



THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MEDIA RELEASE – 5 March 2020

\$2.7M West Coast LiDAR contract signed

The West Coast Regional Council has just signed off on a \$2.7M contract with Aerial Surveys Limited to capture and supply highly accurate digital terrain data for the whole West Coast.

Aerial surveying of the region is soon to start, using the latest LiDAR (Light Detecting and Ranging) technology collecting geographic data to create highly detailed 3D maps and models of the region.

The Regional Council secured the funding on behalf of the district councils, New Zealand Transport Agency, utilities and private industry, and will manage it on behalf of Land Information New Zealand.

Hadley Mills, Planning Science and Innovation Manager at the Regional Council, said that this will be a great resource for the region.

“The level of information that LiDAR can provide is significant to a number of projects, including the modelling of natural hazards such as coastal inundation and river flooding, roading and stormwater design, and land and water management”, said Mr Mills.

“Having this information available will provide immense benefit to our communities.”

PGF awarded eight Regional Councils, in partnership with their Territorial Authorities and others, \$14 million of co-funding to obtain LiDAR elevation datasets in 2018. Land Information New Zealand is managing this initiative on behalf of the Provincial Development Unit.

The LiDAR capture will provide data for over half of New Zealand’s land area. Once the initiative is complete, New Zealand’s total LiDAR coverage should increase to approximately 80%, from 10% currently.

ENDS -

Media contact

Hadley Mills | Planning Science and Innovation Manager | West Coast Regional Council | 021 175 4045