

**AGENDA AND SUPPORTING PAPERS  
FOR COUNCIL'S OCTOBER MEETINGS**

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

**TUESDAY, 11 OCTOBER 2011**

**The programme for the day is:**

**10.30 a.m:                                Resource Management Committee Meeting**

**On completion of RMC Meeting:    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, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2011**

B.CHINN  
CHAIRPERSON

M. MEEHAN  
Planning and Environmental Manager  
C. DALL  
Consents and Compliance Manager

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<b><u>AGENDA NUMBERS</u></b>	<b><u>PAGE NUMBERS</u></b>	<b><u>BUSINESS</u></b>
<b>1.</b>		<b>APOLOGIES</b>
<b>2.</b>		<b>MINUTES</b>
	1 – 6	2.1 Confirmation of Minutes of Resource Management Committee Meeting – 13 September 2011
<b>3.</b>		<b>PRESENTATION</b>
<b>4.</b>		<b>CHAIRMAN'S REPORT</b>
<b>5.</b>		<b>REPORTS</b>
		<b>5.1 Planning and Environmental Group</b>
	7 - 24	5.1.1 Planning & Environmental Manager's Monthly Report
	25 – 27	5.1.2 Civil Defence and Regional Transport Report
	28	5.1.3 Working Together Agreement – Annual Report
		<b>5.2 Consents and Compliance Group</b>
	29 – 32	5.2.1 Consents Monthly Report
	33 – 37	5.2.2 Compliance & Enforcement Monthly Report
		<b>6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS</b>

**THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL****MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
HELD ON 13 SEPTEMBER 2011 AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL,  
388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.32 A.M.****PRESENT:**

B. Chinn (Chairman), R. Scarlett, T. Archer, D. Davidson, A. Robb, A. Birchfield, I. Cummings, T. Scott, F. Tumahai

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

**1. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

**2. PUBLIC FORUM**

There was no public forum.

**3. MINUTES**

**Moved** (Archer / Tumahai) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 9 August 2011, be confirmed as correct.*

*Carried*

**Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cr Chinn reported that he received a telephone call from a ratepayer in the Franz Josef area concerned about the recent landslide dam that formed in the Callery gorge. Cr Chinn stated that he advised the caller to phone Council and speak to the staff who had carried out the inspection. The inspection report was then emailed to the concerned ratepayer.

**Moved** (Chinn / Davidson) *that Council receive this report.*

*Carried*

**5. REPORTS****5.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP****5.1.1 PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT**

M. Meehan spoke to his report advising that the hearing set down for the 15<sup>th</sup> August for the Wetlands – Variation 1 was deferred to the 17<sup>th</sup> of August due to heavy snow in Christchurch. M. Meehan reported that the court heard from several witnesses including council's planning witness, but there was not time to hear from all the witnesses therefore the hearing will resume on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October. He advised that good progress is being made on the recommending reports for the merged Plan hearing but this cannot be held until the outcome of the Wetlands case is to hand.

M. Meehan reported the Ministers of Conservation and Fisheries have made decisions on the marine reserves and maitai reserves for the West Coast. He advised that the minister's recommendations are that five areas have some kind of marine protection. M. Meehan advised that this would now go out to a public process so that the public can make submissions before these five areas are confirmed.

M. Meehan reported that the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects) Bill has been introduced to Parliament. He stated that this Bill will allow for some control over our oceans and the Environmental Protection Agency is the agency that will deal with applications for oil rigs out beyond the 12 mile zone. M. Meehan advised that the application fees for oil rigs may rise from a couple of thousand dollars up to approximately \$300,000 but this is still a small proportion of the overall cost of an oil rig which can be \$300M.

M. Meehan reported that the Aquaculture Amendment Legislation Bill has passed its third reading in Parliament. M. Meehan advised that staff made a submission on this Bill in December 2010 supporting the relaxing of RMA planning requirements for aquaculture.

M. Meehan reported that the Ministry for the Environment has released a discussion document on Environmental Reporting. M. Meehan advised that the Government would like national reporting improved so that matters such as our State of Environment Report could be reported on a national level and consistency can be gained on matters such as water quality for the whole world to see. M. Meehan advised that Government is looking at moving responsibility for this reporting function away from the Ministry for the Environment and giving it to the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment.

M. Meehan reported that the Waiho River flood warning alarms were triggered twice during the reporting period. M. Meehan drew attention to the report given to councillors regarding the slip in the Callery River catchment. He advised that staff have been working closely with the Department of Conservation, Westland District Council and NZTA and a press release was arranged. M. Meehan advised the Department of Conservation in Franz Josef has an email network that they use to get the information out to the community. M. Meehan advised the GNS are now involved with this as they have stated that this is a good opportunity for them to get some information on landslides and it fits in with their work programme.

M. Meehan reported that there have been six exceedences of the NES for air quality in Reefton so far this winter.

Cr Scarlett asked M. Meehan if the lake fails in the Callery River catchment how long would it be until the water arrives in civilisation. M. Meehan responded that the advice from the GNS Scientist is that it is unlikely that the lake will fail as there is heavy rock in the lake but if it does fail then it is unlikely that it would result in a large amount of flooding. M. Meehan stated that GNS have indicated that the most concerning factor is the threat of a heavy rainfall event. He advised that if a sensor is placed in the lake then there may be about an hour's warning to enable NZTA to close the road and take some safety precautions. C. Ingle advised that NIWA are doing some work for council trying to estimate if that amount of water were released all at once, what sort of difference in terms of water level at the bridge would it make. M. Meehan advised that a \$5,000 grant has been received from Envirolink to do this work. C. Ingle advised that the main concern is that a further slip occurs that could make a much larger reservoir. He stated that the small reservoir is considered to be fairly low risk. Cr Archer asked if this river is a narrow channel as he is concerned about the risk of the spread of water. C. Ingle confirmed that the river channel is narrow until it meets the Waiho River and then it broadens out to about 130 metres wide. M. Meehan advised that the Callery River alarm can no longer be used because of gravel build up under the bridge.

Cr Archer expressed his concern at what the cost implications could be for council for the Discussion Document of Environmental Monitoring in view of the short reporting timeframe for this change in legislation. M. Meehan advised that he discussed this with MfE at a recent meeting and other councils present were also concerned about additional costs. M. Meehan advised that the message in our submission will be that if the government would like us to do more monitoring for national reporting then they will need to provide additional funding.

Cr Archer asked what happens if there are more exceedences of the NES for air quality in Reefton than the three that are prescribed by 2016. M. Meehan drew attention to the emailed article from Hon Nick Smith that the Chief Executive sent to councillors regarding compliance with the National Standard for Air Quality. C. Ingle stated that the Minister is talking about extreme measures such as going to the point of dissolving councils and replacing them with Commissioners if they don't take action to achieve these timeframes. C. Ingle feels that drastic action would probably not be taken straight away. C. Ingle advised that he has spoken with other councils who are working on air quality and also with EECA who are trying to make more money available to people who want to improve the insulation in their homes and to improve the quality of the discharge from their burner. C. Ingle advised that further work would be done on this through the LTP. Cr Archer is concerned

there is no proof to say that by installing better heating systems will improve the situation in Reefton. He feels that this is a stick waving exercise that may not achieve anything. Cr Davidson asked how much work would need to be done to get the exceedences under control in Reefton. C. Ingle responded that we have not done the modelling work required to work this out, as there has been a big focus on water quality in the region. C. Ingle stated that that air quality will become a much bigger focus over the coming three years than what it has been.

**Moved** (Archer / Robb) *that this report is received.*

*Carried*

## 5.1.2 HARRIS CREEK AND OROWAITI RIVER FARM PLANS PROJECT

M. Meehan spoke to this report advising that in 2006 Council, Landcare Trust and Westland Milk Products prepared farm plans in Harris Creek and the Orowaiti River catchments. M. Meehan stated that the aim of the farm plans was to improve the farm management practices, enhance the water quality and create a greater awareness of the environment. M. Meehan advised that participation in the project was 70% of farmers in the Harris Creek catchment and 66% of farmers in the Orowaiti River catchment. M. Meehan advised that all farmers that participated were visited by Jan Derks, farm consultant, who prepared a farm plan for each property. M. Meehan stated that some improvements were major works such as bridges for stock crossings. M. Meehan stated that he was involved with some of the first meetings of the project and that some farmers were quite hesitant to begin with but by the end of the project they were in praise of it. M. Meehan advised that one of the major results from the two projects was a deeper level of understanding from the farmers involved of the importance of healthier streams and simple measures that can be put in place. M. Meehan advised that Mr Derks has done follow up work to see what has been put in place and to question the farmers as to whether they felt this project was worthwhile being involved with. M. Meehan stated that feedback has revealed that some farmers would like a follow up farm plan to guide them through further improvements and take this to the next level. M. Meehan advised that further discussions have taken place with Mr Derks and Westland Milk Products to ascertain the possibility of initiating new voluntary farm plan projects in three new catchments spread over the three districts. M. Meehan drew attention to the water quality results in this report and stated that they are very encouraging. Cr Chinn asked where the next three farm plan projects are likely to be. M. Meehan stated that there will be one in each district but the exact locations were still being developed. Cr Robb asked if farmers that declined to be involved are now feeling pressure from their fellow farmers to come on board. M. Meehan responded that there was a vast range of reasons why some farmers did not get involved. Cr Davidson asked if there were major costs involved. M. Meehan responded that one of the major costs is time and what farmers are prepared to do as some projects like bridges are a huge cost. He stated that with the farm plans being for three years this allows for farmers to budget and some farmers have been able to make cost savings in other areas such as nutrients and fertiliser use. C. Ingle advised that the farm plans are for those farmers who wish to do more than the minimum. C. Ingle advised that the next step could be phase 2 of the farm plans which is for those farmers who have completed the initial farm plan and may wish to do further enhancement projects such as planting out of riparian margins. Cr Archer stated that his understanding of the farm plans is that the bottom line benchmark was the performance objectives of the operative regional plans. M. Meehan confirmed that this is correct. He stated that farms have had to comply with the normal rules and RMA regulations. Cr Scarlett stated that this is a step in the right direction; he asked that on a scale of 1 –10 where would this rank with regard to water quality and national objectives. C. Ingle responded that before and after results have been looked at but results have not been compared to particular guidelines or standards for each area. C. Ingle stated that clarity results in Harris Creek have shown a steady increase since the start of the project but it is important to remember that this is still a farming catchment and farm production for the economy is also important and there is a balance to be reached.

**Moved** (Archer / Scarlett)

1. *That this report be received.*
2. *That Council notes the intended launch of three further catchment based voluntary farm plan projects in conjunction with Westland Milk Products.*

*Carried*

### 5.1.3 WAIVER OF TIME FOR LODGING FURTHER SUBMISSION ON PROPOSED LAND AND WATER PLAN

M. Meehan spoke to this report advising a late submission has been received from Mr Philip Paterson on the Proposed Land and Water Plan. Mr Paterson stated in his submission that the reason he didn't know about the Land and Water Plan merge is because he does not get a newspaper and does not have email access and he has just found out about the process. M. Meehan advised that staff have taken a look at the tests under Section 37 and 37A for waiving the timeframe for a late submission and Mr Paterson's submission meets the tests but it is a very late submission but council needs to make a decision on this matter. Cr Archer stated that he is not opposed to the recommendation but feels that seven months late after closing of submissions is an incredibly long leeway time and this could have a precedent affect. Cr Birchfield stated that seven months late is ridiculous. Cr Birchfield is against this recommendation.

**Moved** (Archer / Davidson) *That the Council accept the late further submission from Philip Paterson on the Proposed Land and Water Plan.*

*The motion was lost.  
(The majority voted against the motion)*

**Moved** (Chinn / Archer) *That the Council does not accept the late further submission from Philip Paterson on the Proposed Land and Water Plan.*

*Carried*

### 5.1.4 DEVELOPING OUR ENERGY POTENTIAL

C. Ingle spoke to this report advising that this is a new initiative from Government. He stated that this document is the new energy strategy for New Zealand and it also incorporates the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy. C. Ingle advised this does not have any legislative impact for Council, it is not a National Environmental Standard but is a broad expression of what government intends to do over the next 20 – 30 years to make New Zealand a more energy efficient and energy sustainable country. C. Ingle advised that this is quite timely, as this document can be used in the Regional Policy Statement review which is underway. Cr Birchfield stated that he has noted that in the Grey District Plan, small hydro dams are now a permitted activity and he feels that this council should be looking at making these dams permitted activity as well. C. Ingle advised that this has also been suggested in the National Policy Statement on Renewable Energy and is being considered by staff.

**Moved** (Robb / Archer) *That this report be received.*

*Carried*

### 5.1.5 CIVIL DEFENCE REPORT

C. Ingle spoke to this report and advised that the recent Top of the South meeting was very positive. He advised that Nelson / Tasman, Marlborough Civil Defence groups are rated as one of the most well organised groups in the country with West Coast not far behind this group. C. Ingle advised that Exercise Pacific Wave is planned for November. He stated that this would be a very good test to see how well we respond to a tsunami that could hit New Zealand and the West Coast. C. Ingle advised that this exercise will be held during business hours and he will report back to council on how well this exercise goes.

C. Ingle stated that the response from BP regarding fuel storage on the West Coast is a very positive response. He noted BP's comments on their contingency plans should the West Coast experience an alpine fault earthquake with BP being willing to work with both national and local levels of civil defence. C. Ingle advised that BP's response would be included in the next agenda for the civil defence group meeting. Discussion took place on the lifespan and storage of fuels.

**Moved** (Robb / Cummings) *That this report be received.*

*Carried*

## 5.1.6 REGIONAL TRANSPORT REPORT

C. Ingle spoke to this report. He advised that the Funding Assistance Rates (FAR) administration grant is to be let as it is for the time being but the Road Safety Programme will be changed, but this will not take effect until 2012 / 2013. C. Ingle advised that council would need to make a decision before 2012 / 2013 consultation with the district councils as to whether or not road safety will continue to be funded as a joint council activity.

C. Ingle reported that he was pleased to see that our support for State Highway 73 to Christchurch to retain its status as a strategic route is pleasing. He stated that this helps us to argue that this is a very important route in the South Island and it is important that it is maintained well. Cr Scarlett stated that this would give council strength in the argument for the upgrade of the Mingha Bluff section of this highway.

C. Ingle reported a draft submission has been prepared for the draft Canterbury Regional Land Transport Strategy 2012 – 2042, and the submission is attached to this report.

**Moved** (Scarlett / Robb)

1. *That Council adopts the submission on the draft Canterbury Regional Land Transport Strategy 2012 – 2042.*
2. *That Council receives this report.*

*Carried*

## 5.2 CONSENTS AND COMPLIANCE GROUP

### 5.2.1 CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT

C. Dall spoke to his report. He advised that the Hearing Committee for the consent applications lodged by Buller Coal Ltd for its proposed Escarpment Mine on the Denniston Plateau released its decisions on the consent applications and has granted all the consent applications sought. C. Dall advised that the appeal period for the decision closes this Friday. He stated that to date one appeal has been received. C. Dall reported that he attended a Pre Hearing Conference for the appeals relating to the Mokihinui River Hydro Power Scheme. He advised that this hearing is still planned to proceed in July 2012 in the Environment Court, which could be significant hearing in terms of resource demands and time.

**Moved** (Birchfield / Archer) *that the September 2011 report of the Consents Group be received.*

*Carried*

### 5.2.2 COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT

C. Dall spoke to this report advising that the reason why less than half of dairy shed inspections were compliant is because staff were deliberately following up on what appeared to be non-compliant activities as a result of the recent aerial inspections.

C. Dall advised there is an issue with contaminated stormwater discharge to the Hokitika River. He advised that there have been problems identifying the source of this contamination.

C. Dall reported that Solid Energy Ltd have advised that they have had a record month for cleaning out sediment from its sediments ponds with almost 31,000 m<sup>3</sup> of sediment being removed from ponds.

C. Dall reported that most of the enforcement action during the reporting period is related to the follow up work for stand off pads following the dairy shed inspections.

T. Scott asked C. Dall if he has any idea of what is causing the contaminated stormwater discharge into the Hokitika River. C. Dall responded that this discharge is thought to be paint but because it is going into the stormwater system it is very difficult to trace. He stated that this discharge could even be from a residential property.

**Moved** (Birchfield / Archer)

1. *That the September 2011 report for the Compliance Group be received.*
2. *That the Council release the bond held by Daryl Oates for Resource Consent RC04021.*

*Carried*



**6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS**

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 11.35 a.m.

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Date

**THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

Prepared for: Council Meeting – 13 September 2011  
Prepared by: Michael Meehan – Planning & Environmental Manager  
Date: 1 October 2011

**Subject: PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT**

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**PLANNING**Proposed Land and Water Plan

A letter was sent to all submitters on the Proposed Land and Water Plan advising of the delay in scheduling hearings, due to the ongoing Environment Court case on the wetland provisions in the Proposed Land and Riverbed Plan.

Further planning evidence on the wetland provisions will be heard by the Environment Court this month. Following this, Council hopes to have a clear decision which will then be incorporated into the Proposed Land and Water Plan. Hearings on the Proposed Land and Water Plan are now planned for April-May 2012 to allow for the Environment Court decision to be incorporated into the plan, and allow farmers to attend these Council hearings during a quieter time of their year.

Decisions on Buller District Council Plan Review

The Buller District Council (BDC) has released decisions on submissions on the first stage of their District Plan review. Plan Changes 115-121 aim to tidy up ambiguous rules for signage, change the Rifle Range Protection Area, make minor changes to the criteria for esplanade reserves and strips, alter the information requirements for consent applications, and make changes to two sites in the Historic Places Schedule. The Regional Council made a submission on Plan Change 119 seeking that additional matters be included in the information requirements for subdivision consent applications, in relation to natural hazards, stormwater, sewage disposal, site stability, and earthquake fault lines. The BDC accepted most of the suggested wording changes in Council's submission, including references to sewage and stormwater discharges meeting regional rules.

MFE Discussion Document on Environmental Monitoring

Staff have been working on the Environmental Reporting submission to the Ministry for the Environment. Prior to submitting the draft submission, staff will circulate it among Councilors for comment. The due date for this submission is 18 October 2011.

