submission on Canterbury's Draft Regional Land Transport Programme (dRLTP)

A submission has been made on the Canterbury draft RLTP in regards to the Rough Creek to Mingha Bluff (Arthurs Pass to Klondyke Corner) section of State Highway 73. Discussions with New Zealand Transport Agency indicate that that they are currently completing the investigation phase. Once the recommended solution is approved by their Board the next step will be to undertake design and gain the relevant consents and concessions.

The key points made included:

- Supporting the inclusion of Mingha Bluff to Rough Creek (Large upgrade) Investigation phase as an activity of inter-regional significance.
- The issues with this section of road regarding its safety and route security issues.
- Alignment with the Government Policy Statement 2 list of impacts.

Relief sought included:

- 1. The design phase to be brought forward to be undertaken in the 2nd year of the dRLTP with the understanding that this will take approximately 1-2 years to complete.
- 2. That the Canterbury RTC agree to raise the priority of the improvement project to ensure that it is undertaken in the next RLTP and programmed for construction to be undertaken in its first year (2012/13).

Submissions closed on the 28th of April.

RESOURCE SCIENCE

Hydrology / Flood Warning

A large low pressure system and subsequent series of fronts brought very heavy rain to all areas of the West Coast from the 26^{th} - 28^{th} of April. Alarms were triggered from Waiho to Karamea.

The Waiho rain gauge recorded 470mm of rainfall in 48 hours up to 17:00 on 27/04/09. Hokitika Rv @ Colliers recorded 470mm in 72 hours (up to 27/4/09 20:30) and the Cropp @ Hut rain gauge recorded 977mm for the same period.

The Cobden rain gauge recorded 113mm of rainfall in 18 hours, of which 67 mm fell in two hours (19:00-21:00 27/4/09), this is intense rainfall for the coastal area and constitutes a 1 in 5 year event for 24 hour rainfall totals for Greymouth.

Waipuna in the mid Grey Catchment recorded 71mm in 18 hours (up to 09:00 29.4.09) and Sirdar Ck in the Paparoa range recorded 125mm in 18 hours (up to 09:00 29.4.09) with peak intensities of 27mm per hour.

Site	Time of peak	Peak level	Warning Issued
Karamea Rv @ Gorge	08:30 (28/4/09)	4439mm	07:15
Buller Rv @ Te Kuha	11:45 (28/4/09)	7419mm	11:00
Grey Rv @ Waipuna	06:45(28/4/09)	4558mm	Not required
Grey Rv @ Dobson	12:45(28/4/09)	4383mm	04:45
Hokitika Rv @ Colliers	17:15(27/4/09)	6105mm	16:30
Waiho Rv@ SH6	13:45(26/4/09)	7266mm	11:45
Waiho Rv @ SH6	08:45(27/4/09	7315mm	15:30
Waiho Rv @ SH6	11:15(16/4/09)	6887mm	11:00

Water Quality

The Resource Science team have conducted additional lake sampling in April. Not only have they completed the regular Lake Brunner round, but also revisited Lakes Haupiri and Kaniere, which were previously sampled last year. In addition, water chemistry in other lakes in the Grey and Westland Districts have been investigated for the first time. This will provide some baseline information about their current state which will be valuable for managing water quality into the future.

We engaged NIWA under an Envirolink grant to undertake an extensive survey of aquatic plants in Lake Brunner and this has been completed. The purpose was to compare plant community composition with previous surveys in 1982, 1992, and 2002. Comparison of plant community composition over time can be used to infer changes in water quality over time. An increase in the dominance of invasive plants from 1982 to 2002 may have been due to a decrease in water quality over this period. However, recent discussions with NIWA on preliminary assessment of 2009 results suggests that plant communities have changed little overall since the last survey in 2002. This is positive as it suggests that water quality in the lake has not changed sufficiently between 2002 and 2009 to significantly alter plant community composition.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report is received.

Simon Moran Planning and Environmental Manger

5.1.2

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for:

Resource Management Committee Meeting – 12 May 2009

Prepared by:

L Sadler, Policy Analyst

Date:

21 April 2009

Subject:

FURTHER SUBMISSION - PROPOSED NPS ON FRESHWATER

MANAGEMENT

Purpose

To seek approval from the Resource Management Committee of the draft further submission on the Proposed National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS).

Background

The Summary of Submissions on the Proposed Freshwater NPS was released for further submissions on 14 March, and the further submission period closed on 14 April.

Submission

A draft further submission was circulated to the Resource Management Committee briefly on 14 April before the closing time for lodging. A copy is attached to this report. The main points in the further submission are:

- We oppose some submissions which seek changes that would result in a "one size fits all" approach, and do not recognise the differences in regional environments and water resource issues. This approach these submitters suggest is generally very prescriptive, it is often not relevant to the West Coast, and means this Council would be burdened with inefficient regulatory controls.
- We oppose some submissions which seek prescriptive changes to objectives which do not allow Councils to manage resources in the most efficient and effective manner for their communities.
- We generally support parts of other submissions which take the approach that regions are best placed to manage their resources with an overall direction provided through policy frameworks such as an NPS.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the further submission on the Proposed National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.

Simon Moran Planning and Environmental Manger

WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL'S FURTHER SUBMISSION ON THE PROPOSED NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR FRESHWATER MANAGEMENT

Submitter's Name	No	Support/Oppose	Parts of Submission	Our Comment
			Whole Document	
NIWA	11	Oppose	"Councils lack the capacity to deal with many complex technical problems such as cumulative effects, uncertainty, and the application of the precautionary principle.	We disagree with the presumption in these comments that all councils lack the capacity to deal with water management issues, and central government should have more management and control.
			RELIEF SOUGHT: Recommends a stronger role for central government."	We are concerned that the consequence of the decision sought is that the proposed NPS will take a "one size fits all" approach, which does not recognise the differences in
			"Local Government has been slow to identify and act on emerging issues. More comprehensive guidance is required from Central Government, pursuant to an NPS and Regional and Territorial	regional environments and water resource issues. This approach means we get inefficient regulatory controls that are not relevant to our region. For example, water allocation and meterine framework/requirements are
			Authorities would be bound to amend their plans to give effect to the NPS, and include specific principles, objectives, guidelines or provisions.	currently being considered for national instruments yet they are not an issue on the water-rich West Coast.
			RELIEF SOUGHT Central Government needs to be more active in directing the process by defining national priorities, ensuring local goals and setting/enforcing deadlines."	
		,	"RELIEF SOUGHT Avoid unnecessary duplication. Local Government should not develop their own ad hoc tools. The development of such tools should be coordinated on a national basis, and made available to all Regional Councils and Territorial Authorities."	We disagree with the decision sought that local government should not develop their own ad hoc tools. Most Council's do not hesitate to share or borrow good ideas to save others from reinventing the wheel. The NPS must be flexible enough to allow local authorities scope to manage effects of use of water resources so that local communities are not burdened with the cost of having to undertake unnecessary value assessments or try and identify vague "degraded"
				water quality standards.

