



# THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

## Media Release

3 October 2023

### **Waiho River Management Strategy community presentation**

The West Coast Regional Council is inviting Franz Josef community members to a presentation on Wednesday 11 October from the Technical Advisory Group engaged to develop an overarching 10-year strategy for the management of the Waiho River.

West Coast Regional Council Chief Executive, Darryl Lew, noted the importance of this meeting for the Franz Josef community.

“Not only, does Council want the experts in this field to be able to present their findings and future considerations to the community directly, this is also the chance for the community to provide feedback on what they hear and to ask the questions they may have. It’s important that people understand what is being proposed.”

Council engaged independent experts in hydrology, engineering and river modelling in August 2023. After reviewing the issues on site, the Technical Advisory Group workshopped a range of options to develop a 10-year strategy for the river. The strategy is focussed on the river. It does not address what should be done with the infrastructure around it such as the road, oxidation ponds or helipad or town. Those are decisions that will also need to be made in the future by their respective organisations.

“All six experts, who have considerable knowledge of the Waiho River, will be present at the meeting,” said Mr Lew. “These are some of the best minds in this field in the country. I would encourage all community members to come and hear their findings on both the old and new issues before us.

“Besides our Council Chair Peter Haddock and Councillor Andy Campbell, we will also have attendance at the meeting from Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio, Westland Mayor Lash and the Chief Executive of Westland District Council, and several central government departments including Kānoa, Department of Internal Affairs and Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency in support of the Strategy.”

Hard copies of the final report will be available on Council’s website and at the Community Centre in Franz Josef following the presentation on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

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Media Contact

Darryl Lew | Chief Executive | West Coast Regional Council | 027 217 9306



## Community Meeting Information

### Franz Josef Waiho Technical Advisory Group Community Presentation

When: 7.00pm, Wednesday 11 October

Where: Franz Josef Cinema  
29 Main Road Franz Josef

The Technical Advisory Group will present their findings, future considerations and the 10-year management strategy for the Waiho River. The Technical Advisory Group is comprised of:



Rose Beagley

Geomorphologist / Water Resources Scientist, Land River Sea Consulting  
BSc, MSc



Tim Davies

Retired Professor  
University of Canterbury  
BSc (Hons), MSc and PhD in Civil Engineering



Ian Fuller

Professor in Physical Geography, Massey University  
BSc Hons Geography, PhD



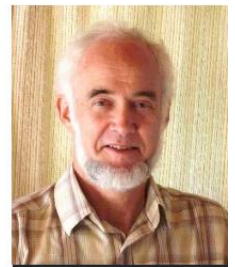
Matthew Gardner

Principal Engineer, Land River Sea Consulting  
BE(Nat Res), CMEngNZ, CPEng



Mark Healey

Principal Engineer - Rivers  
WSP  
ME(Nat Res), CMEngNZ, CPEng



Gary Williams

Water and Soil Engineer,  
G&E Williams Consulting  
BE (Hons), BSc (Physics), MCom (Hons), FEngNZ