Freedom Camping Act 2011

The Freedom Camping Act 2011 came into force on 30 August 2011. It provides local authorities and the Department of Conservation with access to stronger regulatory measures to better manage the nuisance created by errant freedom campers. The main features of the Act include:

- Freedom camping is permitted everywhere in a District except in areas where it is specifically restricted or prohibited;
- Infringement orders for instant fines may be issued if a bylaw is in place;
- Bylaws must be 'proportionate' to ensure any restrictions on freedom camping are the most appropriate way of addressing the perceived problem in that area;
- The penalties are \$200 for an infringement offence, up to \$10,000 for discharging a noxious, dangerous or offensive substance onto a local authority area (e.g. emptying a self-contained waste tank), and up to \$5,000 for obstructing an enforcement officer;
- Provisions enable vehicle rental companies to recover infringement fees from hirers' credit cards;
- Local authorities and DOC enforcement officers can issue infringement notices for offences on each others land;
- Local authorities and DOC cannot prohibit freedom camping in all of the areas that they manage in a District.

## FLOOD WARNING

### Data Requests

1 groundwater and 2 rainfall requests.

### Flood Warning

Two small events triggered alarms on the Waiho River this reporting period. The alarm level is set at 6900mm, which is 100mm above the normal level due to the gravel build up in the river, which is continuing to cause alarms after small amounts of rain. Following discussions with Westland District Council and the New Zealand Transport Authority it was agreed to increase the alarm level to 7100mm, this will reduce the number of minor events causing alarm notifications.

Site	Time of peak	Peak level	Warning Issued	Alarm threshold
Waiho Rv @ SHB	08/09/11 22:00	7364mm	08/09/11 16:30	6900mm
Waiho Rv @ SHB	11/09/11 23:15	7092mm	10/09/11 11:10:15	6900mm

### Callery River

Following notification of the recent slip in the Callery River which resulted in the formation of a dam, Council commissioned a report (attached) outlining the impacts on the Waiho River and Franz Josef should the dam fail.

The report indicated that due to the nature of the environment any monitoring of the dam lake level would be ineffective. The time between dam failure and water arriving at the Waiho River Bridge is estimated to be 10-15 minutes. The rise in water level from a dam failure would be approximately 0.6m above the flood levels that would occur with no landslide dam breach. If this occurred during a mean annual flood it is not expected to be sufficient to overtop the stop banks.

Council will continue to monitor the situation and work closely with the other agencies involved.

## AIR QUALITY

There have been 7 exceedences of the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Air Quality) Regulations 2004 for PM<sub>10</sub> in Reefton during the period 1 April to 2 October 2011.

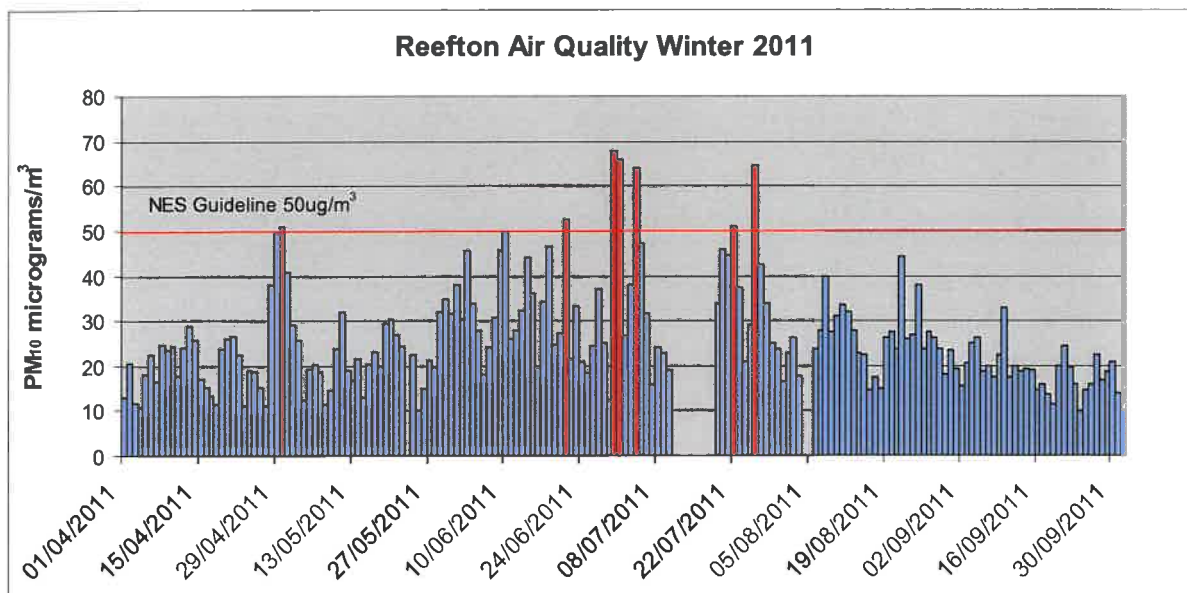


Figure 1. Graph showing daily average PM<sub>10</sub> for Reefton Winter 2011 with exceedences of the national guideline in red

An exceedence occurs when there has been an average of more than 50 micrograms/m<sup>3</sup> of PM<sub>10</sub> recorded over a 24 hour period. No exceedences have been recorded since the September Council report.

Before today, Council has received reports that vary slightly in the number of exceedences per year. This is due to changes to data processing in terms of gap tolerance. Gap tolerance is the number of hours of missing data that can be accepted in a 24 hour period: if the amount of missing data exceeds this 'gap tolerance' then data for this day will be excluded from the reporting.

In earlier years there was no clear gap tolerance for air quality reporting. The Ministry for the Environment has now released guidance on this to ensure national consistency. Council re-analysed the data since 2006 and has updated the table below to incorporate these guidelines.

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of exceedences (over whole year)	16	25	18	16	22	7
Maximum recorded 24hr average (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	86	129	78	91	99	68

*Table 1. Annual summary of the number of exceedences in Reefton of the National Standard Air Quality Standard (for PM<sub>10</sub>) and the highest recorded daily average reading for each year.*

## **RECOMMENDATION**

*That this report is received.*

Michael Meehan

**Planning & Environmental Manager**



Callery River Landslide Dam  
Rapid assessment of dam failure consequences  
Prepared for West Coast Regional Council

September 2011

**Authors/Contributors:**

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NIWA Client Report No:	CHC2011-097
Report date:	September 2011
NIWA Project:	ELF12211

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Reviewed by



Murray Hicks

Approved for release by



Charles Pearson

## Executive summary

1D hydrodynamic modelling of the Callery and Waiho rivers indicates that if rapid failure of the September 2011 landslide dam on the Callery River occurs during a flood event, flows will be increased by  $500\text{m}^3/\text{s}$  at the SH6 bridge. This has the effect of raising river levels at the bridge by approximately 0.6m above the flood levels that would occur with no landslide dam breach. If this occurs during a mean annual flood it is not sufficient to overtop the stop banks and there is 2m clearance remaining under the bridge deck.

It takes between 10 and 15 minutes for flows from the dam failure to reach the bridge. This is insufficient time for warning even if water level monitoring equipment was in place at the dam site.

The results are sensitive to assumptions made regarding rapidity of dam failure, dam height, roughness, and Waiho River flow at failure. Key results from sensitivity studies of these assumptions are:

- Rapidity of dam failure – For failure mechanisms taking 0 to 6 minutes (0.1 hours), there is significant effect on peak flows in the gorge but little effect at the bridge site. If failure takes longer than 6 minutes, it significantly reduces peak flows and levels at the bridge. Failure over 30 minutes results in 50% lower increases in flow/level at the bridge ( $300\text{m}^3/\text{s}$ , 0.35m).
- Dam height – Dam height has a significant effect on peak flows. Most of the analysis was carried out assuming a 30m high dam. Assuming a 40m high dam gives peak increases in flow of  $1000\text{m}^3/\text{s}$  (1.0m level) over non-breach flood flows at the bridge (instantaneous failure). However, a 40m high dam results in a lake that is 700m long, which is inconsistent with observations of lake length (likely to be more accurate than estimations of dam height). A 30m high dam results in a lake length of 500m.
- Flood flow at failure – The non-breach flood flows at the bridge are larger than the increase in flow resulting from the dam failure, so they are very significant in terms of peak total flow/level. If the dam was to fail at the peak of a 1% AEP flood event, it is likely that the flood would overtop the stop banks by 0.2m on the right bank approximately 500m downstream of the bridge. The critical factor in determining the total flow/level at the bridge is the flow that is occurring when the breach takes place. All the modelling carried out in this investigation assumes that the breach occurs at the flood peak, which is the worst possible case.

It should be noted that this study has been carried out under urgency and no calibration has been carried out apart from a check on the roughness coefficient used for the Waiho based on measured flows and velocities reported in Smart (1991).



## 1 Introduction

Following a report on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2011 of a landslide dam in the Callery River Valley concerns were raised about the potential consequences of dam failure. An initial helicopter inspection of the dam and lake was carried out by Wayne Moen, Stefan Beaumont and Casey Beel, West Coast Regional Council. They observed that:

- The dam was located approximately 4km upstream of the Callery/Waiho confluence
- The dam was located in a very steep section of the gorge
- The dam was 20-40m high
- The lake was 400-500m long and 20-30m wide

(Beaumont, 7/9/2011; Moen, 7/9/2011)

Based on these observations it was estimated by Tim Davies that flows resulting from dam failure would be in the region of 500-1000m<sup>3</sup>/s (Beaumont, 7/9/2011). However, there was high uncertainty associated with this estimate as well as with the consequences of this discharge occurring simultaneously with floods on both the Callery and Waiho Rivers.

This report describes hydrological analysis and hydrodynamic modelling carried out by NIWA in order to:

1. Better quantify the likely flows generated by a dam failure.
2. Investigate the travel time and attenuation of the flood wave as it travels from the dam site to the highway bridge.
3. Quantify flood levels at the bridge and stop banks associated with dam failure during a flood event.
4. Assess the level of uncertainty associated with the predicted flows and levels.

This assessment was carried out using a 1D hydrodynamic model of the Waiho and Callery Rivers. Basic hydrological analysis was carried out in order to estimate flood hydrographs for the Waiho and Callery Rivers.

## 2 Hydrological analysis

A water level recorder currently exists on the Waiho at the state highway bridge, and some data are also available from another recorder which was temporarily installed at the lower end of the Callery Gorge. It is not possible to reliably rate either of these sites to provide flow data, as the bed at both locations is highly changeable. The closest reliable flow data come from the Gorge flow recorder site on the Whataroa River, where 26 years of reliable flow records are available. The Whataroa has a catchment area of 445 km<sup>2</sup>, significantly larger than the Callery River (94.4 km<sup>2</sup>) and the Waiho (68 km<sup>2</sup> to the confluence with the Callery). However, the catchment is geographically close and has similar steep sided topography and a similar rainfall regime.

Analysis of 26 years of observed flood events on the Whataroa show that the mean annual flood is 2670 m<sup>3</sup>/s (specific discharge of 6.00 m<sup>3</sup>/s/km<sup>2</sup>). Based on this analysis the mean annual floods on the Callery and Waiho (above their confluence) are estimated to be 564 m<sup>3</sup>/s and 408 m<sup>3</sup>/s, respectively (indicating a combined peak of 972 m<sup>3</sup>/s at the state highway bridge assuming coincident phases). Analysis of the flood frequency curve gives a specific discharge of 9.55m<sup>3</sup>/s/km<sup>2</sup> for a 1% annual exceedance probability (AEP) event. Based on this analysis the 1% AEP floods on the Callery and Waiho would be of the order of 902 m<sup>3</sup>/s and 649 m<sup>3</sup>/s, respectively.

The above flow estimates for the Callery River are somewhat smaller than the estimates contained in Stefan Beaumont's Initial Assessment report (600m<sup>3</sup>/s mean annual flood and 1300m<sup>3</sup>/s 1% AEP flood), especially for the 1% AEP flood. In particular the ratio of 1% flood to mean annual flood in our analysis (1.6) is much smaller than in Stefan's Initial Assessment report (2.2). In order to check our estimates an analysis of the Mackawhio @ Rocks, Haast @ Roaring Billy, Arawata @ County Bridge and Hokitika @ Gorge sites were made. For all of these sites the ratio of 1% AEP flood to mean annual flood was in the range 1.3 to 1.7. This check confirms that our analysis based on the Whataroa site is reasonable.

As there is little flood storage in the Callery/Waiho river systems, the hydrograph shape has very little effect on flooding. A visual analysis of hydrograph shape at the Whataroa@Gorge site showed that floods generally had a triangular hydrograph with approximately 12 hour rising and falling limbs. Analysis of the Makawhio@Rocks site (another West Coast gauging site with a 135 km<sup>2</sup> catchment) showed a similar shaped hydrograph but with only 4-6 hour rising and falling limbs. For this analysis it was decided (conservatively) to use a trapezoidal hydrograph with 6 hour rising and falling limbs and a constant peak flow for 1 hour duration.

### 3 Hydrodynamic modelling

The 1D hydrodynamic modelling was carried out using the ISIS modelling software (<http://www.halcrow.com/isis/>). The model extent and cross section locations are shown in Figure 1.

Cross section data were available for the Waiho downstream of the Callery River from a March 2011 survey and for the Waiho upstream of the Callery from a June 2008 survey (Chris J Coll Surveying Ltd 2008, 2011). No cross section data were available for the Callery River, so it was generated from the LINZ topomap contour data. These data lacked sufficient resolution on the valley bottom so it was manually altered to give a smooth long section profile. Generally, this involved deepening cross sections to represent the gorge at the bottom of the valley. Despite these manual alterations it is recognised that the cross sections still do not represent well the narrow bedrock gorge at the bottom of the valley. This means that the model probably overestimates the lake width and hence it's volume. It is difficult to assess how significant this effect is as there is so little topographic data for the Callery River.

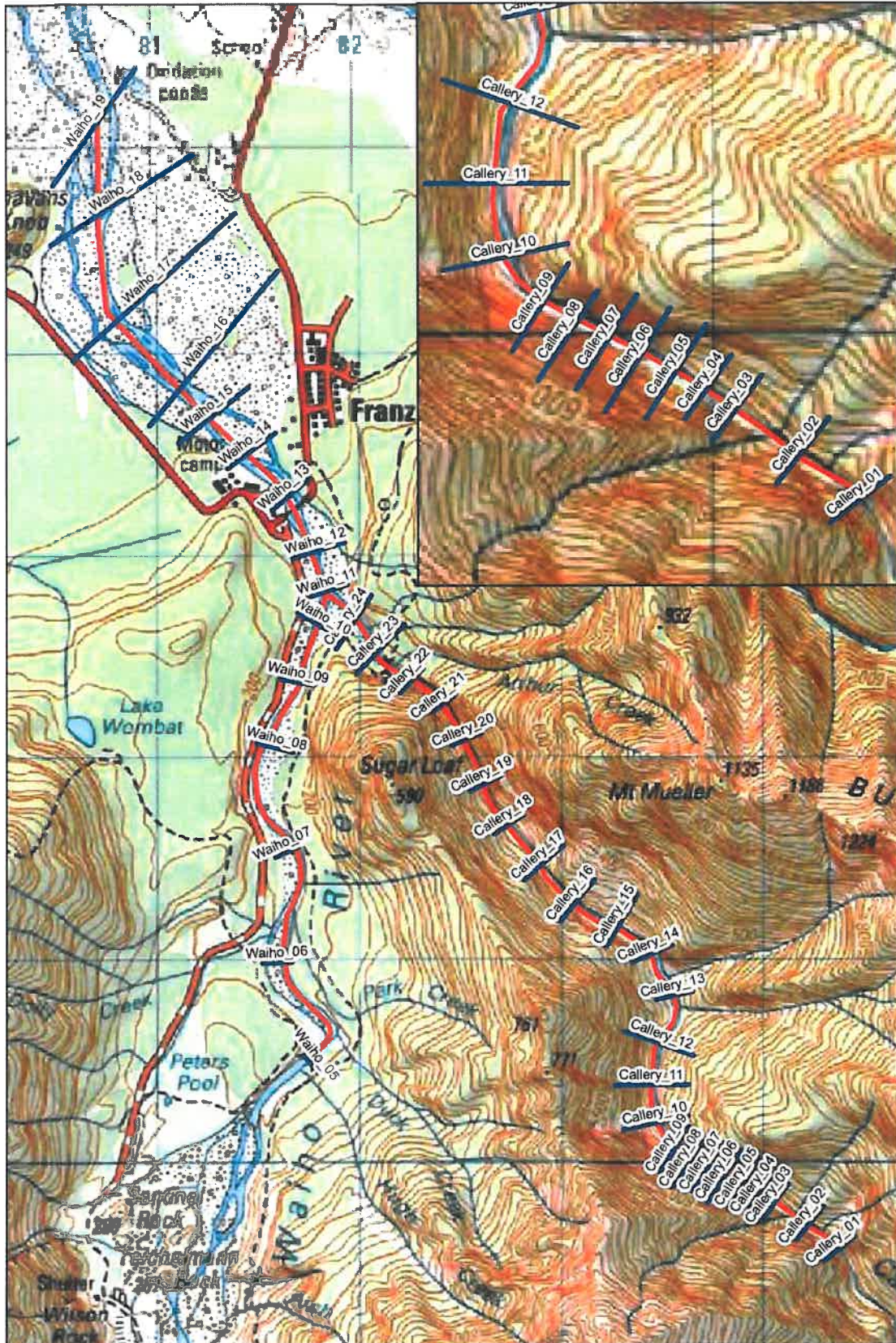
The dam was represented by a "spill unit" at cross section Callery\_07. The breach was represented as a trapezoidal hole in the spill unit. The breach was set to erode linearly over a user specified period of time. The breach was timed to start developing at the start of the flood peak. The original, pre-dam cross section, spill unit crest and breach profiles are shown in Figure 2.

The initial conditions in the model were assumed a steady flow of 50 m<sup>3</sup>/s in both the Callery and Waiho rivers, with the dam in place and overtopping. This initial flow has no effect on the results and was set in order to fill the lake and to wet the channels.

The roughness of the model was specified using manning's 'n'. It was initially set as 0.05 on the Waiho and 0.10 on the Callery. These values were based on examples given in Roughness Characteristics of New Zealand Rivers (Hicks and Mason, 1998). The water level at the bridge is very sensitive to roughness and for this reason a further check was carried out against observed flows and velocities at the SH6 bridge (Smart, 1991). These checks confirmed that 0.05 was a suitable value of Manning's n at the bridge.