New Zealand 65 Oppose The Conservation Authority about Conservation 118 Oppose The Board Shuthority Authority 65 Oppose in part So Authority So Authority So Oppose in part So Authority So Oppose in part So Oppo		
Zealand 65 Oppose vation Conservation 118 Oppose Zealand 65 Oppose in part vation ity		
Zealand 65 Oppose vation Conservation 118 Oppose Zealand 65 Oppose in part vation ity	Objective 3	
Conservation 118 Oppose Zealand 65 Oppose in part vation ity	tates that with regards to Objective 3, le standard" should be achieved as an timum. UGHT Cative 3 to ensure that freshwater is leathering as well, and a policy is d into the NPS requiring	The relief sought by the submitter does not take into account the balancing objective in the purpose of the RMA. The Act specifically envisages and allows for minor adverse effects where this is appropriate.
Conservation 118 Oppose Zealand 65 Oppose in part vation ity	Objective 4	
Zealand 65 Oppose in part ority	The Board states that they support Objective 4, but believes that all water bodies in New Zealand should be graded in terms of their significance at a national and regional level. RELIEF SOUGHT - That all water bodies in New Zealand are graded in terms of their significance at a national and regional level That the objective can then be applied in accordance with that grading.	The concept of grading all water bodies based on their significance nationally and regionally is inefficient as rivers in differing regions have a range of values, uses, and reasons of importance to the local community. It is impossible to accurately quantify these factors across regions. In addition, for a region such as the West Coast this is inappropriate due to the high number of waterbodies on the Conservation Estate which are not affected by takes or discharges.
Zealand 65 Oppose in part crvation ority	Whole Document	
any RE Th	"The NZCA supports the development of an NPS so that regional councils will be given a mandate to manage freshwater in a much more stringent way. The NZCA is concerned that councils will have neither the capability or resources to carry out the extra monitoring functions, or to pursue any litigation arising. RELIEF SOUGHT That central government takes the lead in	We agree with the point that councils have limited resources to do all the extra identification and monitoring required under the Proposed NPS provisions. However, we do not think that this will be helped by the proposed solution for central government to direct effective implementation as it will not address the problem of councils lack of resources to carry out implementation. We are also concerned that "directing effective

	din a dina after of ina in and and attend	and the DOM become the moon their state of the
	an econig effective imprementation.	Militaria Charles Will incan the proposed for S Will take a
		one size fits all approach, which does not recognise the
	"RELIEF SOUGHT	differences in regional environments and water resource
	The overarching goals to be:	issues. This approach means we get inefficient regulatory
	Some freshwater ecosystems remain in their	controls that are not relevant to our region. For example,
	current state, without 'development'"	water allocation and metering framework/requirements are
_		currently being considered for national instruments yet they
	"The NZCA states that Integrated Catchment	are not an issue on the water-rich West Coast.
	Management should be mentioned in the NPS, as	
	water quality and quantity is inextricably lined	We disagree with the decision sought to require catchment
	with land use.	management plans. The NPS must be flexible enough to
		allow local authorities scope to manage effects of use of
	RELIEF SOUGHT	water resources so that local communities are not burdened
	That the NPS requires and directs the staged	with the cost of having to undertake unnecessary value
	introduction of catchment management plans"	assessments or try and identify vague "degraded" water
		quality standards.
		We disagree with these suggestions which appear to seek
		blanket protection of these types of water resources. A
		sweeping prioritising of these water bodies for protection
	"The NZCA regards in-channel values as of equal	does not take into account their values and uses. Not all
	or greater importance than extractive uses, and	wetlands and lakes on the West Coast have significant
	catchment management plans should make	values, and it may be possible for some activities to occur
	provision for this.	that will not significantly adversely affect water bodies that
		do have important values. This is implicit in the concept of
	RELIEF SOUGHT	sustainable management under the RMA, and blanket
	The NPS to initiate a national priority-setting	protection is not necessarily consistent with the Act.
	process, requiring some waters to be left in their	
	natural state.	
_	That wetlands, water quality of lakes,	
	groundwater resources and geothermal waters are	
	mentioned in the NPS, and are given a high	
	importance."	

5-2-1 THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee

Prepared by: Colin Dall - Consents & Compliance Manager

Date: 30 April 2009

Subject: CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT

CONSENTS

Consents Site Visits from 1 April - 30 April 2009

DATE	ACTIVITY, NAME & LOCATION	PURPOSE
9/04/09	RC09037 - Alluvial gold mining, D Russ & K Wilson, Waimea	To investigate the site to gain a better understanding of the proposed mining operation.
17/04/09	RC09032 - Humping & hollowing, T Visser, Aratika	To investigate the site to gain a better understanding of the proposed works.
29/04/09	RC09045 - Creek diversion, I Whyte, Dunganville	To investigate the site to gain a better understanding of the proposed creek diversion.
9/04/09	RC09030 – Alluvial gold mining, Crescent Creations, Waimea Creek	To assess potentially affected parties and to discuss mitigation features.
28/04/09	PA09091 – Onsite sewage discharge, J Kanure, Rutherglen Road	To investigate the site and gain a better understanding of the proposed onsite sewage treatment and disposal system.

Non-Notified Resource Consents Granted From 1 April - 30 April 2009

CONSENT NO. & HOLDER	PURPOSE OF CONSENT
RC04234 D & K Knight	To discharge dairy effluent to land and water (unnamed tributary of Redjacks Creek) near DS453, Ngahere.
RC08134 Marsh Developments	To disturb the bed and banks of Shanandoah Creek for the purpose of creating a creek diversion.
	To permanently divert water from Shanandoah Creek.
RC08164 J Cowan	To disturb the bed of the Haast River to construct rock protection works.
RC09012 G McGinn	To undertake earthworks associated with humping and hollowing activities, Kumara.
	To discharge sediment from humping and hollowing activities to land where it may enter water, Kumara.
RC09026 AT Wedding	To disturb the dry bed of Snapshot Creek for the purpose of extracting gravel.
	To disturb the dry bed of the Jackson River for the purpose of extracting gravel.
RC09031 Henry Adams Contracting	To undertake earthworks associated with alluvial gold mining, Hou Hou Creek.
	To take and use groundwater via seepage into mining ponds, Hou Hou Creek.
	To discharge mine pond water to surface water and into

groundwater via seepage, Hou Hou Creek.

To discharge water containing sediment to land where it may enter water, associated with alluvial gold mining, Hou Hou

Creek.

RC09040 E Johnston To disturb the dry bed of the Turnbull River for the purpose

of extracting gravel.

RC09044

NZ Transport Agency

undertake vegetation clearance and earthworks associated with the realignment and stabilisation of "Palmer's

Bend", SH 7, Springs Junction.

Changes to Resource Consents Granted During the Reporting Period

CONSENT NO. & HOLDER

CHANGE TO CONSENT CONDITION(S)

RC07132 OnTrack

To increase the volume of material (gravel and soil material) that can be removed.

(Arahura River) RC09021

To increase the area of the 1080 discharge.

Animal Health Board (Hochstetter, Upper Ahaura & Nancy Operational Areas)

No limited notified or notified consents were granted during the reporting period.

Notified Consents Updates & Other Matters

The hearing for the consent applications lodged by Meridian Energy Limited for its proposed Mokihinui River Hydro Power Scheme reconvened on 15 and 16 April 2009.

RECOMMENDATION

That the May 2009 report of the Consents Group be received.

Colin Dall

Consents & Compliance Manager

5.2.2

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee

Prepared by: Colin Dall – Consents & Compliance Manager and Michael Meehan –

Compliance Team Leader

Date: 30 April 2009

Subject: COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT

Site Visits

A total of 42 site visits were undertaken during the reporting period, which consisted of:

Activity	Number of Visits	Fully Compliant (%)
Resource consent monitoring	7	17
Dairy shed inspections	22	77
Complaint response	4	100
Mining compliance & bond release	7	100

Specific Issues

Dairy Effluent Discharges: Compliance staff carried out inspections throughout the entire region during the reporting period.

The main non-compliance matter observed during the inspections was a lack of contingency measures for managing effluent discharges in case of mechanical failure or poor weather.

The Council has organised an effluent management field day to be held on 12 May at DS313, Old Christchurch Road. It is hoped that farmers will attend to see practical demonstrations of good effluent management and listen to expert Dairy NZ speakers.

Westroads Beach Gravel Mining Licence – Blaketown: As at 20 April 2009, Westroads had taken a nett of 2,343m³ of gravel from the licence site this year.

Globe Progress Mine – Oceana Gold: Oceana Gold submitted the "Year 5 Annual Work and Restoration Plan" for the Globe Progress Mine. Compliance staff are currently working through the details of this plan in consultation with the Company.

As at 27 April 2009, Oceana Gold water sampling results showed compliance limits in Devils Creek had been met for the previous 18 weeks.

Pike River Underground Coal Mine – Pike River Coal: The Company notified Council of a non-compliant discharge to Pike Stream, from "Pond 1". The Council has subsequently received a report from the Company which indicates that the problem was due to an air leak in the pump suction line. All the necessary steps were taken to avoid adverse effects on the receiving environment.