The model was run in unsteady mode for simulation of the breaches. Froude numbers in the channels were in excess of 0.8 in significant reaches suggesting that supercritical flow is likely. As the unsteady simulation relaxes part of the momentum equations a check of peak levels was carried out by running the peak flow in steady mode. This check showed similar levels (within 0.05m).





**Figure 1: Model extent and cross section locations.** The landslide dam is located at section Callery\_07.

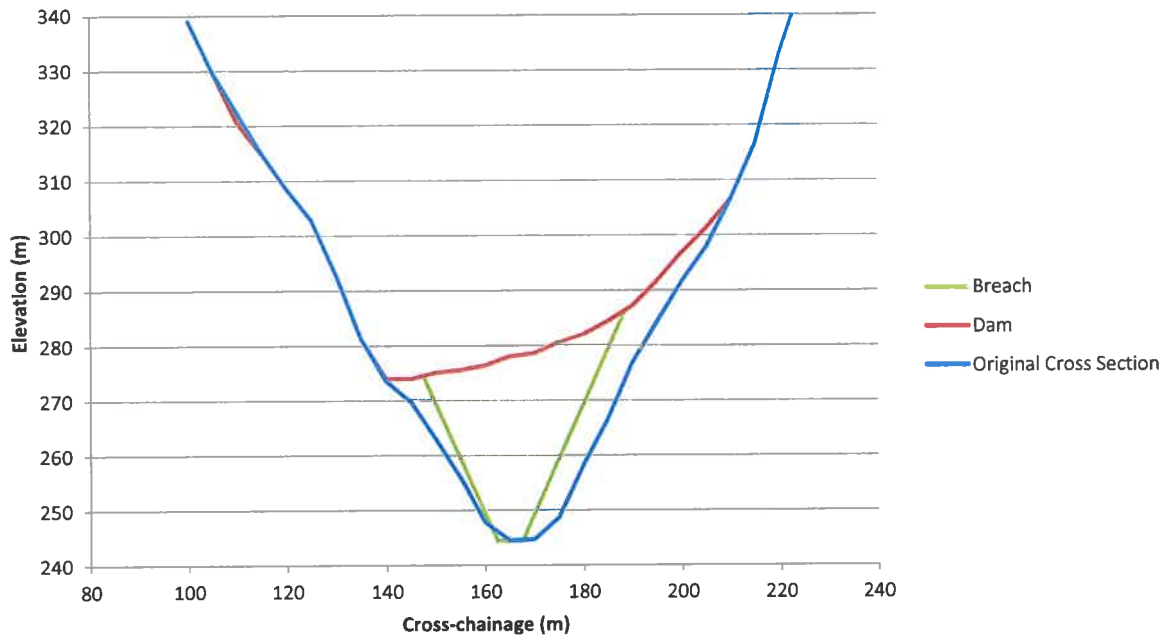
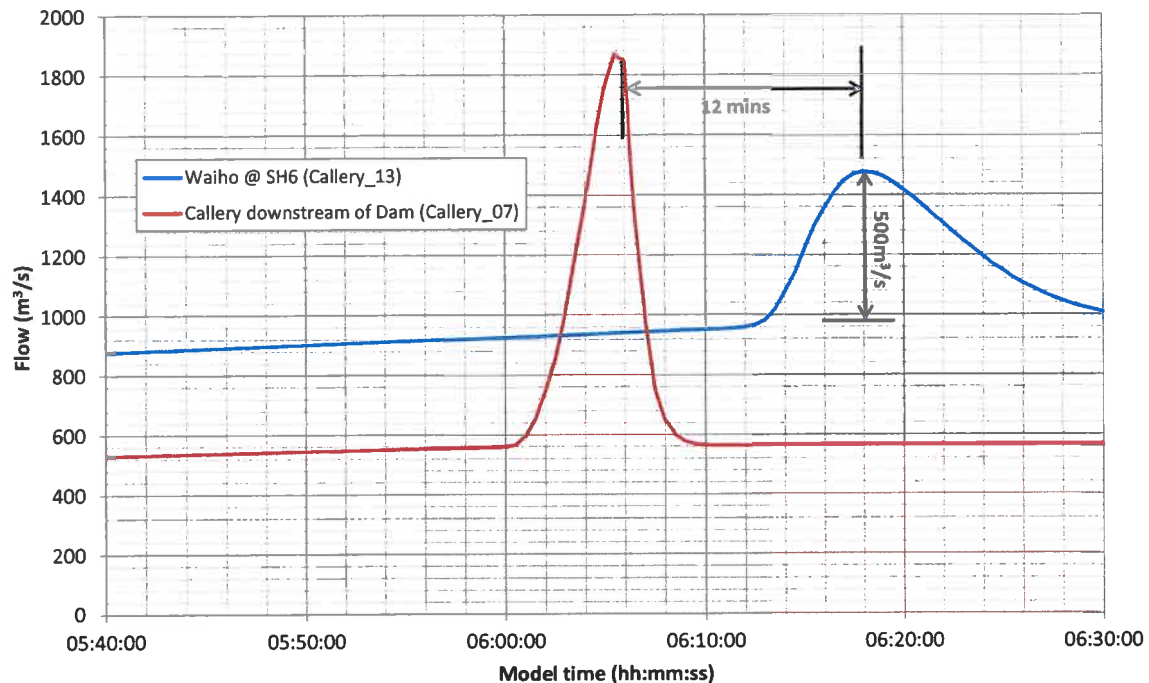


Figure 2: Dam cross section in model.



## 4 Results

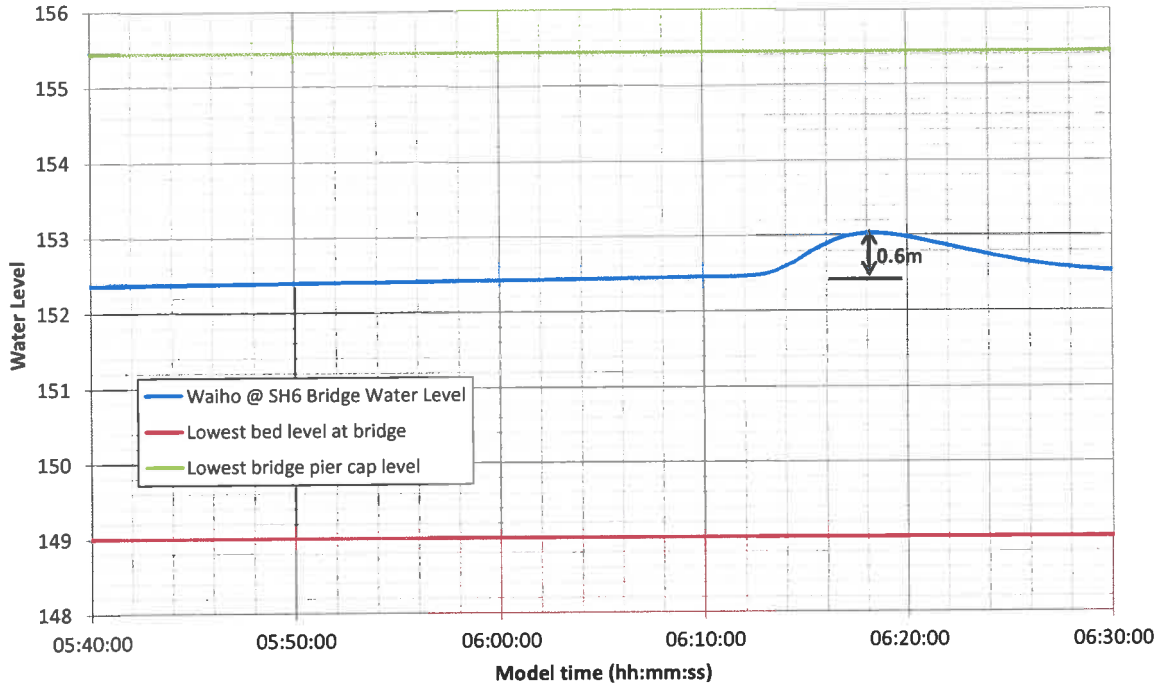
Initially, the model was run with a mean annual flood, a 30m high head difference across the dam, and the breach developing over 6 minutes. The flows resulting from dam failure are shown in Figure 3. The figure shows a travel time of 12 minutes from peak flow at the dam site to peak flow at the bridge (average phase speed of 6.3 m/s). It shows that the dam failure results in an additional 500 m<sup>3</sup>/s flow at the bridge on top of the existing flood flows.



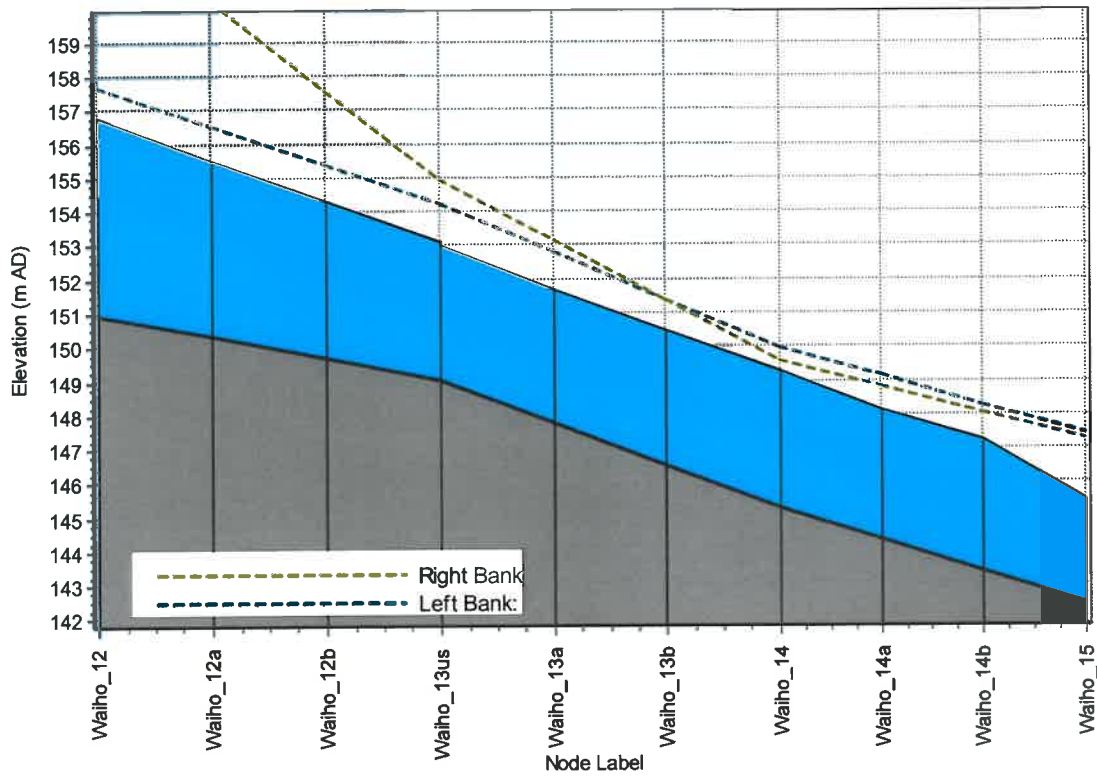
**Figure 3: Flows resulting from a 6 minute failure of a 30m high landslide dam at the peak of a mean annual flood.**

The effects of the 650 m<sup>3</sup>/s extra flow on flood levels at the bridge are shown in Figure 4. The dam failure increases levels at the bridge by approximately 0.6 m. As the bridge has recently been raised, there is still approximately 2 m clearance between the water surface and bridge deck (no survey information was available for the bridge soffit but the pier caps were recently surveyed at 155.453 m to 155.568 m above Lyttelton Mean Sea Level Datum. The pier caps are slightly below the level of the bridge soffit (Pers. Comm. Caleb Bailden, Opus International Consultants Ltd).

Comparison of flood levels with surveyed stop bank elevations through the reach around the bridge indicates that the stop banks would not be overtopped if the dam failed over 6 minutes during a mean annual flood (Figure 5).



**Figure 4:** Flood levels at the SH6 bridge resulting from a 6 minute failure of a 30m high landslide dam at the peak of a mean annual flood.



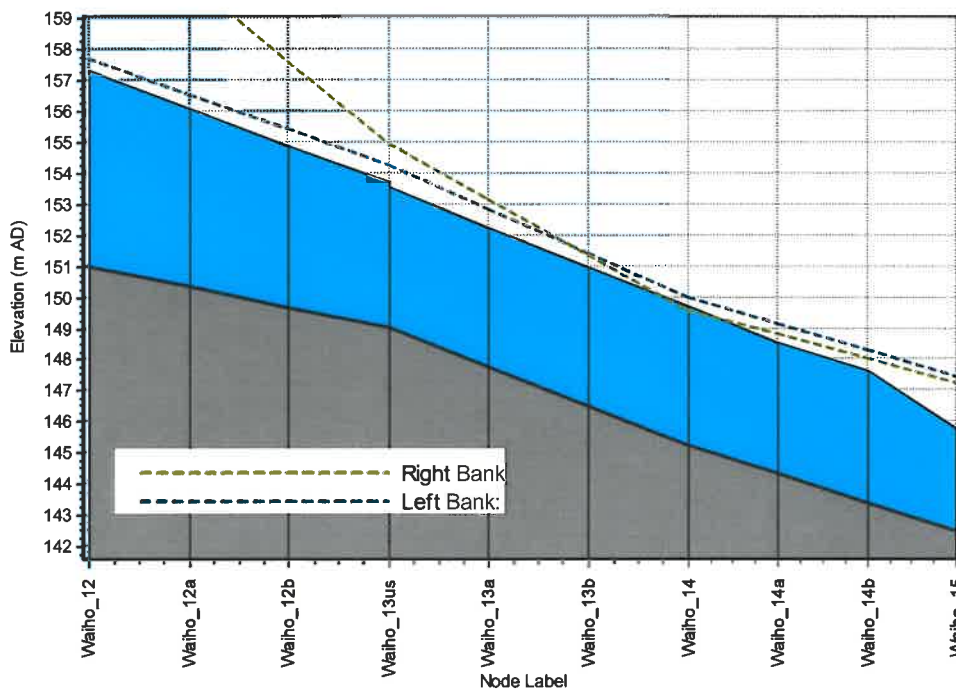
**Figure 5:** Peak flood levels through the reach around the highway bridge. Node label locations are shown on Figure 1. Subscripts "a" and "b" refer to interpolated sections. The bridge is at section Waiho\_13us.

Following this initial modelling, sensitivity analysis was carried out for:

- dam failures taking 1 minute and 30 minutes
- dam failure occurring at the peak of a 1% AEP flood
- changing roughness on the Callery River (roughness on the Waiho was checked using observed flows/levels)
- failure of a 40m high dam

The sensitivity analysis showed that dam failure over 1 minute rather than 6 minutes only increased the flood peak at the bridge by 20 m<sup>3</sup>/s. This was because of the smoothing that occurred during travel from the dam site to the bridge. Dam failure over 30 minutes reduced the peak at the the bridge by 350m<sup>3</sup>/s, which is a significant reduction .

The non-breach flood flows at the bridge are larger than the increase in flow resulting from the dam failure, so they are very significant in terms of peak total flow/level. The critical factor in determining the total flow passing the bridge is the flow that is occurring when the breach takes place. All the modelling carried out in this investigation assumes that the breach occurs at the flood peak and that the duration of the flood peak is long relative to the travel time of the dam-break wave, which is the worst possible case. Modelling of the dam failure at the peak of a 1% AEP flood event resulted in peak flows at the bridge of 2,250 m<sup>3</sup>/s and peak levels of 153.7 m. This level is still 1.7 m below the pier cap level on the bridge. However, the stop bank on the right bank downstream of the bridge (cross section Waiho\_14) is predicted to be overtopped by approximately 0.1m) (see Figure 6).



**Figure 6: Peak flood levels from simulated breach during 1% AEP flood event.** Node label locations are shown on Figure 1, Subscripts “a” and “b” refer to interpolated sections. The bridge is at section Waiho\_13us.



Increasing flood flow does increase the volume of stored water in the lake (by increasing lake level and slope). However, this has little effect on the magnitude of the additional flow as a result of dam failure. The additional flow due to the dam failing during the flood is  $700 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ , which is only  $50 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$  larger than the same dam failure during the mean annual event.

Changing roughness on the Callery River does have significant impact on the travel time of the flood wave. Reducing the roughness from 0.1 to 0.06 reduced travel time to 8 minutes rather than 12. The roughness also has an effect on the attenuation of the flood peak as it travels down the Callery River. Reducing the roughness to 0.06 reduced attenuation and increased the dam break flood peak at the bridge to  $650 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$  (0.7m).

Failure of a 40 m high dam gives peak increases in flow of  $1200 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$  (1.15m level) over non-breach flood flows at the bridge (instantaneous dam failure). This is significantly larger than the effects of a 30 m high dam. However, a 40 m high dam results in a lake that is 700 m long, which is inconsistent with observations of lake length. A 30 m high dam results in a lake length of 500 m, which is consistent with the observations made from the helicopter.

## 5 Other factors for consideration

It is likely that the flood wave would collect debris (trees and other vegetation) as it passed down the Callery gorge. This could cause problems if it builds up against the bridge, restricting flow. However, given the available clearance between the bridge deck and water surface, this is unlikely to be a major problem.

There are existing issues with bed aggradation at the highway bridge, and concerns have been raised that the landslide material will be deposited at the bridge site exacerbating this problem. Should the dam fail it is likely that the material will be transported rapidly through the Callery gorge and into the Waiho. The estimated and slide volume is 30,000-50,000 m<sup>3</sup> (Moen, 7/9/2011). Assuming this material is all deposited in a 2 km reach with average width 200m (typical of the reach past the bridge), the average depth of deposited material would be approximately 0.1 m. Whilst this would have an effect, it is small in comparison to the on-going bed aggradation (currently of the order of 1 m/yr) that is occurring at the bridge site.

It should be noted that this study has been carried out under urgency and no calibration has been carried out apart from a check on the roughness coefficient used for the Waiho based on measured flows and velocities reported in Smart (1991).

## 6 References

Beaumont, Stefan (7/9/2011). Callery Landslide Dam Initial Assessment, West Coast Regional Council.

Chris J. Coll Surveying Ltd (20080). Waiho River Survey.

Chris J Coll Surveying Ltd. (March 2011). Waiho River Survey, Cross sections: 10-24.

Hicks, D.M.; Mason P.D. (1998). Roughness Characteristics of New Zealand Rivers, NIWA.

Moen, Wayne (7/9/2011). Callery Slip - Staff Aerial Inspection, West Coast Regional Council.

Smart, G.M. (1991). A P.O.E.M. on the Waiho (Electronic gauging of rivers). *Journal of Hydrology (NZ)* 30: 37-44

**THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee Meeting – 11 October 2011  
Prepared by: Nichola Costley – Regional Planner  
Subject: **CIVIL DEFENCE AND REGIONAL TRANSPORT REPORT**

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**Civil Defence Emergency Management Update**

The Emergency Management Information System (EMIS) is now live. The development and release of EMIS has been coordinated by the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management. EMIS provides an internet based system to assist with managing information in the emergency operations centre during an event.

Allan Wilson (Grey District Council) and Nichola Costley (West Coast Regional Council) attended a three day training session on the system. Key staff from each of the four West Coast Councils will be trained in the coming months and then the system training will be further rolled out to those staff working in the Emergency Operation Centres. It is likely to take several months to get the system fully operational with the appropriate staff trained.

**Fuel Storage on the West Coast**

Following the sale of Shell's retail outlets and storage facilities in April 2010, the letter requesting bulk storage provisions be made on the West Coast was resent to Z-Energy. Z-Energy have responded positively to our questions and have commented that they are committed to a secure supply of fuel and have spent considerable time analysing the fuel supply chain and building resilience into it. While they consider additional fuel storage could be desirable to the West Coast, they believe that there is sufficient contingency in place to bring fuel to the region from several sources and routes. Additional storage is being commissioned in Lyttelton, as well as Z-Energy being the only fuel company to have contingency tankage available at the Port of Timaru. Z-Energy also owns the Mini Tankers business which provides the option of diesel refueling directly into heavy machinery through smaller fuel tankers which would be useful during events. While they do not consider that there is a need for additional storage on the West Coast, Z-Energy are willing to discuss options with Council on how an emergency storage facility might work, be funded and operated, and the costs and benefits of such a project.

A copy of the Z-Energy letter is appended to this report.

**Regional Transport Update**

The national transport fund is currently under pressure and as a result government has reviewed transport projects that have been funded out of the national fund to assess whether they could have been funded through Regional (R) funding instead. This has meant a readjustment for many regions in the uncommitted R funding they have available to them, including the West Coast. This has resulted in a reduction in the uncommitted R funds of \$1,763,683 leaving a total of \$6,826,285 in R funding available to the West Coast.

Government changed the way in which R funding could be allocated in 2009. R funding is now applied to the highest ranked projects in the region as opposed to those projects which may have not attracted National funding. This approach ensures that the projects of highest importance to the region are funded.

**RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council receives this report.*

Chris Ingle  
**Chief Executive**



22 September 2011

Chris Ingle  
CEO  
Civil Defence Group Controller  
West Coast Regional Council  
PO Box 66  
GREYMOUTH 7840

Dear Chris

Thank you for taking the time to write to me regarding fuel storage on the West Coast.

As you will be aware, Z Energy purchased the downstream fuel assets of Shell New Zealand in April 2010. Z is owned by the New Zealand Superannuation Fund and listed infrastructure investment company Infratil, and now supplies over one third of the country's fuel supply to retail and commercial customers across New Zealand.

As a new Kiwi-owned company, Z is committed to a secure supply of fuel to the country. As a new company we spent a considerable period of time analysing the fuel supply chain and building additional resilience into it. As a result, Z now holds considerably higher levels of stock in New Zealand at any one time than it previously did.

We've also worked to understand supply risk. While the case could be made that additional tankage is desirable on the West Coast, Z's view is that there is sufficient contingency in place to bring fuel to the region from several sources and routes.

In October, Z will complete the commissioning of 30 million litres of additional fuel tankage at the Port of Lyttelton which will significantly improve supply security to much of the South Island. These tanks will cost \$30 million to complete and it is from Lyttelton that the bulk of the West Coast's fuel is sourced.

In the advent of a natural disaster affecting Christchurch, as we have unfortunately seen recently, Z is the only company in New Zealand to have contingency tankage at the Port of Timaru, through which the West Coast could be supplied. Additionally, fuel could be supplied to the West Coast from tankage at Nelson in the North or from Dunedin in the South.

3 Queens Wharf  
PO Box 2091  
Wellington 6140  
New Zealand  
0800 474 355  
z-energy.co.nz

Given the available supply options, Z is confident that getting fuel into the West Coast could be managed from a number of tanks and trucking routes. Additionally, Z Energy owns the Mini Tankers business which provides the option of diesel refuelling directly into heavy machinery through smaller fuel tankers. Recent experience has shown that this is a particularly useful service in times of crisis.

Given the long and spread out geography of New Zealand, the West Coast is not alone in finding itself distant from major supply ports – Northland and Gisborne are two similar examples. We understand the concern you are raising around securing fuel supplies particularly for emergency services and hope that the options I have discussed in this letter give you some reassurance.

In the advent of a natural disaster you have my commitment that Z will do everything within its power to bring the West Coast the fuel that it needs, from whichever routes are viable.

Building and operating fuel tankage is expensive, but Z has been investing in the country's fuel supply infrastructure and will continue to do so on commercial terms. If you would like to discuss how an emergency storage facility could be jointly developed between the Council and Z Energy we would be happy to have discussions with you around how this might work, how it might be funded and operated, and the costs and benefits of such a project.

In the meantime, I hope you take some assurance from this letter as to Z's commitment to support the West Coast when the Coast needs it most through a range of contingency fuel delivery options.

Kind regards



Mike Bennetts  
CEO  
Z Energy

### **West Coast Regional Council**

Prepared by: Chris Ingle  
Date: 8 September 2011  
Subject: **Working Together Agreement – Annual Report 2011**

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#### **Background**

In March 2006, Westland Milk Products and the West Coast Regional Council signed an agreement setting out how they would work together towards the joint goals of environmental and economic sustainability. The key strategic goals of that agreement are to be achieved by a target date of 2015.

#### **2010 Review of Agreement**

Last year the CEOs of Westland Milk Products and the Council completed an assessment of progress with the targets in the Agreement. That assessment was reported to Council last September (see attached report). Progress towards the achievement of the strategic goals is very good.

#### **2011 Annual Review**

This report records issues discussed and actions taken since the 2010 assessment, which are as follows:

The CEOs and senior management of West Coast Regional Council and Westland Milk Products met three times this year, on 30 September 2010, 30 May 2011 and 31 August 2011. At these meetings the following issues and actions were discussed:

- Westland Milk Products have commenced the implementation of their code of practice for suppliers. 2011-12 will be a transitional season.
- Communications protocols between staff of the two organisations were discussed to ensure that information flows were efficient.
- Factory development plans were discussed, as were transport links and in particular the need for a new Taramakau Bridge.
- Factory compliance was discussed given the new expansion planned, and the improvements made with the new on-site stormwater containment system were explained.
- The Farm Plan projects reports were reviewed and a summary report on their completion was discussed. Future farm plan projects were discussed, to be jointly funded.
- The proposed Land and Water Plan and Lake Brunner catchment policy and rule changes were discussed.
- The wetlands court case was discussed.
- Business continuity planning was discussed as was the impending civil defence Tsunami exercise, and external communications methods.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That this report be received

Chris Ingle  
Chief Executive

## 5.2.1

### THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee  
Prepared by: Colin Dall - Consents & Compliance Manager  
Date: 30 September 2011

**Subject: CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT**

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#### **CONSENTS**

##### Consents Site Visits from 1 – 28 September 2011

<b>DATE</b>	<b>NAME, ACTIVITY &amp; LOCATION</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>
7/9/11	RC11180 – H Croft, Gravel Extraction, Grey River at Kiwi Point	To investigate the site to assess the availability of the gravel resource and gain a better understanding of the proposed gravel extraction operations.
9/9/11	RC11181 - Solid Energy New Zealand Ltd, Coal Mining, Mt William (Stockton)	To investigate the site to gain a better understanding of the proposed coal mining operation.
26/9/11	RC11198 - Ball Developments Ltd, Gravel extraction, Grey River at Omoto & St Kilda and Taramakau River	To investigate the site to assess the availability of the gravel resource and gain a better understanding of the proposed gravel extraction operations.
27/9/11	PA11024 – Coastwide Surveys Ltd for TrustPower Ltd, Onsite wastewater discharge, Arnold Valley	To assess the proposed onsite sewage treatment system against Rules 6 (RPDL) and 77 (PRLWP).
28/9/11	RC11210 & RC11196 – West Coast Regional Council & B Morgan, Coastal erosion protection works, Mokihinui	To investigate a retrospective resource consent application for coastal erosion protection at Mokihinui.

##### Non-Notified Resource Consents Granted from 1 – 28 September 2011

<b>CONSENT NO. &amp; HOLDER</b>	<b>PURPOSE OF CONSENT</b>
RC04195 JR & ME Reedy	To discharge treated dairy effluent to land and water (a tributary of the Orowaiti Lagoon) near DS778, Westport.
RC10153 Auto Diesel Sales and Services Ltd	To disturb land associated with undertaking a geotechnical investigation for the purpose of road construction for the Arnott Heights - Leith Crescent development.
RC10217 Solid Energy New Zealand Ltd	To undertake earthworks and vegetation clearance associated with the development and operation of Reddale Mine. To disturb the bed of Burkes Creek associated with its diversion. To divert water of Burkes Creek. To take and use surface water from Burkes Creek for irrigation purposes at the Reddale Mine. To take groundwater via seepage for use in coal mining activities at Reddale Mine. To take water associated with the dewatering of "Ferndale Pond". To discharge water containing contaminants (sediment and water treatment chemicals) to land and water (Burkes Creek) associated with coal mining activities at Reddale Mine, including the discharge from dust



	management trucks.
	To dispose of (discharge) potentially acid forming material at Reddale Mine.
	To discharge treated sewage effluent to land near Burkes Creek.
	To discharge dust to air associated with coal mining activities at Reddale Mine.
RC10239 B & K Ferguson	To undertake earthworks associated with alluvial gold mining near Ikamatua.
	To disturb the bed of the Grey River associated with gold mining near Ikamatua.
	To take and use groundwater near the Grey River for alluvial gold mining activities.
	To discharge sediment-laden water to land in circumstances where it may enter water in the Grey River.
RC11013 R Belcher	To disturb the dry bed and the wet bed of the Buller River immediately upstream of the SH67 Bridge for the purpose of gravel extraction.
RC11020 Garvey Creek Farm Ltd	To undertake river protection (rock spur and channel diversion) on the bed and banks of the Inangahua River.
	To divert water in the Inangahua River.
RC11033 Westland District Council	To take water from Lake Kaniere for the purposes of a community water supply for Hokitika.
RC11124 Garvey Creek Farm Ltd	To deposit material (rock and gravel) on the bed of Garvey Creek to construct a diversion bund.
	To divert water, Garvey Creek.
RC11134 MBD Contracting Ltd	To disturb the dry bed of the Greenstone (Big Hohonu) River, at Cape Terrace Road for the purpose of gravel extraction.
RC11138 Solid Energy New Zealand Ltd	To discharge shellfish shells to land in circumstances where contaminants may enter water at the Stockton Coal Mine.
	To stockpile shellfish shells in circumstances where contaminants may enter water at the Stockton Coal Mine.
	To discharge contaminants (shellfish shells) to water via a leach bed at the Stockton Coal Mine.
	To discharge contaminants (odour) to air associated with the discharge and storage of shellfish shells.
RC11146 D Hampton	To undertake land disturbance associated with flipping and humping and hollowing of farmland adjacent to the New River.
	To discharge water containing sediment to land in circumstances where it may enter the New River and its tributaries.
RC11154 New Zealand Transport Agency	To place rock spurs and rip-rap/protection on the bed of Kellys Creek.
	To place rock spurs and rip-rap/protection on the bed of the Jacobs River.
	To place rock spurs and rip-rap/protection on the bed of the Moeraki River.
	To permanently divert water from rock spurs, Kellys Creek.
	To permanently divert water from rock spurs, Jacobs River.
	To permanently divert water from rock spurs, Moeraki River.
RC11166 G Tripe	To disturb the bed of the Waiho River associated with construction of a gravel bund and formation of "diversion channels".

	To divert flow of the Waiho River.
RC11176 Buller Coal Ltd	To undertake earthworks associated with the development of a coal stockpiling facility at Fairdown, adjacent to Deadmans Creek.
RC11178 Department of Conservation	To disturb the dry bed of the Heaphy River at four sites for the purpose of extracting gravel.
	To disturb the dry bed of the Lewis River for the purpose of extracting gravel.
	To disturb the dry bed of the Gunner River for the purpose of extracting gravel.
	To disturb the dry bed of Murray Creek for the purpose of extracting gravel.
RC11180 Hamish Croft	To disturb the dry bed of the Grey River at Kiwi Point for the purpose of extracting gravel.
RC11187 B Meek & C Fern	To discharge treated domestic sewage effluent to land from a dwelling on Lot 2 DP 19569 Kawatiri SD Sec 61 Blk V.
RC11191 Spring Creek Mining Company	To undertake earthworks for the purpose of site preparation at Dunollie.
RC11193 Department of Conservation	To discharge treated sewage effluent to land from toilet facilities adjacent to Lake Matheson.
RC11202 Department of Conservation	To undertake earthworks within 20 metres of the Coastal Marine Area (enclosed coastline) for the purpose of developing the area adjacent to the Okarito Wharf.
WS639 D Parker	To erect a whitebait stand and associated disturbance in the Mokihinui River.

#### Changes to Consent Conditions Granted from 1 – 28 September 2011

<b>CONSENT NO, HOLDER &amp; LOCATION</b>	<b>PURPOSE OF CHANGE</b>
RC95023 Westland District Council Harihari Landfill	To remove the requirement to add a layer of topsoil to the existing capping material.
RC00323 Oceana Gold (New Zealand) Ltd Globe Progress Mine, Reefton	To increase the maximum rate of discharge from the minewater treatment plant.
RC03175 Solid Energy New Zealand Ltd Cypress Mine	Relocation of the required "Kiwi treatment area".
RC03332 Kawatiri Energy Ltd Lake Rochfort, Buller	To provide for the increase in the road width from the powerhouse to Lake Rochfort.
RC03332 Kawatiri Energy Ltd Lake Rochfort, Buller	To provide for the construction of a single pipeline rather than a dual pipeline as part of the hydro electric power scheme.
RC08180 Grabeth Holdings Ltd/Lucas & Beatson Takutai to Totara Lagoon	To change the conditions so that RC08180/2 could be transferred to another person.

No Limited Notified or Notified Resource Consents were granted from 1 to 28 September 2011.

### Notified Consents Updates

Three appeals have been lodged opposing the granting of all or some of the consents for Buller Coal Limited's proposed Escarpment Mine on the Denniston Plateau. The appellants are West Coast ENT Incorporated, Fairdown-Whareatea Residents Associated Incorporated and Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Incorporated.

### Public Enquiries

40 written public enquiries were responded to during the reporting period, including seven requests made under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. All seven official information requests were responded to within the required 20 working day period. Of the remaining 33 enquiries 27 (82%) were answered on the same day, four (12%) the following day, and the remaining two (6%) no more than 10 working days later.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

*That the October 2011 report of the Consents Group be received.*

Colin Dall

**Consents & Compliance Manager**

**THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee  
 Prepared by: Colin Dall – Consents & Compliance Manager & Phil McKinnel – Compliance Team Leader  
 Date: 30 September 2011  
 Subject: **COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT**

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**Site Visits**

A total of 64 site visits were undertaken during the reporting period, which consisted of:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Number of Visits</b>	<b>Fully Compliant (%)</b>
Resource consent monitoring	22	41
Dairy shed inspections	12	67
Mining compliance & bond release	30	70

Included in these totals are complaint related visits. A total of 25 site visits were undertaken to a range of activities in response to complaints during the last reporting period.

**Specific Issues**

**Dairy Effluent Discharges:** Compliance staff commenced their planned dairy effluent inspection for the 2011/2012 season. Two farmers in the Brunner Catchment were requested to undertake remedial works to improve the effluent management systems on their farms.

**Contaminated Stormwater Discharge to the Hokitika River:** At the previous Council meeting it was reported that the Council had received several complaints about a white substance being discharged from a stormwater outfall into the Hokitika River which had the same appearance as white paint. At the time, the source of the discharge had not been found. Since then the source of the discharge has been located with the assistance of Westland District Council staff following further complaints about the discharge. The contaminant was identified as cooling water from a stone carving operation. A sump at the site of the operation had overflowed to the stormwater system. Further action is being considered.

**Solid Energy New Zealand Limited (SENZ)/Stockton Alliance – Stockton Coal Mine:** Compliance staff visited the Stockton mining operations with the particular objective to check the development of the haul road for the Cypress Mine. The development works for the McCabe's mining block were also inspected. All aspects of the operations viewed were found to be compliant.

The self-monitoring results submitted by the Company to the Council showed compliance with all licence and consent conditions with the exception of the sampling result for one dust monitoring site, which is being investigated.

**Whitebait Stands:** With the season now open there continues to be enquiries and complaints about stand locations, especially where river banks and channels have moved. Council officers are using GPS to try and resolve these matters and also to ensure future compliance. Visits have been undertaken to most rivers including those in the far south of Westland.

**Gold Mining:** Scheduled visits to gold mining operations found that those operations were being conducted in a compliant manner, except for one operation which had commenced without a current work programme and the required consent bond being lodged. The miner was issued with an abatement notice to cease the unauthorised operation.