Solid Energy Consent and Licence Monitoring: No site visits were carried out to SENZ mines during the reporting period due to the departure of Compliance Officer Michael McEnaney and Compliance Officer Philip McKinnel being on leave for two weeks.

Stockton Opencast Mine

The Company's water quality monitoring results for March showed the discharges from mining operations were within compliance limits. Its monitoring results for April were not available at the time of writing this report.

Work on the Mangatini Sump is continuing with SENZ providing Council with regular progress reports and notifications of any works starting that may have an effect on the water quality in the Mangatini

Stream. There was some damage at Stockton due to the recent rain events and repairs and restoration work is underway.

Compliance staff attended the Stockton Community Consultative Group meeting in Granity during the reporting period.

Spring Creek Underground Mine, Rapahoe Coal & Rocky Creek Handling Facilities, Terrace Mine & Reefton Coal Handling Facility

The Company's water quality monitoring results for March showed the discharges from these mining operations were within compliance limits at the time of sampling. Its monitoring results for April were not available at the time of writing this report.

Complaints/Incidents between 2 April to 26 April 2009

There were 10 complaints/incidents received during the reporting period.

Activity	Description	Location	Action/Outcome
Gold mining	Complaint regarding miner extracting from WDC road reserve without authority.	Duffers Creek	Referred to WDC
Diesel spill	Hydraulic hose break which resulted in approximately 250 litres of oil spilt on haul road	Stockton Coal Mine	SENZ staff contained and mitigated the spill
Milk spill	Tanker overturned resulting in loss of most of the milk on board	Rapahoe	Fire fighting staff contained the spill and then Westland Milk contractors undertook mitigation action
Discharge to water	Alleged discharge of coal fines to water from private coal mine	Granity	Still under investigation
Discharge to land	Rubbish dumping on WDC land	Kaniere	Referred to WDC
Diesel spill	Small spill of diesel (<20 litres) from a piece of timber piercing the fuel tank of a vehicle	Arahura	Contractors on site mitigated the spill
Maritime diesel spill	The "Venture" fishing vessel ran aground at Blaketown resulting in the spill of approximately 1,000 litres of marine diesel oil	Blaketown	Responded to in conjunction with MNZ and other agencies
Milk spill	Small milk spill on road at Kumara from the vent on the milk tanker not being shut.	Kumara	Very little milk spilt on road and not near a waterway
Paint spill	Unknown people dumped an oil based paint in stormwater settling ponds	Kaiata Park Subdivision	Dispersant applied to paint to avoid effects on waterway; owner of site is to review onsite security
Diesel spill	Fishing vessel had grounded in poor weather	Jackson Bay	Still under investigation

Enforcement

No abatement or infringement notices were issued during the reporting period.

The sentencing hearing for the Council's successful prosecution against Thomas Taft, a Kowhitirangi dairy farmer, for an illegal discharge of dairy shed effluent directly to a farm drain which flows into a tributary of the Hokitika River, was held at the Greymouth District Court on 28 April. Environment Court Judge Borthwick fined Mr Taft \$50,000 for the discharge and indicated a high fine was needed as a deterrent.

The Judge emphasised that Mr Taft had been very fortunate that the Council had not charged him for a continuing offence and left little doubt that had the Council done so, the fine would have been significantly higher.

MINING

Work Programmes

The Council received the following two mining work programmes over the reporting period:

Date	Mining Authorisation	Holder	Location
6/4/09	MP41164, RC00323	Oceana Gold Limited	Reefton
17/4/09	MP41476, RC98005	Titan Resources Limited	Bell Hill

Bonds Received

No bonds were received during the reporting period.

Bond Releases

No bonds are recommended for release from this period.

OIL SPILL RESPONSE

Two maritime incidents occurred during the reporting period.

On 23 April the "Venture" ran aground on Blaketown Beach resulting in approximately 1,000 litres of marine diesel oil being discharged to the coastal marine area.

Council staff liaised with Maritime New Zealand staff in co-ordinating a response. Due to the local environment and nature of the contaminant there was nothing Council staff could do except monitor the situation. No wildlife were seen or reported to have been in distress as a result of the discharge.

Late on 25 April the fishing vessel "Marconi" beached at Jackson Bay. It is understood that there was no diesel or oil spill as a result of beaching. Attempts will be made to re-float the vessel and all attempts will be made to avoid any spill.

RECOMMENDATION

That the May 2009 report of the Compliance Group be received.

Colin Dall Consents & Compliance Manager

COUNCIL MEETING

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that an **ORDINARY MEETING** of the West Coast Regional Council will be held in the Offices of the West Coast Regional Council, 388 Main South Road, Greymouth on **Tuesday, 12 May 2009** commencing on completion of the Resource Management Committee Meeting.

A.R. SCARLETT CHAIRPERSON

C. INGLE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

AGENDA NUMBERS	PAGE NUMBERS		BUSINESS
1.		APOL	OGIES
2.		PUBL	IC FORUM
3.		MINU	TES
	1 – 3 4	3.1 3.1.2	5 ,
4.		REPO	RTS
	5 – 6	4.1	Planning and Environmental Manager's Report on Engineering Operations
	7 – 9	4.2	Corporate Services Manager's Report
	10 – 20	4.2.1	Nine Month Performance Review
5.		CHAI	RMAN'S REPORT (VERBAL)
6.	21 – 22	CHIE	EXECUTIVE'S REPORT
7.		GENE	RAL BUSINESS

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 14 APRIL 2009, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 12.01 P.M.

PRESENT:

R. Scarlett (Chairman), P. Ewen, A. Robb, D. Davidson, B. Chinn, A. Birchfield, T. Archer

IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), C. Dall (Consents and Compliance Manager), S. Moran (Planning and Environmental Manager), C. Pullen (AHB), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk), The Media

1. APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no presentation.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved (Birchfield / Archer) that the minutes of the Council Meeting 10 March 2009, be confirmed as correct.

Carried

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

REPORTS:

4.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER'S REPORT ON ENGINEERING OPERATIONS

- S. Moran spoke to his report. S. Moran reported that a tender has now been accepted for the clearing of scrub on Cobden Island.
- S. Moran advised that the Inchbonnie Rating District is proceeding with the upgrade and extension of their stopbank. Consents are currently being applied for.

Moved (Archer / Ewen) that the report be received.

Carried

4.2 VECTOR PROGRAMME MANAGER'S REPORT

- C. Pullen spoke to his report. He advised that programme is progressing well with 70% of the overall programme completed.
- C. Pullen reported that the Animal Health Board is taking over the Tasman area from the 1st of July. The programme will then become known as West Coast Tasman and C. Pullen will be the Programme Manager for this combined area. A Field Supervisor for Tasman district has now been appointed.
- Cr Archer asked if the failure in the Kowhitirangi area has been reworked. C. Pullen confirmed that is has reworked and has now passed.
- Cr Ewen asked if the Kings Domain area was to be reworked in view of this area becoming a Tb hotspot. C. Pullen advised that this would be included in the Marsden contract.
- C. Pullen advised that the Animal Health Board have decided against the aerial operation for the Hokitika area. This will now become an intensive ground control project. Cr Scarlett asked C.

Pullen why was this changed. C. Pullen responded that it was deemed too risky to the public. Cr Scarlett asked C. Pullen if there had been no protesters would it have still gone ahead. C. Pullen confirmed that it probably would have. Cr Scarlett asked if ground control would cost more. C. Pullen responded that the cost of the ground operation would be approximately 80% more than an aerial operation.

Moved (Archer / Davidson) that this report be received.