### Complaints/Incidents between 29 August and 27 September 2011

The following 45 complaints/incidents were received during the reporting period:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Action/Outcome</b>
Slink Skin Operation	Complaint about smell from a slink skin Operation	Hokitika	Operation was compliant at the time of inspection.
Gold Mining	Complaint about sediment entering the Totara River.	Ross	Two site visits were undertaken. The consent holder has undertaken works to improve the water management. No further action required.
Earthworks	Complaint about dirty water in Deadmans Creek.	Westport	Not confirmed by inspection.
Coal Mining	Complaint about dirty water in waterway.	Rapahoe	Not confirmed by inspection.
Earthworks	Complaint about earthworks causing dirty water to enter waterway.	Reefton	Site visit undertaken and infringement notice issued.
Pest Control	Complaint about 1080 pellets on walking track.	Charleston	Contractor was contacted and WCRC undertook track check. No further action required.
Burning	Complaint about neighbour using an outdoor fire.	Cobden	Site visit undertaken. Fire was being used for cooking. Referred to GDC for fire permit.
Petroleum Spill	Complaint about diesel in the Grey River.	Dobson	Inspection undertaken, but the source of diesel was not located.
Black Sand Mining	Complaints (2) about unauthorised excavation.	Fairdown	Site visit undertaken. Agreement reached with consent holder to leave sensitive area.
Stock in Waterway	Complaint regarding dead stock in waterway.	Dunollie	Landowner contacted and was to arrange to carcass to be removed.
Dairy	Complaint about effluent discharge to road and into nearby creek.	Harihari	Site visit undertaken and plan in place to undertake improvement works.
Burning	Complaint about smoke from industrial site.	Greymouth	Not confirmed by inspection.
Whitebaiting	Complaint regarding illegal structure.	Charleston	Still under investigation.
Quarrying	Complaint about unauthorised quarry operation.	Rotomanu	Still under investigation.

Chemical Spill	Complaint about chemical spill into the Grey River.	Greymouth	Site visited and red dye noted in river. Source not located.
Coal Mining	Complaints (3) about discharge to waterway from mining operation.	Reefton.	Site visit undertaken and abatement notice issued.
Pest Control	Complaint that track checks were not completed to the required standard.	Okarito	Track checks found to exceed consent requirements.
Burning	Incident involving tyres being burnt.	Kaiata	Site visit undertaken and 2 infringement notices issued.
Gravel Extraction	Complaint that too much gravel was being extracted from the Taramakau River	Taramakau	Gravel extraction operation compliant at the time of inspection.
Dairy	Complaint about poor management of dairy effluent	Te Kinga	Site visit undertaken and letter of direction issued.
Discharge to water	Complaint of dirty water in river.	Reefton	Site visit undertaken and diversion works found to have been undertaken. Further action being considered.
Dairy	Complaint about dairy effluent on road.	Atarau	Will be investigated during next planned visit to the area.
Hazardous Site	Complaint about activities at old Sawmill.	Hokitika	Still under investigation.
Dairy	Complaint about stock damaging riparian margins due to over grazing and access to banks.	Whataroa	Activity was complying with regional rules at time of inspection.
Gravel Extraction	Unauthorised gravel extraction.	Cobden	Still under investigation.
River works	Complaint about river mouth being opened without authorisation.	Hokitika	Still under investigation.
Discharge to water	Complaint about discharge to river.	Hokitika	Still under investigation.
Coal Mine	Complaint alleging that two large trees have been placed on the Stockton Plateau ridgeline.	Birchfield	Unsubstantiated.
Earthworks	Complaint about earthworks on neighbouring property.	Granity	No action required as activity complied with permitted activity rules.
Natural Event	Complaint about algae in river.	Hokitika	Site visit found the algal growth to be natural.
Diesel Spill	Complaint about a diesel spill in Westport Harbour.	Westport	Unsubstantiated.

Discharge to water	Complaints (2) about white substance in Hokitika River discharging from stormwater drain.	Hokitika	Site visit undertaken with WDC, source found remedial works to be undertaken.
Forestry	Complaint about historical forestry operation causing land instability	New River	Still under investigation.
Stock in Waterway	Complaint about dead stock dumped in drain.	Karamea	Landowner contacted and requested to remove carcass.
Coastal Works	Complaint about debris trap exacerbating coastal erosion.	Ngakawau	Still under investigation.
Coal Mining	Complaint about coal dust.	Ngakawau	A review of monitoring results for the site in question did not identify any non-compliant discharges. Nevertheless the Company is undertaking a review of dust management at the site.
Whitebait	Complaint about a stand holder using concrete to improve their stand.	Mokihinui	Still under investigation.
Whitebait	Complaint about a stand exceeding the allowed length	Okuru	Site visit undertaken. Stand owner found to be fishing the allowed length.
Whitebait	Complaint about the positions of stands.	Waitaha	Site visit undertaken, stand locations were recorded on GPS.
Whitebait	Complaint about stand relocating to island.	Paringa	Still under investigation.
Gravel extraction	Complaint about contractor extracting in the wrong area.	Taramakau	Site visit undertaken and contractor requested to move to the correct location.

### **Formal Enforcement Action**

The following 3 abatement notice and 4 infringement notices were issued during the reporting period:

<b>Notice</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Location</b>
Abatement	Unauthorised discharge of contaminant (sediment laden water) to land where it may enter water.	Reefton
Abatement	Unauthorised discharge of contaminant (contaminated storm water and pond water) to land where it may enter water.	Reefton
Abatement	Unauthorised gold mining earthworks.	Blackwater
Infringement	Prohibited discharge of contaminants to air (burning of tyres).	Omoto
Infringement	Failure to provide certain information (false details given).	Omoto
Infringement	Unauthorised discharge of sediment from a gold mining operation to land where it entered water.	Reefton
Infringement	Unauthorised discharge of sediment from a gold mining operation to land where it entered water.	Reefton

One formal warning was also issued during the reporting period.

## MINING

### Work Programmes

The Council received the following 2 work programmes during the last reporting period, one of which was processed within the 20 day timeframe. The other work programmes (shown in italics) was on track to be processed within the target timeframe.

Date	Mining Authorisation	Holder	Location
9/9/2011	RC09053	Westco Mining Ltd	Ruatapu
<i>23/9/2011</i>	<i>RC10174</i>	<i>Hard Rock Mining &amp; Development</i>	<i>Pynes Gully, Kumara</i>

### Bonds Received & Bond Releases

The following mining bond was received:

Mining Authorisation	Holder	Location	Amount
RC02239	Buller Coal Ltd	Denniston	\$160,000

## OIL SPILL RESPONSE

A diesel spill was reported in Westport Harbour, but the Harbour Master was unable to verify the report.

## RECOMMENDATION

*That the October 2011 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, 11<sup>TH</sup> October 2011** commencing on completion of the Resource Management Committee Meeting.

A.R. SCARLETT  
CHAIRPERSON

C. INGLE  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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<u>AGENDA NUMBERS</u>	<u>PAGE NUMBERS</u>	<u>BUSINESS</u>
<b>1.</b>		<b>APOLOGIES</b>
<b>2.</b>		<b>PUBLIC FORUM</b>
<b>3.</b>		<b>MINUTES</b>
	1 – 3	3.1 Minutes of Council Meeting 13 September 2011
<b>4.</b>		<b>REPORTS</b>
	4 – 5	4.1 Planning & Environmental Manager's Report on Engineering Operations
	6 – 9	4.1.2 Proposed Whataroa Rating District
	10 – 11	4.2 Corporate Services Manager's Report
	12	4.2.1 Adoption of Audited Annual Report Year to 30 June 2011
	13 - 33	4.2.2 Review of Local Authority Remuneration Setting
<b>5.</b>		<b>CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (VERBAL)</b>
<b>6.0</b>	34 – 40	<b>CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT</b>
<b>7.</b>		<b>GENERAL BUSINESS</b>

**THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL****MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 13 SEPTEMBER 2011,  
AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH,  
COMMENCING AT 11.36 A.M.****PRESENT:**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), M. Meehan (Planning and Environmental Manager), C. Dall (Consents & Compliance Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

**1. APOLOGIES:**

There were no apologies.

**2. PUBLIC FORUM**

There was no public forum.

**3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Moved** (Birchfield / Robb) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 9 August 2011, be confirmed as correct.*

*Carried*

**Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

**REPORTS:****4.1 ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT**

M. Meehan spoke to his report advising that an inspection of the Whataroa River proposed works for the proposed rating district in this area has been carried out. M. Meehan reported that information has been passed on to the residents of this proposed rating district outlining the extent of the proposed works and a further survey form has also been sent out to ascertain whether or not residents still want to form a rating district.

M. Meehan advised that meetings have been arranged with residents for the proposed Whataroa rating district and also for the proposed Punakaiki River (south bank) rating district. M. Meehan advised that NZTA and Grey District Council would be invited to the meeting for the proposed Punakaiki rating district. M. Meehan reported that quarry work has been busy with a lot of rock being taken from council quarries. M. Meehan drew attention to the new table in his report that illustrates how much rock and emergency stockpiles of rock are proposed for each quarry. M. Meehan stated that good progress in being made in the Whataroa quarry as there is a lot of room and there is already an emergency stockpile of rock in place. M. Meehan stated that there is no room in the Kiwi quarry for a stockpile of rock therefore Blackball quarry will hold extra rock for this purpose. M. Meehan advised that the consideration is being given to tendering out all quarry work in order to get the best price possible for work and also to get a consistent supply of rock in all quarries. M. Meehan advised that contractors seem to be in favour of this move and it is felt that this would give contractors some surety with regard to investment in their machinery and staffing as well. Cr Davidson asked where is council at with regard to the Wanganui

quarry. M. Meehan responded that a tender document is about to be released inviting tenders to register their interest in this quarry.

**Moved** (Archer / Birchfield) *that this report be received.*

*Carried*

## 5.1 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT

R. Mallinson spoke to his report advising that \$500,000 was withdrawn from the Forsyth Barr Ltd portfolio to form the Regional Catastrophe Fund. He advised that this money has been established in a separate portfolio with Westpac. R. Mallinson reported that \$1M has been invested from Council's unbudgeted 2010 / 2011 surplus.

**Moved** (Birchfield / Archer) *that this report be received.*

*Carried*

### 5.2.1 ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR TO 30 JUNE 2011

R. Mallinson spoke to this report and took it as read.

**Moved** (Robb / Cummings) *That Council receive the unaudited 2011 Annual Report.*

*Carried*

### 5.2.2 DRAFT PROCUREMENT POLICY

R. Mallinson spoke to this report. He stated that Council is a reasonably large procurer of goods and services in the region and spends in excess of \$6M per year. R. Mallinson advised that Audit New Zealand has been recommending that this policy be finalised. R. Mallinson advised that the new policy takes into account specialised areas of procurement where this is a limited pool of potential suppliers. R. Mallinson stated that he feels this policy suits council's requirements. Cr Archer asked R. Mallinson if he feels there is a need to include an indicative preference to West Coast suppliers for goods and services as opposed to out of region suppliers. R. Mallinson advised that he would not recommend this as council always goes for the best value option whether this is from a local supplier or a supplier from outside the region. Cr Birchfield agreed that council should go for the best deal wherever they can get it.

**Moved** Archer / Robb) *That Council adopts the attached Procurement Policy.*

*Carried*

## 6.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT

C. Ingle spoke to his report. He spoke of the positive meeting he attended with the Conservator and Department of Conservation senior staff on the 29<sup>th</sup> of August.

C. Ingle reported that he also attended a very productive meeting with Westland Milk Products senior management team on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August. He advised that there would be an annual report relating to the "Working Together" agreement that council has with Westland Milk Products in the next council agenda. C. Ingle stated that this has been a very productive year with the new "Code of Practice" that Westland Milk Products has adopted bringing the two organisation's goals even closer together.

C. Ingle reported that he attended the Regional Sector Group meeting in Wellington with Cr Scarlett on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of September.

C. Ingle advised that the Mayors and Chairs forum that is noted in his report was postponed due to a Shared Services meeting that was held in Canterbury yesterday. He advised that this was a South Island wide meeting and was called by Dame Margaret Bazley from the Canterbury Regional Council. C. Ingle stated that there was good representation from as far away as Southland and up to the top of the south Unitary Councils, with very robust discussions on shared services on what is working and what isn't. C. Ingle advised that shared services will be discussed further today at the Zone 5 meeting, he stated that it is possible that he will be asked to join this group.

C. Ingle reported that the Animal Health Board’s Annual Report is included in this report. He advised that this is looking back on performance on the previous year. He spoke of the good progress being made in this area with Tb infected herd numbers falling. C. Ingle advised that looking forward into this current year, the Animal Health Board made an additional funding request for \$82,000. C. Ingle advised that at the time of the Annual Plan process the Animal Health Board was unsure of how much they required as they were unsure of what other regions would not be able to fund. He advised that Tasman have not been able to fully fund their programme and therefore the Animal Health Board are seeking further funding for a second ground control round. Cr Scarlett stated that this is a very cost effective measure as Council gets close to \$1M of ground control work in the West Coast from this.

**Moved** (Robb / Birchfield)

- 1. *That this report be received.*
- 2. *That Council agrees to fund the \$82,000 requested by AHB, from retained earnings from the 2010 / 10 financial year.*

*Carried*

**7.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT (VERBAL)**

Cr Scarlett reported that he attended the Regional Sector Group meeting with the Chief Executive on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of September. Cr Scarlett stated that he feels Government is slowing at the moment, as the general election is only six weeks away. Cr Scarlett stated that he attended the Shared Services yesterday also and he feels there are some exciting prospects coming up and he is pleased that the Chief Executive will be joining this committee. Cr Scarlett feels there are savings and efficiencies to be made that will provide a better service to the public. Cr Scarlett stated that shared services are a big move in Government at the moment with all departments being looked at.

**Moved** (Scarlett / Davidson) that this report be received.

*Carried*

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 11.48 a.m.

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Date

# 4.1

## THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting – 11 October 2011  
Prepared by: W. Moen – Rivers Engineer and Paulette Birchfield – Engineering Officer  
Date: 30 September 2011

Subject: **ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT**

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### **RIVER AND DRAINAGE INSPECTIONS**

- Whataroa River – Inspection
- Callery River – Emergency Aerial Inspection
- Taramakau Rating District - Inspection
- Power Road – Flooding Issues
- Mohikinui River – Rating District inspection and advice upstream

### **WORKS COMPLETED & WORKS TENDERED FOR**

#### Franz Josef Rating District – Emergency Works – July 2011 Contract R 2011 / 8

The raising of the two stopbanks on the north side of the river, and associated rockwork has been completed.

The work involved placement of 6,146 m<sup>3</sup> of compacted hard fill, 3,564 tonnes of rock, 2,620 tonnes of rubble and 555 m<sup>3</sup> of top course material.

The final cost was \$173,246.48 (G.S.T. Exclusive)

#### Taramakau Rating District – Hook Groyne Raising – August 2011

This work, involving the placement of 9,300m<sup>3</sup> of compacted hard fill and the replacement of a culvert has been completed.

The final cost was \$45,603.15 (G.S.T. Exclusive)

### **OTHER MATTERS**

All rating district minutes, financial and works reports have been mailed out for the annual meetings in October 2011.

### **QUARRIES**

Work in the quarries continues to be steady. Major work has been undertaken in the Whataroa quarry with an emergency stockpile established and demand for rock high. Mucking out work is planned for Kiwi quarry once the current stockpile is exhausted. Progress has been made on emergency stockpiles in both Camelback and Blackball quarries.

#### Quarry work permitted since 20 August 2011

Quarry	Contractor	Tonnage Requested	Permit Start	Permit Finish
Wanganui	Westland Schist	200	30 August	30 September
Kiwi	GH Foster Contracting Ltd	100	1 September	23 September
Camelback	Henry Adams Contracting	500 (rubble)	6 September	10 September
Camelback	Henry Adams Contracting	500	19 September	23 September
Kiwi	GH Foster Contracting	1000	19 September	23 September
Camelback	Westland Contractors Ltd	1500	30 September	30 October

Approximate rock in quarry as at 27 September 2011 (in tonnes)

Quarry	Rock Available	Emergency Stockpile
Blackball	2,000	
Camelback	5,000	
Inchbonnie	5,000	
Kiwi	3,000	
Whataroa	4,000	4,000
Okuru	1,500	

**RECOMMENDATION**

*That the report is received*

Michael Meehan  
**Planning and Environment Manager**

**THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

Prepared for: Council Meeting – 11 October 2011  
 Prepared by: Michael Meehan – Planning & Environmental Manager  
 Date: 2 October 2011  
 Subject: **PROPOSED WHATAROA RATING DISTRICT**

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**Purpose**

To advise Council of the outcome of the opinion survey for forming the Proposed Whataroa Rating District (PWRD).

**Background**

In 2009 Council investigated the PWRD to manage flooding and erosion on the south side of the Whataroa River. At that time the proposal did not receive sufficient community support for Council to proceed.

As advised at the September 2011 Council meeting, several ratepayers in the Whataroa River area have requested Council staff to again gauge interest in forming a new rating district in the Whataroa area, in order to fund the maintenance of existing erosion protection works near the State Highway bridge, and to potentially enable further flood and erosion protection works in the future. Some of this work is urgent, and in response Council's River Engineer visited the site and identified the immediate works required on an aerial photo. This was circulated to the PWRD members on 12 September 2011 with a formal opinion survey.

**Results of 2011 Survey**

Of the 30 surveys sent out, 18 were returned (60% response). The results were:

12	(67%)	In Favour
6	(33%)	Not in Favour (one of these is in favour of maintaining the existing works identified, but not any further works)

**Comments Received on Survey forms**

General support and positive comments were received by the majority of respondents with some also sending money to get the priority works underway as soon as possible.

Of the returned forms which were not in favour of the rating district their concerns were:

- Uncertainty over the type of works and how far the works would extend to.
- Properties which have no ability to generate income from the land, or are attached to long term leases have no way of paying the increased rate.
- The rating district is being formed too quickly without adequate consultation.
- Cost to properties further away from the river is not fair.
- The Proposed Rating District would be too big to manage.
- Further information is needed and a thorough investigation is required.

**Analysis of comments and a way forward**

The works immediately downstream of the State Highway Bridge are the immediate priority for the PWRD. Potential further works would need to be discussed at the annual rating district meeting, and the development of an asset management plan in consultation with the proposed rating district members would establish a long term strategy for the rating district.

The consultation period has been much faster than normal and a meeting was held at short notice, but with reasonable attendance. However this concern has been ongoing since 2009 so it is not new. The Proposed Rating District comprises two classes, which takes into account those who more directly benefit, being those properties closer to the river (see A and B classifications on attached map).



### **Whether or not to form a new Rating District**

Council generally requires 70% in favour to form a rating district. In this case there is not quite the desired level of support for the Proposed Rating District. However, the majority of issues that have arisen during the opinion survey process can be addressed through the asset management plan and developing a long term strategy for the PWRD.

### **Requirement before Setting a Rate**

If Council decides to form a new Rating District, there is an urgent need to maintain the river works downstream of the bridge. Some of the PWRD landowners have already sent in cheques for their share of costs to fund this work, but to equitably fund these urgent works the Council should strike a rate based on the capital value of all the properties in the PWRD, according to the A and B classifications on the attached map. The Rating Act requires Council to consider the following before deciding to strike a rate outside of the normal LTCCP or annual plan process:

- (3) A local authority may set a rate that is not provided for in its LTCCP and funding impact statement only if:
  - (a) The local authority is satisfied that the rate is required to meet an unforeseen and urgent need for revenue that cannot reasonably be met by any other means, having regard to the manner in which it has, in its LTCCP and funding impact statement allocated the costs of the activities or groups of activities to which the need for revenue relates; and
  - (b) The local authority has given at least 14 days' public notice of its intention to set the rate.

*Section 23 (3) of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002*

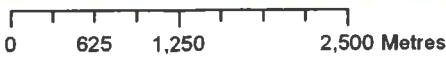
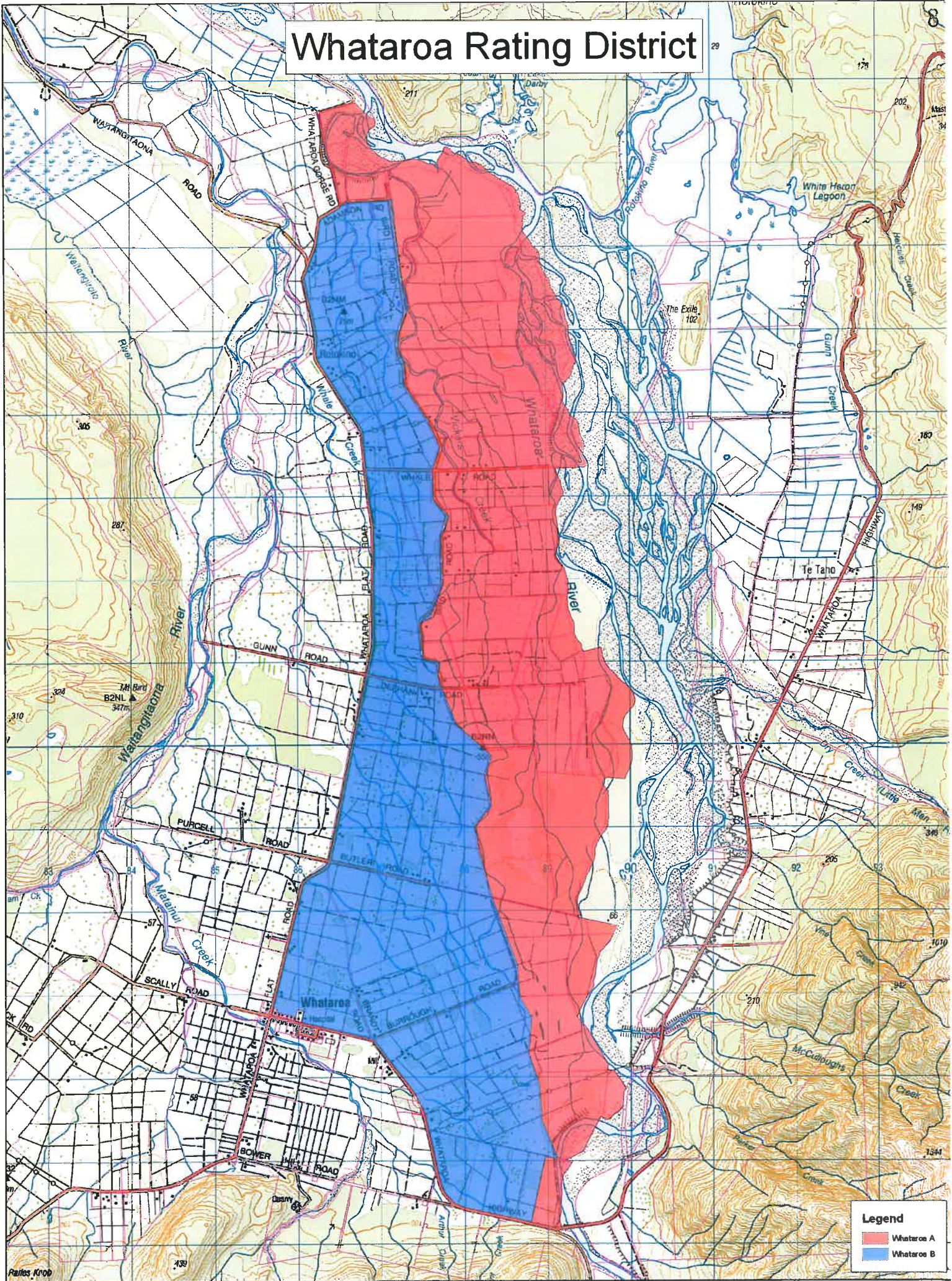
### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. *That Council resolves to form a new Whataroa Special Rating District as per the attached map, for the primary purpose of funding the emergency river works indentified in the attached aerial photo of the river within 1.5km of the State Highway bridge.*
2. *That Council gives 14 days notice of its intention to strike a rate to raise \$100,000, to fund the emergency works as outlined in the attached aerial photo, having satisfied itself that section 23(3)(a) of the Rating Act applies in this situation.*
3. *That the first meeting of the Whataroa Rating District is scheduled for 13 October 2011 in Whataroa, to discuss the longer term strategic objectives of the new rating district.*

Michael Meehan  
**Planning and Environmental Manger**



# Whataroa Rating District



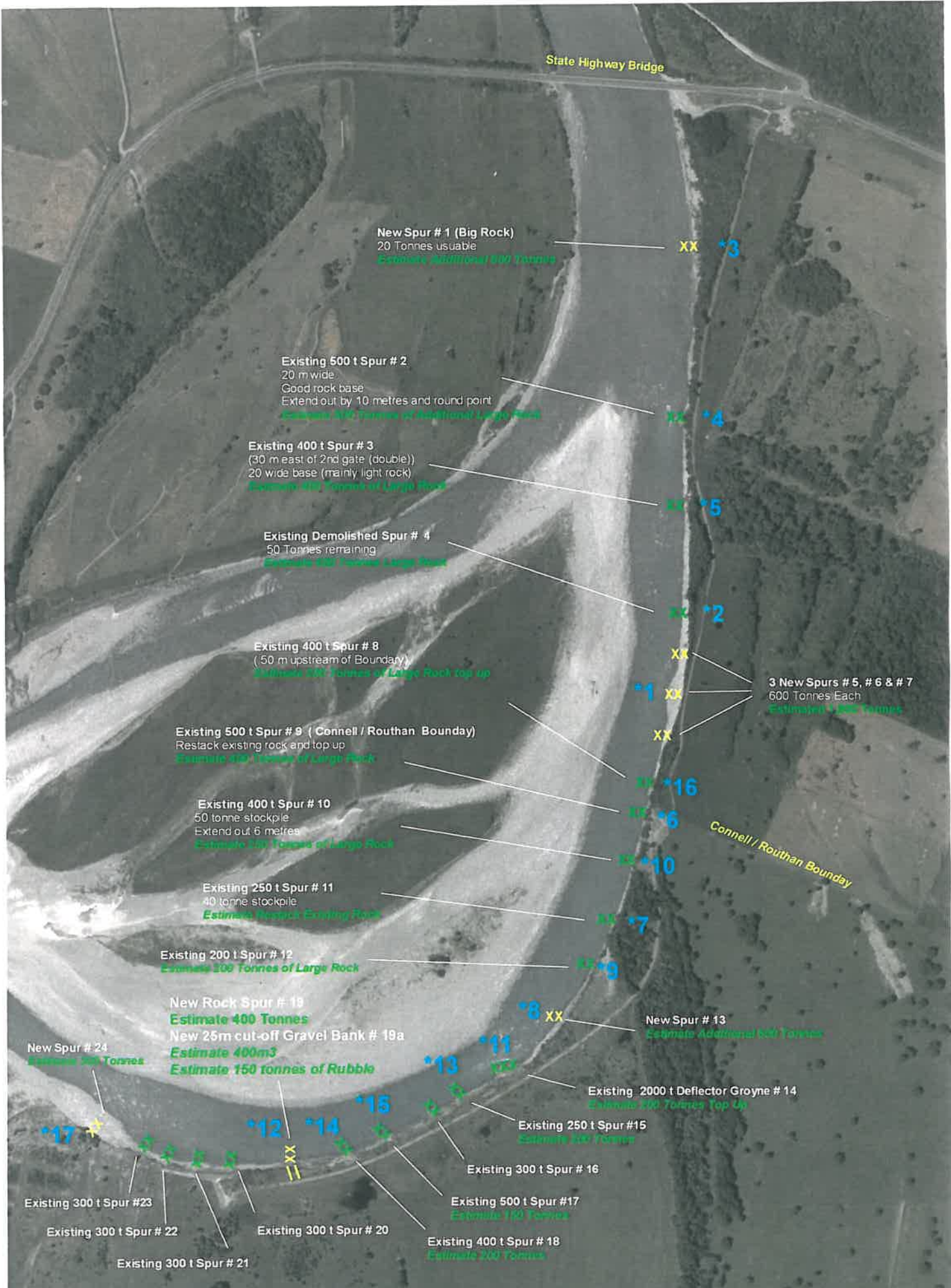
Projection: NZGD 2000  
Creation Date: 18/08/2011  
Scale: 1:40,000

**Legend**

- Whataroa A
- Whataroa B







WHATAROA RATING DISTRICT - Works Priorities September 2011

## THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting  
 Prepared by: Robert Mallinson – Corporate Services Manager  
 Date: 1 October 2011  
 Subject: CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT

## 1. Financial Report

FOR THE TWO MONTHS ENDED 31 AUGUST 2011				
	ACTUAL	YEAR TO DATE BUDGET	ACTUAL % ANNUAL BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET
<b>REVENUES</b>				
General Rates	331,770	330,000	17%	1,980,000
Rates Penalties	26,238	12,500	35%	75,000
Investment Income	-289,305	174,375	-28%	1,046,250
Regulatory	241,753	227,038	23%	1,033,727
Planning Processes	84,349	34,108	41%	204,650
Environmental Monitoring	0	0	0%	0
Emergency Management	10,621	8,333	21%	50,000
River, Drainage, Coastal Protection	223,155	203,760	18%	1,222,557
Regional % Share Controls	108,902	108,333	17%	650,000
VCS Business Unit	1,752,526	480,833	61%	2,885,000
	2,490,009	1,579,281	27%	9,147,184
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Representation	53,233	64,257	14%	385,543
Regulatory Activities	313,110	334,625	17%	1,811,878
Planning Processes	161,984	121,360	22%	728,157
Environmental Monitoring	113,332	127,719	15%	766,316
Emergency Management	12,603	24,150	9%	144,902
River, Drainage, Coastal Protection	163,934	223,797	12%	1,342,779
Regional % Share Controls	136,183	135,754	17%	814,523
VCS Business Unit	957,882	385,333	41%	2,312,000
Portfolio Management	15,150	10,000	25%	60,000
	1,927,411	1,416,995	23%	8,366,098
<b>SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>562,598</b>	<b>162,286</b>		<b>781,086</b>

BREAKDOWN OF SURPLUS (-DEFICIT)	Variance Actual V Budgeted YTD	ACTUAL	BUDGET Year to date	ANNUAL BUDGET
Rating Districts	62,058	105,851	43,793	262,758
Quarries	-19,465	-25,186	-5,721	-34,324
Regional % Share of AHB Programmes	140	-27,281	-27,421	-164,523
Investment Income	-468,830	-304,455	164,375	986,250
VCS Business Unit	699,144	794,644	95,500	573,000
General Rates Funded Activities	137,236	19,025	-118,241	-842,075
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>410,312</b>	<b>562,598</b>	<b>152,286</b>	<b>781,086</b>

Net Contributors to General Rates Funded Surplus (-Deficit)	Actual	Budet ytd	Annual Plan	
<u>Net Variance</u>				
<u>Actual V YTD</u>				
Rates	1,770	331,770	330,000	1,980,000
Rates Penalties	13,738	26,238	12,500	75,000
Representation	11,024	-53,233	-64,257	-385,543
Regulatory Activities	36,230	-71,357	-107,587	-778,151
Planning Activities	9,616	-77,635	-87,251	-523,507
River, Drainage, Coastal Protection (excl.	36,665	-21,444	-58,109	-348,656
Environmental Monitoring	14,387	-113,332	-127,719	-766,316
Emergency Management	13,835	-1,982	-15,817	-94,902
	137,236	19,025	-118,241	-842,075

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**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION @ 31 AUGUST 2011**

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	@ 31/08/2011	@ 30/06/2011
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash	-47,700	35,009
Short term Deposit - Westpac	1,010,107	1,502,947
Accounts Receivable - Rates	190,402	286,950
Accounts Receivable - General Debtors	1,026,994 *	1,747,428
Prepayments	266,807 *	227,482
Sundry Receivables	182,841 *	233,453
Stock - VCS	23,973	143,635
Stock - Rock	52,023	31,886
Stock - Office Supplies	11,232	11,232
Accrued Rates Revenue	606,899	0
Unbilled Revenue	189,102 *	113,060
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,512,680	4,333,082
<b>Non Current Assets</b>		
Investments	10,676,711	11,473,175
Investments-Catastrophe Fund	500,000	0
Fixed Assets	4,188,856	4,168,272
Infrastructural Assets	49,007,111	49,007,111
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	64,372,678	64,648,558
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	67,885,358	68,981,640

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**CURRENT LIABILITIES**

Bank OD		0
Accounts Payable	835,167	1,310,545
GST	-40,579	0
Deposits and Bonds	599,160	590,305
Sundry Payables	373,436	480,466
Accrued Annual Leave, Payroll	279,550	294,522
Other Revenue in Advance	126,308	1,070,622
Rates Revenue in Advance		60,940
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,173,042	3,807,400

**NON CURRENT LIABILITIES**

Future Quarry restoration	60,000	60,000
Greymouth Floodwall	2,039,357	2,048,291
Inchbonnie	79,897	82,877
Punakaiki Loan	203,003	209,856
Office Equipment Leases	52,305	58,060
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,434,562	2,459,084

**TOTAL LIABILITIES**

	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4,607,604	6,266,484

**EQUITY**

Ratepayers Equity	----- 18,577,120 }	18,577,120
Surplus Tsfrd.	562,598 }	
Rating District Equity Mvmts	----- 68,428 }	
Rating Districts Equity	1,471,773	1,540,201
Tb Special Rate Balance	1,037	1,037
Revaluation	32,316,638	32,316,638
Quarry Account	379,160	379,160
Investment Growth Reserve	9,901,000	9,901,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL EQUITY	63,277,754	62,715,156

<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	67,885,358	68,981,640

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**2. Investment Portfolio**

PORTFOLIO @ 31 August 2011 Summary & Reconciliation		Cash	Bonds	Australasian Equities	International Equities	Property Equities	Alternative Asset Classes	Total	
Portfolio Value @ Start	01 July 2011	\$ 2,883,140	\$ 2,186,007	\$ 2,084,788	\$ 3,051,043	\$ 576,726	\$ 659,819	\$ 11,441,524	
Contributions		\$ -						\$ -	
Withdrawals		-\$ 382,099			-\$ 88,090		-\$ 29,810	-\$ 500,000	
Realised Gains/(Losses)		-\$ 1,542		-\$ 110,101	\$ 404,083	\$ 59,897	\$ 101,877	\$ 454,214	
Unrealised Gains/(Losses)		\$ 3,506	\$ 9,284	-\$ 22,879	-\$ 661,721	-\$ 65,235	-\$ 98,225	-\$ 835,271	
Mgmt Fee					\$ -			\$ -	
Income		\$ 5,861	\$ 6,753	\$ 19,815	\$ 13,729	\$ 2,587	\$ -	\$ 48,743	
Changes Accrued Interest		\$ 13,883	\$ 21,965					\$ 35,848	
Portfolio Value @ End Period	31 August 2011	\$ 2,522,749	\$ 2,224,009	\$ 1,971,623	\$ 2,719,043	\$ 573,975	\$ 633,660	\$ 10,645,059	
ytd return for	2 months		1.03%	1.74%	-5.43%	-8.02%	-0.48%	0.56%	-2.71%

Asset Allocation %'s @ 31 August 2011	Benchmarks	Tactical asset allocation range
Cash	24% 25%	10% - 50%
Bonds	21% 25%	10% - 50%
Australasian Equities	19% 15%	0% - 20%
International Equities	26% 15%	0% - 20%
Property Equities	5% 5%	0% - 10%
Alternative Asset Classes	6% 15%	0% - 20%
	100% 100%	

**3. General Comment**

This financial report covers the first two months to 31 August 2011.

**Highlights**

- Surplus of \$562,000, which includes income from two of the three AHB aerial contracts completed this winter, with income from one contract still to come.
- Surplus also includes a positive budget variance amounting to \$137,000 in general rate funded activities.
- Portfolio loss of \$296,000 for the period, due to volatile international equities markets.

**RECOMMENDATION**

*That this report be received.*

Robert Mallinson  
Corporate Services Manager

**THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

Prepared for: Council Meeting  
 Prepared by: Robert Mallinson – Corporate Services Manager  
 Date: 3 October 2011  
 Subject: **Adoption of Audited Annual Report Year to 30 June 2011**

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The un-audited Annual Report to 30 June 2011 was received at the September Council meeting.

As is normal practice the Chairman and Chief Executive will sign on the morning of the Council meeting:

- A Letter of Representation, and;
- Statement of Compliance & Responsibility

These will be communicated electronically to Audit New Zealand and it is anticipated that the audit report will then be released by our Audit New Zealand Director John Mackey to enable it to be tabled at the Council meeting.

Our auditors requested that we include in the 2010/11 results a provision for the anticipated final Riskpool weather-tight home call of \$55,000 on due on July 2012, and also an adjustment of \$3,300 to assessed future Quarry restoration liabilities. Both these Auditor requests were agreed to.

Unaudited surplus reported to September meeting	\$1,464,371
Less	
2012 Riskpool call provision	(\$55,000)
Future Quarry restoration liability adjustment	(\$3,300)
Audited surplus	\$1,406,071

Audit New Zealand also required us to include an additional page in our Annual report detailing how Community Outcomes are furthered by Council activities.