Carried

CORPORATE SERVICE MANAGER'S REPORT 4.3

- R. Mallinson spoke to this report. He stated that we are now two thirds through the financial year. He reported that total operating expenditure is \$5.8M and total revenue for this period is \$5.3M.
- R. Mallinson reported that spending in the Planning and Environmental Monitoring areas is running below budget. He advised that LTCCP audit costs budgeted to come out of the 2008 / 09 budget would be amortised over the three year LTCCP cycle.
- R, Mallinson advised that he has responded to a preliminary survey by LGNZ regarding concerns from the Remuneration Authority about Councillor mileage reimbursements. He stated that the concern is that Councillors are able to claim vehicle running costs in their tax returns and that they are also paid 70 cents per kilometre (taxed). It was noted that public transport is not an option for Councillors on the West Coast.
- R. Mallinson drew attention to the geographical area of the West Coast noting that a number of our Councillors travel large distances to attend meetings and on council business both on and outside of the West Coast.

Moved (Birchfield / Robb) that this report be received.

Carried

CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT 5.0

- C. Ingle spoke to his report. He spoke of the various meetings he attended during the reporting period included was the visit from senior members of the Labour Party. Cr Scarlett also attended this meeting.
- C. Ingle spoke of the recent meeting with DoC staff where the Wetlands appeal was discussed. He reported that DoC believe that there are a further 170 wetlands that need to be included. C. Ingle stated that it is looking as though this appeal will go to the Environment Court due to the conflicting positions of the parties involved. He stated that on a technical level good progress is being made with DoC but this is not being carried through into policy and legal areas.
- C. Ingle reported that he attended the Civil Defence Group Controllers meeting in Wellington, he stated this was a very good meeting.
- C. Ingle advised that he attended an Envirolink meeting with Government officials in Christchurch, he reported that funding for Envirolink grants is to continue.
- C. Ingle advised that he is preparing a paper on Total Mobility to take to the next Zone 5 meeting.
- C. Ingle reported that he and R. Mallinson have put a substantial amount of work into the LTCCP with a further draft being submitted to the Auditors. This will come back to a Special Council Meeting for adoption on the 22nd of April.
- In response to the recent media interest in the location of the mouth of New River, C. Ingle stated that he received one only phone call from a member of the public regarding this.
- C. Ingle drew attention to the response to the letter he sent to the Minister for the Environment (Hon Nick Smith) which acknowledges problems with the Conservation Act / RMA interface. C. Ingle stated that in his reply the Minister has signalled a possible change to the Conservation Act in an upcoming Bill to Parliament.

Moved (Archer / Chinn) that the Chief Executive's Report be received.

Carried

CHAIRMANS REPORT (VERBAL) 4.0

The Chairman reported that he attended the visit from senior members of the Labour Party on the 16th of March. He stated local issues were discussed. Cr Scarlett attended a Waste Minimisation

187

meeting and seminar on the $\mathbf{1}^{st}$ of April. On the $\mathbf{2}^{nd}$ of April he met with Jo Kane from the Regional Land Transport Committee. He reported that funding for the upgrade of State Highway 73 is looking positive. He stated that the upgrade for this piece of road needs to be progressed urgently.

Moved (Scarlett / Archer) that this report be received.

Carried

5.0 GENERAL BUSINES	5.0	GEN	IFR.	Δl	BL	ISTN	IFS9
---------------------	-----	-----	------	----	----	------	------

There was no general business.
The meeting closed at 12.35 p.m
Chairman
Date

3.1.2

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL HELD ON THE 22 APRIL 2009, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 2.02 P.M.

PRESENT:

R. Scarlett (Chairman), P. Ewen, B. Chinn, T. Archer, A. Robb, A. Birchfield, D. Davidson,

IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), C. Dall (Consents and Compliance Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk), The Media.

1. APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

2. ADOPTION OF AUDITED LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He explained that the purpose of this meeting was to adopt the Long Term Council Community Plan Statement of Proposal.

The Chairman introduced Mr John Mackey from Audit New Zealand and asked him to answer any questions that Councillors may have. Mr Mackey commented that the document is a step up from the 2006 – 2016 LTCCP document.

R. Mallinson advised that a summary of the LTCCP would be placed in the Messenger for publication on the $13^{\rm th}$ of May.

Cr Archer asked Mr Mackey to outline why there seems to be a significant change to the LTCCP from the last LTCCP process in 2006 as Cr Archer feels the bar seems to have been lifted. Mr Mackey responded that 2006 was the first time LTCCP's were audited and that the sector was in the early stages. Mr Mackey stated that from a sector perspective the bar has been raised since the Society of Local Government Managers have been working to outline what is best practice in the sector. Mr Mackey advised that this is the basis for Audit New Zealand as agents for the Office of the Auditor General. Mr Mackey stated that the process is a progressive improvement and that this is now the third time around for Councils.

Cr Scarlett stated that his concern is that next time the audit process for the LTCCP is due how far does the bar go up again. He is concerned at the cost this could incur to Councils. Cr Archer expressed that the audit costs are going up all the time and he is concerned at where this is heading. Mr Mackey explained the audit process from Audit NZ's perspective. He stated that the audit process is then peer reviewed at the Office of the Auditor General.

Moved (Archer / Robb)

- 1. That Council adopt the audited Long Term Council Community Plan Statement of Proposal.
- 2. That Council confirm dates for public hearings and Special Meeting required in late June.

rri	

The meeting closed at 2.23 P.m.	
Chairman	
Date Control of the C	

WORK PERMITTED SINCE 31 MARCH 2009

QUARRY	CONTRACTOR	TONNAGE REQUESTED	PERMIT START	PERMIT FINISH
Blackball	G.H. Foster	600	27.04.09	11.05.09

RECOMMENDATION

That this report is received.

Simon Moran Planning and Environmental Manger



THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Prepared by: Date:

Council Meeting Robert Mallinson – Corporate Services Manager 4 May 2009

FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2009	ACTUAL	YEAR TO DATE	ACTUAL % ANNUAL	ANNUAL
		BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET
REVENUES		DODGE!	BOBOLI	DODGET
General Rates	1,420,236	1,413,750	75%	1,885,000
Rates Penalties	44,189	56,250	59%	75,000
Investment Income	-679,000	750,000	-68%	1,000,000
Regulatory	1,159,263	703,050	127%	915,500
Planning Processes	134,213	88,217	114%	117,622
Environmental Monitoring	0	0	0%	0
Emergency Management	24,940	18,750	100%	25,000
River, Drainage, Coastal Protection	914,412	620,535	111%	827,380
Vector Mgmt	491,925	491,250	75%	655,000
Regional % Share Controls	275,927	273,750	76%	365,000
VCS Business Unit	2,521,454	1,587,830	119%	2,117,106
	6,307,559	6,003,381	79%	7,982,608
EXPENDITURE				
Representation	275,175	313,391	66%	417,855
Regulatory Activities	1,774,870	1,247,084	107%	1,662,778
Planning Processes	332,066	435,438	57%	580,584
Environmental Monitoring	484,165	538,160	67%	717,547
Emergency Management	69,604	94,577	55%	126,103
River, Drainage, Coastal Protection	818,491	1,667,149	37%	2,222,865
Vector Mgmt	342,198	371,393	69%	495,191
Regional % Share Controls	577,660	651,560	66%	868,746
VCS Business Unit	1,763,212	1,361,660	97%	1,815,547
Portfolio Management	41,854	0		0
	6,479,295	6,680,412	73%	8,907,216
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	-171,736	-677,031		-924,608
Transfer Rating District Interest	-94,619			
To Transfer to Balance Sheet	-266,355			

BREAKDOWN OF SURPLUS (-DEFICIT)	Variance Actual V	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ANNUAL
	Budgeted YTD		Year to date	BUDGET
Rating Districts	953,397	140,440	-812,957	-1,083,942
Quarries	117,478	98,976	-18,502	-24,669
Regional % Share of AHB Programmes	76,077	-301,733	-377,810	-503, 746
Investment Income	-1,470,854	-720,854	750,000	1,000,000
VCS Business Unit	532,073	758,242	226,169	301,559
Vector Mgmt	29,870	149,727	119,857	159,809
Other	0	0	0	0
General Rates Funded Activities	267,255	-288,534	-563,789	-773,619
TOTAL	505,295	-171,736	-677,031	-924,608

Net Contributors to General Rates Funded	Surplus (-Deficit)	<u>Actual</u>	Budet ytd	Annual Plan
	Net Variance			
	Actual V YTD			
Rates	6,486	1,420,236	1,413,750	1,885,000
Rates Penalties	-12,061	44,189	56,250	75,000
Representation	38,216	-275,175	-313,391	-417,855
Regulatory Activities	-71,574	-615,607	-544,034	-747 ,278
Planning Activities	149,369	-197,853	-347,222	-462,962
River, Drainage, Coastal Protection (excl.	71,661	-143,495	-215,156	-286,874
Environmental Monitoring	53,995	-484,165	-538,160	-717 ,547
Emergency Management	31,163	-44,664	-75,827	-101 ,103
	267,255	-288,534	-563,789	-773,619

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION A	S AT 31 MARCH 20	09
	@ 31/03/2009	@ 30/06/2008
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	40,927	80,047
Short term Deposit - Westpac	516,263	1,704,438
Accounts Receivable - Rates	1,170,493	263,628
Accounts Receivable - General Debtors	658,358	562,347
Prepayments	148,505	51,691
Sundry Receivables	392,726	682,810
Stock - explosives	716	716
Stock - VCS Stock - Rock	466,109 62,817	225,612 61,680
Stock - Office Supplies	12,493	12,493
Stock - Office Supplies	12,493	12,493
	3,469,407	3,645,462
Non Current Assets	40 400 40-	44 000 000
Investments	10,123,185	11,035,326
Fixed Assets	3,776,589	3,247,070
Infrastructural Assets	39,403,646	39,403,646
	53,303,420	53,686,042
TOTAL ASSETS	56,772,827	57,331,504
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Bank OD	0	0
Accounts Payable	996,092	1,689,057
GST	132,715	91,603
Deposits and Bonds	395,771	338,486
Sundry Payables	94,097	457,106
Accrued Annual Leave, Payroll	192,567	193,522
Other Revenue in Advance	30,000	491,250
Rates Revenue in Advance	735,399	60,015
	0.570.044	2 224 222
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES	2,576,641	3,321,039
Future Quarry restoration	85,800	85,800
Punakaiki Loan	291,871	316,217
Lower Waiho Loan	51,405	0
Office Equipment and IT Leases	72,939	136,819
	502,015	538,836
TOTAL LIABILITIES	3,078,656	3,859,875
EQUITY		
Ratepayers Equity	19,975,239	19,990,241
Surplus Tsfrd.	-266,355	.,,
Rating District Equity Mvmts	-326,138	
Rating Districts Equity	2,739,158	2,413,020
Tb Special Rate Balance	274,787	262,885
Revaluation	22,714,725	22,222,728
Quarry Account	-17,245	-17,245
Investment Growth Reserve	8,600,000	8,600,000
TOTAL EQUITY	53,694,171	53,471,629
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	56,772,827	57 331 504
EINDILITIES & EQUIT	50,112,021	57,331,504

PORTFOLIO @ 31 March 2009 Summary & Reconciliation			Cash	Bonds	Australasian Equities	International Equities	Property Equities	Alternative Total Asset Classes	
Portfolio Value @ Start		01 July 2008	2733073	3421783	1381877	1812269	724252	939971	11013225
Contributions	ı		644633	195686	33644	124031	8572	109184	0 1115750 }
Vithdrawls	}		-678385	-133272			-41004		-1324081 }
	-								0
Realised Gains/(Losses)				44400	10070	404047		0.40500	0
Price FX			-57653	41160	-12378 15881	-181847 -85865	3382 -735		-423839 } 166120 }
FA					15001	-03003	-133	230039	100120 }
dj.			1109						1109
									0 }
Inrealised Gains/(Losses)			40700	00000	257420	400500	470747	440004	0 }
Price FX			46780	98988	-357130 -30318		-179747 -4317	-113064 -100170	-990763 } 101034 }
					-00010	200000	-4011	-100110	0 }
Igmt Fee									0 }
									0 }
iterest Income			169720	210050	5085		4365	19992	409212 }
Changes Accrued Interest			85	33968				26548	34053 } 26548 }
ividends					41043	63357	34371		174786 }
111001100									}
									}
eversal Hedges 30.6.08					21045		5362		108665 }
urrent Hedges					5414	-103722	1203	-215480	-312585 }
ortfolio Value @ End Period	1	31 March 2009	2859361	3868363	1033197	1058668	555704	723941	0 10099234

Cash	0
Structured credit	48138
Emerging market debt	891283
Hedge positions	215480
	723941

Asset Allocation %'s @ 31 MARC	H 2009	Benchmarks
Cash	28%	25%
Bonds	38%	25%
Australasian Equities	10%	15%
International Equities	10%	15%
Property Equities	6%	5%
Alternative Asset Classes	7%	15%
2	100%	100%

Tactical asset allocation range 10% - 50% 10% - 50% 0% - 20% 0% - 20% 0% - 10% 0% - 20%

2. General Comment

Total operating expenditure for the nine month period was \$6.479 million.

Total revenues for the period amounted to \$6.307 million.

The total deficit was (\$172,000)

Highlights;

- Investment portfolio loss of \$679,000 for the nine month period.
- Greymouth floodwall upgrade expenditure will not be incurred until 2009/10.
- Quarries and VCS business unit are trading profitably.
- There are positive budget variances in the general rate funded area amounting to \$267,000. In particular spending in the Planning; Rivers etc., and Environmental Monitoring areas is running below budgeted.
- The actual scale of expenditure and revenue in the Regulatory area (\$1.774 million and \$1.159 million respectively) includes the cost of processing large scale consent applications such as the Meridian Mokihinui hydro application.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received.

Robert Mallinson Corporate Services Manager

4-2-1 THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for:

Council Meeting – 12 May 2009

Prepared by:

Robert Mallinson - Corporate Services Manager

Date:

5 May 2009

Subject:

NINE MONTH REVIEW - 1 JULY 2008 - 31 MARCH 2009

Attached is the Nine Month Review of the 2008 /2009 Annual Plan.

This report shows Achievements/Progress measured against the performance targets in the Annual Plan, to 31 March 2009, which is 9 months of the financial year.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received.

Robert Mallinson Corporate Services Manager Project Name: Project Manager:

Governance

Corporate Services Manager

	Performance Targets	Achievements/Progress		
Conduct eleven monthly meetings of Council and the Resource Management		Councillor	Number attended	<u>%</u>
	Committee, plus other scheduled	Scarlett	9 out of 9	100%
	meetings and scheduled workshops	Ewen	9 out of 9	100%
	during the year with 85% attendance by	Davidson	9 out of 9	100%
	all Councillors.	Chinn	8 out of 9	89%
		Robb	8 out of 9	89%
		Birchfield	9 out of 9	100%
		Archer	8 out of 9	89%
		_	meetings occurred in the ne separate workshop in	
2.	Prepare and notify the Council's Annual Report by 31 October each year in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Local Government Act 2002.	I	. The 30 June 2008 Audit dopted by Council on 11 l s late).	
3.	Continue to invite attendance of Makaawhio and Ngati Waewae representatives as appointees to the Council.		uncil does not monitor act fappointed representative	
4.	Confirm the Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) for the period 2009 / 2019 by 30 June 2009 in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Local Government Act 2002.	Audited State	uncil adopted the Draft L ment of Proposal on 22 A s expected to be complet	April 2009.

Project Name: Project Manager:

Resource Consent ProcessingConsents and Compliance Manager

	Performance Targets	Achievements/Progress
1.		Achieved. 95.2% of non-notified resource consent applications granted (319/335) were processed within statutory timeframes.
2.	Process 90% of limited and publicly notified consent applications within statutory timeframes.	Not achieved. Only 22 of 83 consents were processed within statutory timeframes, but note that 57 of the 83 consents were for the proposed Arnold Valley scheme. Excluding those 57, 84.6% consents were processed within timeframe.
3.	Work with consent holders to seek to reduce the need for formal requests for further information under Section 92 of the RMA.	Achieved. 14 Section 92 requests were made in relation to the consent applications being processed in the reporting period, compared to 25 the previous year.
4.	Complete staff reports for all notified applications within the statutory timeframes.	Achieved. Two hearings commenced in this period, with both staff reports being completed in time.
5.	Report publicly through the monthly Resource Management Committee Meetings all consents granted.	Achieved. Each monthly consents report included a list of non-notified, limited notified and notified consent applications granted.