**RECOMMENDATION**

*That the audit report be received and the Annual Report for the year to 30 June 2011 be adopted by Council pursuant to section 98 (3) of the Local Government Act 2002.*

Robert Mallinson  
**Corporate Services Manager**

**THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

Prepared for: Council Meeting  
Prepared by: Robert Mallinson – Corporate Services Manager  
Date: 3 October 2011  
**Subject: REVIEW OF LOCAL AUTHORITY REMUNERATION SETTING**

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The Remuneration Authority (Authority) is reviewing the current pool system of setting remuneration for elected members and has issued the attached discussion document.

Attached is their discussion document, plus a Draft response for your consideration.

This Council is one of three "special cases" agreed to by the Authority. The "special case" level of remuneration has ensured an average cost per head of population in the region well in line with that of other areas of New Zealand.

Continued recognition by the Authority of this "special case" is essential to ensure that elected member remuneration is affordable to the Region.

**RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council endorse the attached Draft submission.*

Robert Mallinson  
Corporate Services Manager



## Draft Submission

### Review of Local Authority remuneration Setting

I refer to the discussion document circulated by the Remuneration Authority and note that responses direct to Local Government New Zealand was the preference of the Authority.

West Coast Regional Council is one of three "special cases" agreed to by the Authority, the other two being Chatham Islands and Kaikoura District.

Application of the existing standard formula to this Council was going to result in a remuneration pool way beyond the ability of West Coast Ratepayers to fund, hence the previous allowing by the Authority of a "special case" for the West Coast Region.

It is important that this review recognises the impact of standard formula approaches on the smaller local government entities such as West Coast Regional Council, and that the ability of the Authority to recognise "special cases" continues.

Our present "special case" pool for 2011/12 is:

Chair	1	\$67,995	\$67,995
Deputy Chair	1	\$32,537	\$32,537
Councillors	5	\$26,561	\$132,805
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$233,337</b>

Other key statistics:

Usually resident population @ 30/6/2010	32,720
Cost per head of population	\$7.13
General rate 2011/12	\$1,980,000 + GST
Pool / General Rate	11.78%

The \$7.13 per person cost on the "special case" basis is not out of line with the graph on page 4 of the consultation document which shows Councillor salary cost / head of population.

With regard to the specific issues on page 18 that the Authority has asked for comment on, we comment as follows;

1. This Council prefers a pool approach rather than a specified salary. As we often note, centrally dictated "one size fits all" solutions often do not "fit" well for our region.
2. No comment due to our "special case" considerations.
3. No comment.
4. No comment.
5. We do not favour meeting fees. We have never regretted moving to an "all salary" model and would not wish to change from this.
6. No. The existing salaries are seen as sufficient to compensate for this. Regional Plans require work most years and most or all Council members tend to participate.
7. (a) No. Special case provisions work well for our region, with costs in line with other areas.  
 (b) Not applicable to this Regional Council.  
 (c) No comment due to our "special case" considerations.  
 (d) Not applicable to this Regional Council.  
 (e) Not applicable to this Regional Council.  
 (f) No comment due to our "special case" considerations.  
 (g) No comment.
8. (a) Not applicable to this Regional Council.  
 (b) See comment in 6 above.  
 (c) This Council supports position descriptions but does not support standardised salaries, due to the special case being a good fit for our Region.  
 (d) No comment.  
 (e) No comment.

# Review of Local Authority Remuneration Setting

Discussion Document

## Responses to this Discussion Document

Local Authorities are invited to respond to this discussion document – see section 8 for questions for responses.

Only one response from each council or board, please.

Responses may be sent to one of the following:

### A. To Local Government New Zealand (this is the preferred place to send responses)

Local Government New Zealand has offered to collate the responses it receives.

Responses should be sent to:

**Mike Reid, Manager Governance**  
mike.reid@lgnz.co.nz

### B. To Representatives

To any of the following representatives of local government with whom the Remuneration Authority is consulting:

**Richard Kempthorne, Mayor of Tasman**  
richard.kempthorne@tasman.govt.nz

**Adrienne Staples, Mayor of South Wairarapa**  
themayor@swdc.govt.nz

**Dave Cull, Mayor of Dunedin**  
mayor@dcc.govt.nz

**Brendan Duffy, Mayor of Horowhenua**  
mayor@horowhenua.govt.nz

**Mick Lester, Chair Community Board Executive Committee**  
mglester@clear.net.nz

**Brian Lester, Chief Executive Ashburton**  
brianl@adc.govt.nz

**Kevin Lamb, Administration Manager, Waimakariri District Council**  
kevin.lamb@wmk.govt.nz

### C. The Remuneration Authority

Responses should be sent to:  
info@remauthority.govt.nz

## Introduction

This discussion document has been prepared by the Remuneration Authority to facilitate a review of how the Authority goes about setting remuneration for elected members of local authorities in a way that meets the requirements of the Local Government Act and the Remuneration Authority Act.

The Remuneration Authority is consulting with representatives of local government in order to gain their input and insights into the review.

It is expected that a final proposal will be prepared following that consultation. The final decisions, of course, will be made by the Remuneration Authority.

This document:

1. Examines the need for a review
2. Outlines the expected consultation process
3. Sets out a timetable for the review
4. Outlines historic and current processes for setting residual pools for local authorities, noting any issues
5. Outlines historic and current processes for setting remuneration for Mayors of Territorial and Unitary Councils and Chairs of Regional Councils, noting any issues
6. Explains two broad options for future determinations of remuneration for elected members (excluding Mayors and Chairs) with high-level pros and cons for each option
7. Examines in more detail each option, including possible ways of implementing each
8. Outlines inputs which would be helpful from local government representatives.

The obligations of the Remuneration Authority for the setting of salaries and allowances for local authority elected members, as set out in the Remuneration Authority Act and the Local Government Act, are summarised in Appendix A.

# 1. Why Review?

The current pool system of setting remuneration for local authority elected members was established in 2001/02 after consultation with local authority representatives.

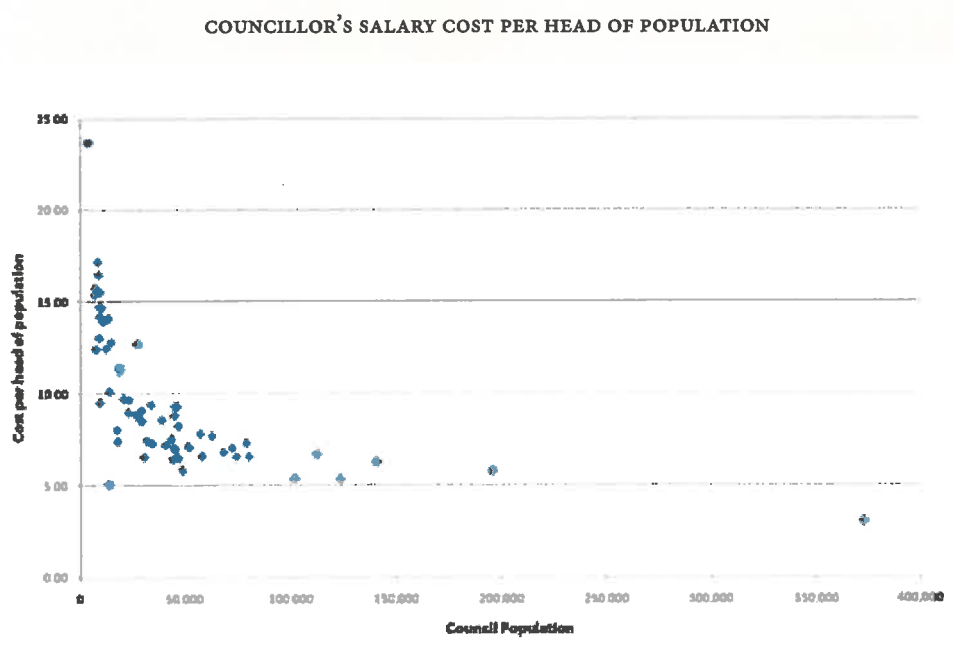
Under the system a pool is established each year for each local authority and the allocation of the pool to each elected member position is determined by the Remuneration Authority after considering representations from each authority.

It is appropriate to examine, from time to time, the outworking of any approach to remuneration setting and to ask whether the system employed is producing the 'right' answers and whether any unexpected or perceived unfair results are being produced.

Some analysis of the outworking of the current approach has been carried out. The analysis shows a variety of salaries for different councillors and Community Board members, in which it is difficult to see the reflection of a fair remuneration for the job. This is illustrated in some information drawn from the 2010/11 Determinations (post election).

## ■ Councillor salary cost per head of population

The following chart shows the total councillor salary cost (ie including supplements for additional responsibilities) per head of the local authority's population against the local authority's population base:



Some details are shown in the table below:

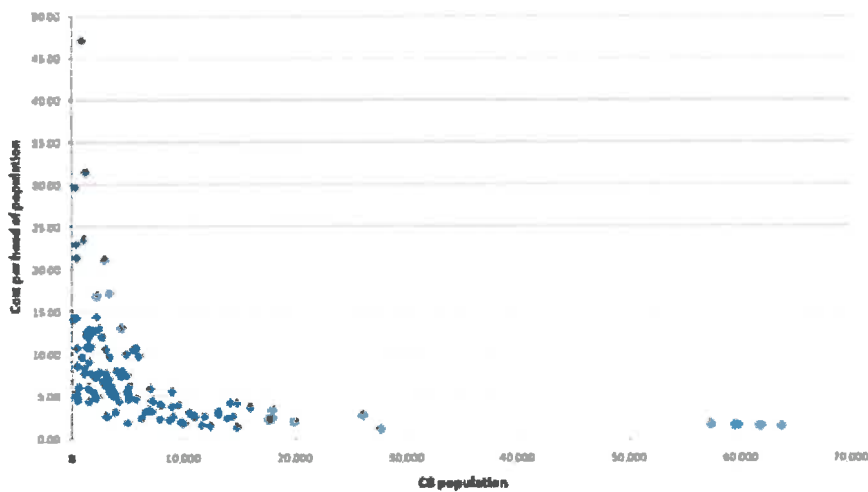
Council	Total Population	Number of Councillors	Population per Councillor	Cost per head of population
Christchurch	372,500	13	28,654	\$3.05
Far North	58,000	9	6,444	\$6.59
Tauranga	112,600	10	11,260	\$6.68
Queenstown – Lakes	27,140	10	2,714	\$12.69
Wairoa	8,420	6	1,403	\$17.17

This shows that ratepayers in different territories can be paying significantly different amounts for councillors' services. In particular, ratepayers in smaller territories are paying much more than ratepayers in larger territories.

### Community Boards

The following chart shows the same information for Community Boards (an outlier has been excluded from this chart):

CB SALARY COST PER HEAD OF POPULATION



Some details are shown in the table below:

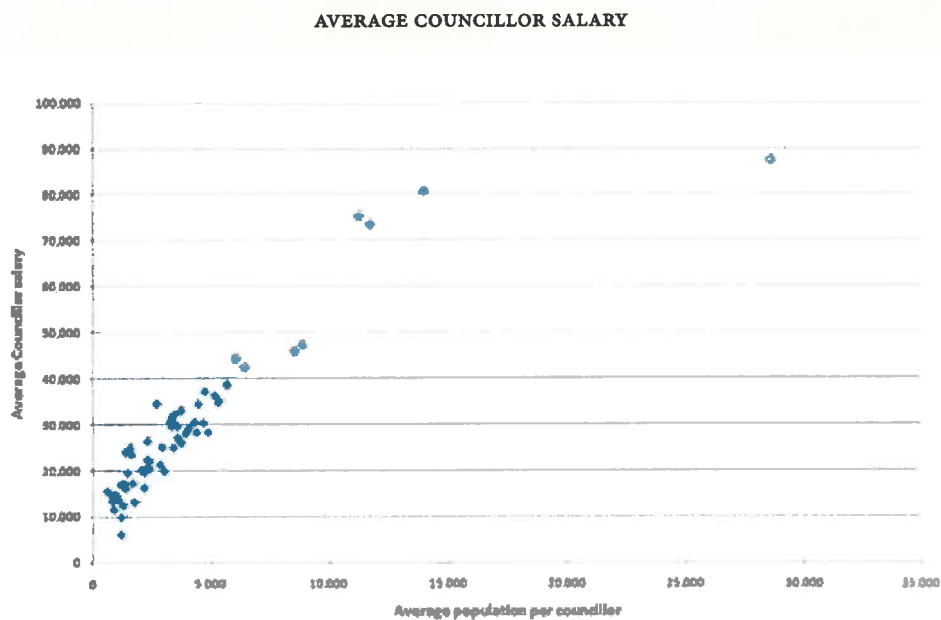
Community Board	Total CB Population	Number of CB Members	Population per CB Member	Cost per head of population
Greytown	3,050	6	763	\$2.65
Bay of Islands – Whangaroa	26,000	7	4,333	\$2.65
Lyttelton – Mount Herbert	5,710	6	1,142	\$10.66
Taupiri	460	8	77	\$10.67
Ahuriri	1,200	6	240	\$31.41

Clearly there are wide differences in remuneration levels between Community Boards. Some of the differences may be explained by different degrees of delegation given to different Community Boards, or different representational expectations between Boards. However, there do not seem to be any universal delegation or representational guidelines for Community Boards and the Remuneration Authority has no knowledge of levels of delegation or representational responsibilities for individual Community Boards. This leads to concerns that remuneration for the members of various Community Boards might not be reflecting a fair rate of pay for the job.

Most councils pay 50% of Community Board salaries from the pool, and some meet all Community Board salaries from inside the pool. There are no rules or guidelines set down anywhere to cover how Community Board salaries are to be funded.

#### Councillor salaries

The next chart shows average councillor salary (including additions for extra duties) against average population per councillor:



Some details are shown in the table below:

Council	Population per Councillor	Base Councillor salary <sup>1</sup>	Average Councillor salary <sup>2</sup>
Whakatane District	3,434	\$23,748	\$24,983
Taupo District	3,362	\$30,988	\$31,553
Kapiti Coast District	4,891	\$23,403	\$28,320
Napier City	4,761	\$34,000	\$37,178

This shows that there are wide differences between councillors' salaries for what appear to be similar-sized responsibilities.

### ■ Conclusion

The current pool system is giving results that seem to be counter intuitive.

It is also opportune to examine whether the current system is providing a fair remuneration for elected members, and the extent to which the Remuneration Authority should be involved in the allocation of the pools (if they are retained).

1. Base Councillor Salary is the salary paid to a councillor with no additional responsibilities

2. Average Councillor Salary is the total salaries paid to all councillors divided by the number of councillors



## 2. Outline of Consultation Process (with timetable)

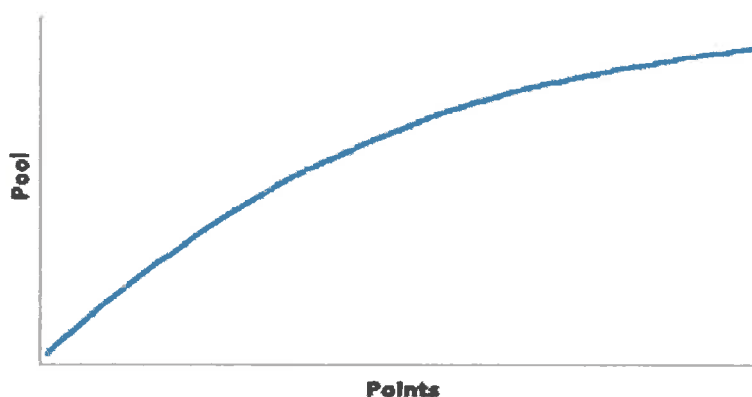
Activity	By Whom	Target Completion Date
Produce discussion document ready for discussion with representatives	Remuneration Authority	30 August 2011
Decide on representatives and advise Remuneration Authority (with details of main contact point)	Local Government NZ	15 August 2011
Meetings between Remuneration Authority and representatives, to outline issues, present discussion document, and discuss issues	Remuneration Authority and representatives	September 2011
Distribute discussion document to all local authorities, with request for any feedback by 10 November	Remuneration Authority	10 September 2011
Preparation of Preferred Option with details of how it will work and sample remuneration results	Remuneration Authority	30 October 2011
Review Preferred Option and feedback from constituencies	Representatives	15 November 2011
Meeting between Remuneration Authority and representatives to finalise details of Preferred Option	Remuneration Authority and representatives	30 November 2011
Implementation of Preferred Option for the 2012/13 year	Remuneration Authority	1 March 2012

During the process the Remuneration Authority will keep the Local Government Minister and officials apprised of the process and its progress.

The timetable is tight but is achievable with full cooperation between all parties.

### 3. Outline of Current Process for Residual Pools

The residual pool is set each year by reference to the population, expenses, and net assets ('statistics') of each authority. Points are allocated using weights for each statistic. The size of the pool for each authority is derived from the points allocated to the authority using an algorithm<sup>3</sup>. The algorithm increases the pool size by tranches of points, where the higher points' tranches result in lower allocations to the pool. This produces a relationship between points and pool size as illustrated in the following graph:



An additional statistic (Capital) is used for Regional Councils.

Change factors, which recognise growth or decline in population (over the last five years) above or below the average for all authorities, are applied to the points before they are used to determine the pool.

A loading is applied for Unitary Authorities to recognise their dual responsibilities.

The weights used have remained unchanged over the years.

These are:

	Territorial and Unitary Authorities	Regional Authorities
Population	50%	30%
Expenses	33%	30%
Net Assets	17%	5%
Capital		35%

3. An algorithm is a set of instructions, sometimes called a procedure or a function, which is used to perform a certain task.

The algorithm for converting points to pool size has remained basically unchanged, apart from increasing the pool size in each tranche each year to reflect movement in wages. As an example, the algorithm used to convert points to residual pool amounts for the 2011/12 year was:

Points		Residual Pool
From	To	
0	11,245	61,300 plus (points – 0) times 6.22
11,245	31,235	131,215 plus (points – 11,245) times 5.33
31,235	63,594	237,719 plus (points – 31,235) times 5.22
63,594	127,189	406,636 plus (points – 63,594) times 4.65
127,189	190,783	702,361 plus (points – 127,189) times 3.82
190,783	254,377	945,441 plus (points – 190,783) times 3.09
254,377	317,971	1,142,002 plus (points – 254,377) times 2.47
317,971	381,566	1,299,002 plus (points – 317,971) times 1.88
381,566	445,160	1,418,310 plus (points – 381,566) times 1.31
445,160	508,754	1,501,794 plus (points – 445,160) times 1.13
508,754	572,349	1,573,753 plus (points – 508,754) times 0.88
572,349	1,224,899	1,629,616 plus (points – 572,349) times 0.88

Until 2010, the total number of points for all councils was equal to the total population for all councils divided by the population percentage. As a result the total number of points was equal to twice the population (for Territorial and Unitary Authorities), as adjusted each year. Because the basic algorithm remained unchanged, pool sizes increased each year by both the increase in population and the wage movement adjustment. This may have distorted pool sizes, both overall and relatively.