- 6. Provide advice on resource consent processes and requirements in a timely and helpful manner.
- Send details of all consent applications, which could be of concern to Iwi to the respective Runanga.
- 8. Notify Te Runanga O Ngai Tahu of all resource consent applications affecting Statutory Acknowledgment Areas.

Achieved. Some complimentary correspondence received from consent applicants, but no negative feedback or complaints.

Achieved. Iwi continued to be emailed a weekly summary of all applications.

Achieved.

Project Name:

Compliance Monitoring & Complaints

Project Manager:

Consents and Compliance Manager

Performance Targets

Identify resource consents that require ongoing monitoring and monitor those consents in accordance with set monitoring programmes.

- Inspect every consent for the discharge of dairy effluent at least every three years depending on compliance and where problems are identified to work with farmers so that consent compliance is achieved and environmental effects are reduced.
- 3. Inspect all new consents that involve major construction works after completion of those works.
- Inspect all consents for whitebait stands at least once every two years to check consent compliance and that the environmental effects of the stands are no more than minor.
- Inspect every consent and/or mining licence for operating mining activities at least once annually, and where problems are identified, undertake follow up (which may include further inspections) to ensure consent compliance is achieved and/or environmental effects are reduced.
- Process 80% of mining work programmes within 20 working days of receipt.
- 7. Report all monitoring inspections through the monthly Resource Management Committee meetings.
- 8. Release 80% of bonds within four months of the surrender, forfeiture or expiry of the corresponding mining

Achievements/Progress

Achieved. Each new consent is allocated to an Officer and assessed as to whether it is going to require ongoing monitoring. The monitoring of such consents is prioritised in terms of their actual and potential environmental effects.

Achieved. During the reporting period 324 dairy shed inspections were undertaken, including reinspections as the result of non compliance. Some 72% of inspections revealed full compliance with the relevant resource consent or permitted activity rule.

Achieved. Staff undertook regular inspections of consents for major construction works.

On target. Whitebait stands on high profile rivers were inspected on a regular basis and as issues arose during the season. Those not inspected were either on remote rivers or rivers where no specific issues arose.

On target. 102 inspections of mining operations were undertaken during the reporting period. These inspections also include re-inspections carried out as the result of non compliance. Some 80% of the mining operations were compliant with the relevant resource consent or mining licence.

Achieved. 91%, or 31 of the 34 work programmes received were processed within 20 working days.

Achieved. The inspections are reported in each monthly compliance report.

Achieved. All requests for bond releases received during the reporting period were recommended for release where rehabilitation requirements had licences or permits, provided that rehabilitation requirements and resource consent conditions have been met.

- 9. Review bond levels for large-scale mines and where necessary set new bond levels to better reflect the environmental effects/risks of those mines.
- Report mining bond releases and other license administration activities monthly to the Resource Management Committee.
- 11. Operate a 24-hour complaints service and record all complaints on the Incidents database in accordance with enforcement procedures of the RMA.
- 12. Respond to breaches of the Resource Management Act, regional plan rules or resource consents.
- 13. Take enforcement action through abatement notices, infringement notices or prosecution as appropriate and in accordance with Council policy.
- 14. Report numbers and categories of complaints received to the Resource Management Committee.

been met.

On target. The bond for the Ocean Gold Globe Progress mine was reviewed and increased, and the reviews of SENZ's mine sites have commenced.

Achieved. A section of mining administration activities is included in each monthly compliance report.

Achieved. Council continued to operate a 24 hour complaint response service and all complaints were recorded on the incidents database.

Achieved. 156 complaints were received and responded to during the last reporting period.

Achieved. 33 Abatement Notices and 40 Infringement Notices were issued and 1 successful prosecution was completed during the reporting period.

Achieved. The total number, category, and a brief description of each complaint, is reported in each monthly compliance report.

Project Name:

Environmental Planning

Project Manager: Planning and Environmental Manager

Performance Targets Achievements/Progress 1. Hold hearings for the Proposed Plan Deferred. Hearings were delayed to enable Change for the Coastal Plan to enable discussions with submitters on key issues. opening of river mouths under certain Submissions were notified for further conditions as a permitted activity by submissions in February. Work has now begun September 2008. on the recommending report. 2. Make the Proposed Plan Change for the Deferred. See above. Coastal Plan operative by March 2009 subject to appeals. 3. Hold hearings on the merged Land and Deferred. Delayed this project to next year to Water plan by June 2009 - the merging of enable consultation with key stakeholders. Have the Land and Riverbed, Water, and reviewed the Discharge to Land Plan rules, Discharge to Land plans. currently working up new Lake Brunner policies. Also working on amalgamating sections of the three plans. 4. Make the Wetlands Variation to the Land Under Court control, Decisions were released 12 and Riverbed Plan operative by June 2009 December 2008. Four appeals were received subject to appeals. and this is now before the Environment Court for mediation. 5. Prepare and disseminate information for Achieved. Civil defence preparedness and resource users on rules and requirements, hazardous waste disposal articles in September and best practice principles and practices Council newsletter. Pest plant rules reminder in March newsletter. Currently working as needed.

6. Prepare annual operational plans to implement the operative Pest Plant Management Strategy.

 Investigate and respond where appropriate to any environmental policies or plans of other authorities or central government that may impact on West Coast interests, within required timeframes, and provide ongoing policy advice to Council as and when needed.

8. Respond to simple RMA or Plan information requests within 10 working days, and within a reasonable timeframe for more complex requests.

9. Participate in all the West Coast Waste Management Working Group meetings, and provide administrative support.

sediment control & coastal management guidelines, and pest plant information sheets.

Not required this year

Achieved. Attended hearing on New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement. Submitted Proposed National Policy Statements for Renewable Electricity Generation and Freshwater Management, the Proposed National Environment Standard on On-Site Wastewater Systems, and the RMA Simplifying and Streamlining Amendment Bill. **Attended** workshop on Waste Water **National** Environment Standard. Made a further submission on the Freshwater NPS.

Achieved. Information provided on request. Included information on permitted agrichemical discharges standards.

Achieved. Attended meetings in September and February. Organised advertising, interviews and appointment of new Waste Minimisation Education Officer. Lodged application for further funding for a Waste Minimisation Officer.

Project Name:

Transport Planning

Project Manager: Plannin

Planning and Environmental Manager

Performance Targets Achievements/Progress 1. Co-ordinate and administer two meetings Achieved. Inaugural meeting of the new RTC of the West Coast Regional Land held on 27 August under new legislation. New representatives approved by Council. RTC also Transport Committee and the Regional Technical Advisory Group. met on 2 March. RTAG has been reconstituted and has met on 6 November 2008 and 3 February 2009. 2. Complete a three yearly review of the Deferred. Deferral of RLTS has been granted by Regional Land Transport Strategy by Minister of Transport. Now to be reviewed by March 2009 and every three years September 2010. This will then be on a 6 year thereafter. review cycle. 3. Prepare and submit Annual Achieved. Changes to Transport legislation an Programme to Land Transport New resulted in development of 3 year Regional Land Zealand to secure funding support for Transport Programme. The Regional Councils part West Coast projects by March of each of this was submitted as required by 14 November. year. Α Regional Land Transport Programme was drafted and put out for consultation during March/April. Hearings are to be held on 11 May 2009. Final programme is due for submission by 30 June 2009. 4. Seek funding undertake other Achieved. Have sought assistance (resourcing) to transport projects identified in the from NZTA to undertake the development of a Strategy as and when appropriate. Regional Public Transport Plan as required by the new Public Transport Management Act 2008.

 Prepare an annual report on implementation of the Regional Land Transport Strategy by September each year. Achieved. Annual report completed and received by Council in September 2008.

 Oversee the Road Safety Co-ordinator to achieve road safety outcomes as per the Regional Road Safety Plan, and attend all Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee meetings. Achieved. New Coordinator appointed. Tai Poutini Polytechnic now delivering the Community Road Safety Programme. Attended AGM and general meeting on 10 October and quarterly meeting on 13 February.

 Undertake annual monitoring of the Total Mobility Programme by checking use of vouchers, assessment forms and overall level of utilisation of the taxi operators. Achieved. Eligibility forms are checked by transport planner as entered into regional user database. User database includes 535 permanent users. There have been 29 new users registered in the 9 months of the 2008/09 year.

8. Maintain a current register of passenger services.

Achieved. Register is being amended and added to as required.

Project Name: Project Manager: **Environmental Monitoring – Hydrology Monitoring Programme**

Planning and Environmental Manager

	Performance Targets	Achievements/Progress
1.	Maintain existing hydrometric sites and complete upgrades as required to ensure efficiency and effectiveness.	Achieved. In the process of completing a rollout of new technology. Sites completed include: Buller Rv @ Woolfs Sirdar Ck @ Mt Faraday Ahaura Rv @ Gorge Grey Rv @ Waipuna Grey Rv @ Conical Hill Arnold @ Lake Bruner Grey Rv @ Lagoon Grey Rv @ Dobson Styx @ Mt Browning Mt Sewell Repeater Mt Deelaw Repeater
2.	Maintain a network of manual groundwater level monitoring sites with quarterly monitoring.	Achieved. Monitoring undertaken June 2008, September 2008, January 2009, and April 2009.
3.	Maintain the hydrological database and produce technical summary and data analysis reports as required, including advice for plan and consent requirements.	Achieved. No formal reports required this year. Used the database to respond to information requests.
4.	Maintain a database of water level, flow and rainfall data to enable hydrological analysis (including flood frequency, flood modelling, and data provision).	Achieved. No formal report required this year. Used the database to respond to information requests.
5.	Carry out low flow monitoring and water resource investigations as appropriate.	Achieved. Low flow gaugings were collected over summer months in the Grey, Hokitika and Inangahua catchments.
6.	Maintain the Council's flood warning system to a level whereby any individual river flow station is operational for at least 95% of the time.	Achieved. Sites were operational for more than 95% of the time.

 Ensure essential real time data on river levels is available on the Council website and Info line (data is updated 12 hourly, and during floods 3 hourly at least). Achieved. Noting there were two occasions where the link between the databases needed a reboot.

 Provide a continuous flood monitoring service for the five rivers monitored and respond in accordance with the floodwarning manual. Achieved. All five rivers monitored in accordance with flood manual.

Review the flood-warning manual annually and liaise with work groups as required. On target. To be completed by June.

 Respond to information requests within a ten working day period for simple requests, and within one month for more complex requests. Achieved.

11. Maintain up to date rainfall and river level information on Council's website and Info line.

Achieved. Noting there were two occasions where the link between the databases needed a reboot.

Project Name:

Environmental Monitoring – Surface and Ground Water Programme

Project Manager: Planning and Environmental Manager

	Performance Targets	Achievements/Progress
1.	Complete a full state of the environment report for ground water quality including condition and trend analysis by June.	On target. The report is being finalised and will be presented at the June Council meeting.
2.	Complete four surface water quality- sampling rounds per annum.	Achieved. Monitoring rounds were completed in July, September, December, and March.
3.	Complete contact recreation water sampling monthly during the period of November to March and report results promptly.	Achieved. All five summer months were sampled and reported promptly with a full annual summary reported to the April Council meeting.
4.	Continue open water monitoring of Lake Brunner (including depth profiles), bi- monthly sampling with an annual summary report by December 2008.	Achieved. Lake sampled in August, October, December, February and April. The annual report was unnecessary due to the detailed Lake report in the June 2008 State of the Environment report for surface water quality.
5.	Prepare reports on investigations as required and within agreed timeframes.	Achieved. Several assessments for consents and compliance completed.
6.	Complete two ground water quality sampling rounds per annum	Achieved (exceeded). Monitoring was completed in July, September, December, and March.

Project Name: Project Manager: **Potentially Contaminated Sites**Planning and Environmental Manager

147	Performance Targets	Achievements/Progress
1.	Continue the 'Sites Associated with Hazardous Substances' programme.	Achieved. Some new sites require further investigation and entry into database.
2.	Ensure District Councils have access to updated information.	Achieved. Map host database is in time with WCRC version.

3. Assist landowners by securing external funding to investigate or remediate high priority sites, where possible.

Investigations in conjunction with the Ministry for the Environment are in progress in the Totara Lagoon area. Samples have been collected. Sample results and assessment are due by June.

Project Name:

Air Quality

Project Manager:

Planning and Environmental Manager

Performance Targets	Achievements/Progress
Continue wintertime ambient air quality monitoring in Reefton, and provide monthly summary reports to Council and Ministry for the Environment.	

Project Name:

Civil Defence & Emergency Management

Project Manager:

Planning and Environmental Manager

		<u> </u>
	Performance Targets	Achievements/Progress
1.	Provide administrative support to the CDEM Group & its Co-ordinating Executive Group as per clauses 4.4 and 4.5 of the CDEM Plan 2005.	Achieved. CEG meeting was held on 10 November 2008.
2.	Assist with preparation, completion, implementation, and annual review, within agreed timeframes, of the following: a) West Coast Engineering Lifelines projects b) Training Needs	Achieved. Group EOC training held for all Council staff on 25 November to cover Operations, Planning/Intelligence, and Logistics. Chris Ingle and Wayne Moen attended 3 day Controllers training in November. Assisting MCDEM with fuel and food research for lifelines group. Exercise being developed for next financial year.
3.	Prepare and organise the distribution of public information linked to the development and release of the national public information programme.	Achieved. Get Ready Get Thru West Coast mail out as insert to West Coast Messenger in week starting 14 July 2008. Monthly column has started in The Messenger covering different aspects of CDEM.
4.	Assist with facilitating, securing funding where possible for, and initiating high priority research work as directed by priorities in Group Plan.	Achieved. Approval in principle has been obtained to fund priority studies identified by the Co-ordinating Executive Group and endorsed by the Group (Mayors and Chair).
5.	Maintain a headquarters in preparation for potential emergencies, in accordance with the Group Emergency Operation Centre Activation Plan and Group Controllers Guide.	Achieved. Headquarters maintained in a ready state. Investigating external aerials to enable the use of satellite phones inside the EOC. Investigating improvements to the HF radio communications due to interference at the aerial's current location.
6.	Maintain a warning system capable of receiving and transmitting information and instructions to all levels of control at all times.	Achieved. HF and VHF radio links are maintained with the three districts and MCDEM (Christchurch). Testing undertaken weekly (Thursdays).
7.	Review the West Coast Group Emergency Operation Centre Activation Plan.	Achieved. Review of documentation is ongoing as it is tested and used in exercises and training.
8.	To respond to all four national warning tests within 1 hour.	Achieved. Two warnings received in the year to date. Responded within required timeframes.

Project Name: Project Manager: **Marine Oil Response Capability**

Consents and Compliance Manager

	Performance Targets	Achievements/Progress
1.	Maintain a minimum pool of 25 qualified and trained personnel at all times to cope with maritime oil spills, including training in issues relating to wildlife in the region.	Achieved. There are currently 26 trained responders.
2.	Organise for West Coast personnel to attend one practical and one desktop training exercise per annum.	Achieved. One practical exercise was held in Westport this financial year and a desktop exercise is planned for May 2009.
3.	Ensure response equipment is maintained to a level ready to respond to a Tier 2 response, and report quarterly to Maritime NZ on equipment checks.	Achieved. VCS conduct regular equipment maintenance checks.
4.	To evaluate the spill and alert response personnel within 1 hour.	Achieved. The last two events were evaluated within the hour.
5.	To mobilise equipment and personnel and commence the clean up within 2 hours.	Achieved. The two incidents that have occurred during the reporting period did not require mobilisation response.

Project Name:

Terrestrial Hazardous Substance Spill Response

Project Manager:

Consents and Compliance Manager

	Performance Targets	Achievements/Progress		
1.	Maintain a team of staff trained to deal with terrestrial hazardous substance spills.	Achieved. Compliance staff trained to deal marine oil spills are also trained to deal with terrestrial hazardous substance spills.		
2.	Review the Contingency and Procedures Plan every three years.	Review due in 2009/2010 year.		
3.	Regularly attend meetings of the West Coast Hazardous Substances Technical Liaison Committee and the West Coast Combined Emergency Services Coordinating Committee where these are relevant.			

Project Name:

River, Drainage & Coastal Protection Work

Project Manager: Planning and

Planning and Environmental Manager

	Performance Targets	Achievements/Progress		
1.	Hold annual meetings for each Rating District Committee to discuss funding and maintenance of the works.	Achieved. All meetings completed in October 2008.		
2.	Organise and oversee maintenance of all rating district infrastructural assets in accordance with asset management plans.	Achieved. Inspections have been carried out, discussed with the rating districts including works to be carried out - some works yet to be completed.		
3.	Complete the upgrade of the Greymouth floodwall by June 2009.	In progress. Consent has been approved. Will not be completed by June as the consultation with the community has to be completed through the		

4. Undertake consultation and preliminary costings for the possible Westport flood protection scheme.

5. Assist with organising and securing infrastructure loans for major capital works when required.

- Organise annual aerial photography of major rivers and other areas of interest within budget by March 2009.
- 7. Prioritise rating district rivers for cross section studies as funds allow and complete work by June 2009.
- Obtain rock from quarries to facilitate river protection works within two weeks of any request and at a cost in line with the relative operating cost of each quarry without subsidy from general rates.
- Undertake regular inspections of quarries as required to ensure contractors are leaving the site safe, tidy and ready for the next job.
- Undertake an annual review of contractors Health & Safety documentation.
- 11. Ensure that contractors are made aware of potential hazards in the quarries every time a permit is issued.

LTCCP process and final wall height determined.

In progress. LIDAR data for the area has been sourced so that accurate plans can be prepared. Currently working with NIWA to have some analysis undertaken.

Achieved. Lower Waiho Rating District loan was completed.

Not achieved. Aerial photography requirements identified and contract let. Contractor awaiting fine weather to fly.

On target. Priorities set. Surveys will be completed by June 2009.

Achieved. All quarries with the exception of Wanganui are functioning. Wanganui is currently 'moth-balled' with the agreement of the Rating District.

Ongoing. However, there is some reluctance from contractors and ratepayers to pay for ongoing clearance of quarry floor.

Not achieved. This work is to be completed by June 2009.

Achieved. Being carried out on a job by job basis every time a permit is issued.

Project Name: Project Manager: **Vector Control Business Unit**

Vector Control Business Unit Manager

Performance Targets Achievements/Progress 1. Tender for, and win, sufficient Animal Achieved (exceeded). Budgeted surplus will be Health Board ground and aerial control exceeded. contracts to achieve the budgeted surplus. 2. Supply staff and associated equipment as Five staff are trained as Oil Spill respondents a response unit to marine and terrestrial pollution spill events and Civil Defence needs. 3. Maintain oil spill response equipment to Achieved. Three equipment inspections have been the level required in the West Coast Tier completed so far this financial year. 2 Oil Spill Response Plan. 4. Operate the Unit on a fully competitive Achieved (exceeded). Budgeted surplus will be basis and provide the budgeted return to exceeded. the Regional Council.

- 5. Operate in accordance with Quality Assurance and Health and Safety Plans and safety procedures.
- Achieved. Five staff completed forklift training in February. All training and safety requirements are followed in terms of poison use and other potential hazards.
- 6. Develop new business areas as appropriate complementary to existing roles.

A relationship with Landcare Research has been progressed. Minor services are provided to Pike River Coal Limited.



THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Prepared by: Council Meeting 12 May 2009 Chris Ingle – Chief Executive

Date:

30 April 2009

Subject:

CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT

Meetings Attended

The meetings I have attended since the 14 April Council meeting include:

- Attended the Regional Chief Executives Meeting in Wellington on 15 April.
- Attended the Chief Executives Environmental Forum in Wellington on 16 April.
- Met with MP Chris Auchinvole in Westport on 21 April.
- Attended the Special Council Meeting on 22 April.
- Met with Mike Slater and Al Morrison (Director General) of DoC on 22 April.
- Attended a Mayors and Chair forum 27 April.
- Attending the Regional Affairs Committee Meeting in Wellington on 1 May.
- Attending the Zone 5 & 6 Local Government NZ meeting in Christchurch on the 7th and 8th of May.

New Auckland Unitary Authority

The Government is making very rapid changes to local government in Auckland, for reasons that are not relevant to the West Coast. This will be the largest merger in NZ history: 6000 staff and \$23 Billion in assets. There are major challenges for the current Auckland Council's CEO's in implementing the amalgamation. The Government will set up an establishment board in May to oversee the change process.

There is no suggestion that government wishes to conduct amalgamations in other regions. However they are interested in achieving greater efficiency in all levels of government and the four Councils should assist government by identifying areas that the Councils here think could be more efficiently managed. One item I discussed with DoC and Mr Auchinvole is the duplication with DoC concessions and RMA consenting requirements on riverbeds owned by DoC. Al Morrison has agreed to work with me on reducing unnecessary red-tape in this area.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Government is starting to plan for phase 2 changes to RMA and associated legislation; and development of an EPA. From discussions with the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) the EPA will simply process large RMA consent applications for matters of national importance. The MfE sees the EPA as a network of experts, they are not trying to replicate the environmental expertise that already exists at regional councils. They will ask to 'borrow' regional council specialist staff on an as-required basis. The EPA may also take over developing national policy statements and national environmental standards as well. Essentially it is a change of brand rather than a new function. There is no suggestion that the government wishes to assume control of regional council functions generally.

Energy Supply and Demand Planning

Council is currently processing several consent applications for energy generation on the West Coast. From a planning perspective, ensuring our communities have a secure supply of energy into the future is a high priority, although environmental considerations obviously also need to be assessed via RMA processes.

With the impending merger of the Council's three 'land and water' plans and the impending Regional Policy Statement review next year, it is timely to seek an independent assessment of the energy needs of the West Coast into the longer term future, and also look at security of supply (i.e. transmission lines and back-up routes).

I intend working with energy stakeholders in the region over the next few weeks to develop a brief for such an assessment and will seek to engage a properly qualified independent person to write a brief report for Council.

Council Seal

I fixed Council seal to a contract with the Ministry for the Environment agreeing to assist them in delivering a \$9,000 project to sample various Totara Lagoon waterways, following some results from DoC water sampling that need to be clarified.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received.

Chris Ingle Chief Executive

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

To: Chairperson

West Coast Regional Council

I move that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely, -

Agenda Item No. 8. 23 - 25 8.1			
		8.1	Confirmation of Confidential Minutes 14 April 2009
	26 – 28	8.2	Confirmation of Minutes of Special Meeting 22 April 2009
	29	8.3	Overdue Debtors Report
	30	8.4	Icon Mining Company Ltd (In Liquidation)
	31 – 32	8.5	Infrastructure Planning and Efficiency
	33	8.6	Greymouth Floodwall

Item No.	General Subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution.
8.			
8.1	Confirmation of Confidential Minutes 14 April 2009		Section 48(1)(a) and in particular Section 9 of 2nd Schedule Local
8.2	Confirmation of Minutes of Special Meeting 22 April 2009		Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.
8.3	Overdue Debtors Report		, (6, 150).
8.4	Icon Mining Company Ltd (in liquidation)		
8.5	Infrastructure Planning and Efficiency		
8.6	Greymouth Floodwall		

I also move that:

- Chris Ingle
- Robert Mallinson
- Simon Moran
- Colin Dall

be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded, because of their knowledge on the subject. This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matter to be discussed.

The Minutes Clerk also be permitted to remain at the meeting.