From 2010 the figure for total points was kept constant and the algorithm adjusted by movements in wage growth only. There were further adjustments to the algorithm to compensate for the removal of the Auckland councils from the pool-setting process.

The method of determining and applying the change factors was also changed from 2010 to better reflect perceived additional remuneration needs for councils whose population movement was other than average.

Total pools are advised to each local authority, which then makes recommendations to the Remuneration Authority regarding allocation of the pool between various elected member positions.

Some councils apply part of the pool to the payment of meeting fees. The daily rates for meeting fees and the maximum fees payable vary considerably between councils.

## ■ Issues Arising

1. Councils with the same pool sizes but different numbers of councillors have different per councillor salaries
2. The existence of Community Boards does not affect the points or residual pool size so that Councils with Community Boards have lower councillor salaries
3. Generally, 50% of Community Board salaries are met from the pool – is this ideal?
4. Do the current residual pools enable the payment of reasonable salaries for councillors and Community Board members?
5. Should there be separate pools for councillors and Community Board members?
6. Rates set for meeting fees, and maximum amounts, vary considerably between councils
7. Should meeting fees be allowed? If so, should there be a standard rate or rates?
8. Recommendations about how the pools should be allocated between positions of increased responsibility vary considerably between councils – should there be some standardisation?
9. Should the Remuneration Authority set minimum councillor salaries (depending on council size) and thereby possibly limit the amounts available for additional responsibilities?
10. Should the Remuneration Authority specify standard positions for additional responsibilities?
11. Should there be some extra allowances (over and above the pools) for district planning meetings?
12. Are there conflicts of interest for councillors in setting their own allocation from the pool?

## 4. Outline of Current Process for Mayors and Chairs

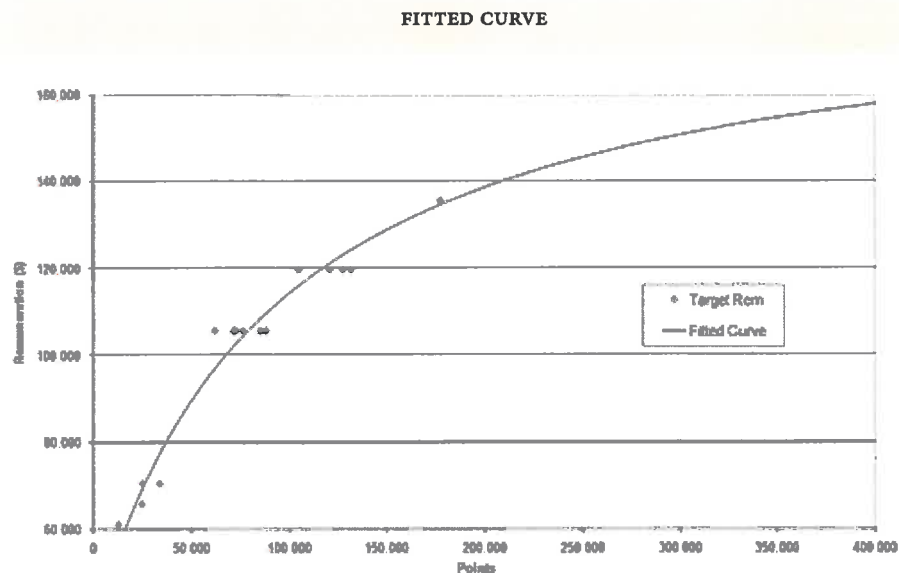
A system similar to that used for setting residual pools (see above) was used up to 2010.

From the 2010/11 year the system was revised.

The revised system:

- Identifies sample councils (both Territorial and Regional) for which the mayoral and chair positions have been independently job sized
- Sets target remuneration for those sample councils by reference to the Remuneration Authority's standard remuneration scales (which are reviewed annually) and the proportion full time deemed for each sample position
- Assigns points for each sample position, using the same statistics as are used for the residual pools (Population, Net Assets, Expenses and, for Regional Chairs, Capital)
- Finds a curve (or formula) that gives the best fit<sup>4</sup> of points and target remuneration for the sample councils. For Territorial and Unitary councils the weights for each statistic are the same as those used for the residual pools. For Regional councils the weights are varied for each statistic to enhance the best fitting process
- The formula for the curve is then used to determine remuneration for all positions by assigning points using the optimum weights for the statistics.

As an example, the sample points and fitted curve are shown for Territorial and Unitary councils for the 2011/12 year:



We are comfortable with this revised system for mayors and chairs. It is likely that we will use the enhanced Regional system for Territorial and Unitary councils in future years.

4. Two candidate curves are used – a rectangular hyperbola with offset and a power curve with offset. Curve fitting is done using Excel Solver Add-in. Goodness of fit is measured by use of the R2 statistic.

### ■ Issues Arising

1. The need to ensure that suitable sample councils are identified, given they must represent all councils and must cover the range of the size of councils
2. The need to ensure regularly that the positions are correctly sized for the sample councils
3. The need to ensure regularly that the proportion of full-time work a position is deemed to have is fair and reasonable
4. Are salary reductions for the provision of mayoral or chair cars fair and reasonable?
5. Could the Remuneration Authority allow changes to cars (or usage) during the year, within set bands, without the need to adjust salaries?

## 5. Options for the Future

Two broad options have been identified for setting remuneration for councillors and Community Board members.

### ■ Pool Approach:

This is similar to the approach used in the past. It has the following key features:

- A pool is determined for each authority (either a single pool or one pool for councillors and one for Community Board members)
- Councils recommend the allocation of the pool for Remuneration Authority approval
- The Remuneration Authority may set minimum councillor salaries and/or specify standard councillor positions.

Pros and cons for this approach are:

Pros:

- Allows councils the flexibility to arrange their councillor roles to best meet their particular circumstances
- It is a system many are used to.

Cons:

- Councillors with similar-sized responsibilities in different councils may be paid markedly different salaries
- 'One size fits all' for councils with differing numbers of councillors or Community Boards may not be the best way
- Can be administratively complicated.

### ■ Specified Salary Approach:

This approach would have the following key features:

- The Remuneration Authority would specify the base councillor salary for each council, based on an estimate of relative council size
- The Remuneration Authority would specify the base Community Board salary for each Community Board, based on an estimate of relative Community Board size
- The Remuneration Authority may allocate an amount for each council that could be used to increase councillors' salaries to recognise increased responsibilities, or be used for meeting fees.

Pros and cons for this approach are:

Pros:

- Councillors with similar job sizes would be paid the same
- Perceived greater fairness between councils
- Community Board members' pay may be fairer.

Cons:

- Removes some ability for councils to arrange their salaries and positions to best meet their particular circumstances
- Some councillors' salaries might have to 'mark time' or be reduced if the salaries are higher than the set base salary
- The Remuneration Authority would need to job-size more positions and to assess the proportion to which those positions are full time
- It might be difficult for the Remuneration Authority to assess the time and degree of complexity relating to the governance and representational aspect of councillors' jobs.

## 6. Pool Approach

### ■ How it will work

A pool approach would have the following features:

- A method to rank councils by 'size'. The 'size' will reflect the extent and complexity of the council's business. This can be done by job-sizing selected councils on the basis of the job size if the whole of the council's governance were carried out by a single person. Statistics (eg population, expenses) for the selected councils can then be used to find a combination of the statistics ('points formula') which gives roughly the same number of points for each council of the same size. The 'points formula' is then applied to all councils so that each council has a number of points allocated to it
- A method to determine a fair pool size in relation to points. This can be done, for sample councils, by assessing a fair salary for the councillors (taking into account the size of the job and assessed proportion to which the position is full-time), multiplying by the number of councillors and adding a margin for additional responsibilities to get a fair amount for each council's pool. An algorithm can then be found which translates the points for each of the sample councils to give the fair pool amount. The algorithm is then applied to the points for each council
- There may be some adjustments to the resulting pools to recognise:
  - a. Significant changes in an individual council's population base
  - b. The presence or otherwise of Community Boards
  - c. Efficiencies or additional responsibilities of Unitary Councils
  - d. Additional work of councils in years when there are District Planning reviews
- The Remuneration Authority may set some guidelines on minimum salaries and/or additional remuneration for additional responsibilities
- There may be some guidelines on the use and amount of meeting fees
- The Remuneration Authority will determine remuneration after considering recommendations by councils.
- The Remuneration Authority may issue some guidelines on appropriate additional salaries for sample positions with additional responsibilities.

### ■ Issues

Issues to be addressed for the pool approach:

1. How to establish 'correct' pool size and 'correct' relativities:
  - a. Build up from councillor job sizes and Remuneration Authority standard pay scales?
  - b. How should correct full-time proportions for councillors in different councils be assessed?
  - c. How much extra should be available for additional responsibilities?
  - d. Separate pools for Community Boards?
  - e. What proportion of Community Board salaries should come from the pool?
2. What statistics to use to establish 'correct' relativities between councils:
  - a. Population, assets, expenses?
  - b. What weights?
3. How to translate points to pool size:
  - a. Stepped algorithm or smooth curve?
  - b. Need to review whole process regularly to ensure it still remains fair and reasonable.
4. Should the Remuneration Authority set minimum councillor salaries for each council?



5. Should the Remuneration Authority set standard salaries and positions' descriptions for positions of responsibility?
6. Should meeting fees be allowed? Should rates and caps be standardised?
7. Should there be extra pool amounts for years in which district plans are reviewed?
8. Should there be some recognition of varying governance and representational roles between councils? How?
9. Should the representational roles of Community Boards be recognised by reducing the representational component of salaries for councillors whose wards include Community Boards? How?
10. Should a change multiplier continue to be used to recognise population growth (or decline) outside the average?
  - a. Does change in population numbers really make a difference to size of job or time required to do job?
  - b. What formula should be used to recognise growth or decline outside the average?
11. How should the additional responsibilities of Unitary Councils be addressed?
  - a. Use a Unitary multiplier (currently 1.25)?
12. How should the transition to new system be managed?
  - a. Minimum pools?

## 7. Specified Salary Approach

### ■ How it will Work

A Specified Salary approach would be likely to have the following features:

- The Remuneration Authority would set the base salary for each councillor for each local authority. The base salary is likely to be based on the job size and the proportion full time that is assessed as being needed for the position's responsibilities to be effectively carried. Research to date has indicated that there are about three different job sizes across all local authorities and the proportion full time ranges from 20% (equivalent to one day a week on average) to 80% (equivalent to 4 days a week on average). The relativities between local authorities (job size and proportion full time) will need to be determined.
- The Remuneration Authority will set the base salary for each Community Board member. The base salary is likely to take into account the population base of the Community Board and the level of delegation to the Community Board.
- An additional pool will be allocated to each local authority to enable the payment of additional salaries for additional responsibilities. It is possible that part of that pool could be used for meeting fees. The additional pool is likely to be based on a fixed percentage of the total of the base councillors' and community board members' salaries.
- The Remuneration Authority will determine the additional salaries and/or the meeting fees' rules after considering representations from the local authorities.

### ■ Issues

Issues to be addressed for the Specified Salaries approach:

1. Identification of sample councils from which to job size standard councillor positions and full-time proportions
2. What statistics are to be used to establish 'correct' relativities between councils:
  - a. Population, assets, expenses?
  - b. What weights?
3. Should the representational roles of Community Boards be recognised by reducing the representational component of salaries for councillors whose wards include Community Boards? How?
4. How much extra (over and above standard salaries) should be allowed for additional responsibilities?
5. Should the Remuneration Authority set standard salaries and position descriptions for positions of responsibility?
6. Should there be some recognition of varying governance and representational roles between councils? How?
7. Should there be some recognition of population growth (or decline) outside the average?
  - a. How?
8. Should meeting fees be allowed?
  - a. Standard rate?
  - b. Standard cap?
9. Should there be extra pool amounts for years in which district plans are reviewed?
  - a. How much?
10. How should the additional responsibilities of Unitary Councils be accommodated?
  - a. Use a Unitary multiplier (currently 1.25)?
11. How should the transition to a new system be managed?
  - a. Minimum pools?

## 8. Questions to which Responses are Sought

It will be helpful to the Remuneration Authority if respondents give their views on the following (as well as views on any other relevant matters):

1. Preferred approach – Pool or Specified Salary? Reasons?
2. The best ways of establishing relativities between local authorities
3. Appropriate local authorities to use as representational samples
4. Proportion full time appropriate for local authorities of differing sizes
5. Should meeting fees be allowed? Set rate and cap?
6. Should allowance be made for the extra work generated by planning reviews in the years in which District Plans are reviewed? How?
7. If the Pool approach is chosen:
  - a. Should the Remuneration Authority set a minimum salary for councillors?
  - b. Should the Remuneration Authority set a minimum salary for Community Board members?
  - c. What are the best statistics to measure relativities between councils? Population? Expenses? Assets? Capital?
  - d. Should pool size be set independently of the existence of Community Boards?
  - e. What portion of community board salaries should be met from the pool?
  - f. Should pool size be adjusted for abnormal population growth or decline?
  - g. What is the best way to recognise the additional responsibilities of Unitary Councils?
8. If the Specified Salary approach is chosen:
  - a. Should standard salaries reflect the existence of Community Boards (ie be reduced if there are Community boards)?
  - b. How much extra money should be allowed for additional responsibilities and/or meeting fees?
  - c. Should the Remuneration Authority set standard salaries and positions' descriptions for positions of responsibility
  - d. Should standard salaries be adjusted for abnormal population growth or decline?
  - e. What is the best way to recognise the additional responsibilities of Unitary Councils?

## Appendix A

### ■ Remuneration Authority's Obligations

The Local Government Act, Schedule 7 section 6, provides that:

1. The Remuneration Authority must determine the remuneration, allowances, and expenses payable to elected members
2. The Remuneration may do one or more of the following things:
  - a. Fix –
    - i. Scales of salaries
    - ii. Scales of allowances
    - iii. Ranges of remuneration
    - iv. Different forms of remuneration
  - b. Prescribe –
    - v. Rules for the application of those scales, ranges, or different forms of remuneration
    - vi. Rules for reimbursing expenses incurred by elected members
  - c. Differentiate –
    - vii. Between persons occupying different positions in different local authorities or community boards
    - viii. Between persons occupying equivalent positions in the same local authorities or community boards
    - ix. Make determinations that apply to individuals, or groups occupying equivalent positions
3. Section 19 of the Remuneration Authority Act applies.

The Remuneration Authority Act has the following provisions which apply to determinations made under the local Government Act:

Sections 18 and 18 A require the Authority when making determinations to have regard to, or to take into account:

- a. The need to achieve fair relativity with levels of remuneration achieved elsewhere
- b. The need to be fair to both –
  - a. The people whose remuneration is being determined, and
  - b. Taxpayers or ratepayers
- c. The need to recruit and retain competent people
- d. The requirements of the position concerned
- e. The conditions of service for those whose remuneration is being determined and conditions of employment for comparable positions
- f. Any prevailing adverse economic conditions.

Section 19 covers the frequency of determinations and adjustments to determinations.

## 6.0

### **THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

Prepared for: Council Meeting 11 October 2011  
Prepared by: Chris Ingle – Chief Executive  
Date: 1 October 2011  
Subject: **CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT**

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#### **Meetings Attended**

The key meetings I have attended since my last report include:

- Met with John Mackey of Audit New Zealand on 14 September regarding their 2011 Audit, and our preparations for the 2012 Long Term Plan.
- Attended a meeting on 21 September with the CEO of Westland Milk Products and senior Department of Conservation managers to discuss the new Westland Milk Products Supplier Code of Practice.
- Participated in the Ministry of Science and Innovation's Environment Sector Advisory Group meeting in Wellington on 22 September.
- Attended several meetings regarding IT shared services for West Coast Councils.

#### **Auditor General's Report on Managing Freshwater Quality**

The Auditor General has released a performance audit report titled "Managing Freshwater Quality: Challenges for regional councils." This is a solid report that assesses the performance of four regional councils: Taranaki, Southland, Horizons (Manawatu-Wanganui) and Waikato. The report does not assess the performance of the West Coast Regional Council, but it does make recommendations aimed at all regional and unitary councils (attached).

As Councillors are aware, the 2011 West Coast State of the Environment Report for Surface Water Quality concludes that overall there is an improvement in the water quality in our West Coast rivers, with the main water body of concern in our region being Lake Brunner. The issues for Lake Brunner are currently being addressed by a Plan Variation to tighten RMA requirements at that location.

The Auditor General is meeting with the Chairman and I on Thursday 13 October. Following that meeting I will prepare a full report for Council on the implications of this report for the West Coast Regional Council, for the November Council agenda.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

*That this report be received.*

Chris Ingle  
Chief Executive

## Auditor-General's overview

Healthy streams, rivers, and lakes are important to our way of life. We want them to be clean enough to swim, play, and fish in, and to remain clean and healthy enough for our grandchildren to enjoy in years to come. Arguably, we have an obligation to protect ecosystems regardless of our own interests in them. We also need economic growth and development for our long-term well-being. Balancing these important matters is the essence of this report.

How our freshwater should be managed is characterised by many strongly held and potentially conflicting opinions.

The overall quality of the water in our rivers and streams rates well internationally but is deteriorating. My audit shows that we have reason to be concerned about freshwater quality in some parts of the country, particularly in lowland areas that are mainly used for farming.

Preventing further decline in freshwater quality is preferable to having to spend a lot of money to recover damaged water bodies. In some places (particularly in lakes, wetlands, and groundwater), recovery is not possible and damage to the ecosystem is irreversible.

Regional councils are responsible for managing the activities that affect freshwater quality. Regional councils have done this in the past by limiting and setting quality standards for discharging wastewater from industry and sewage treatment plants to streams, rivers, and lakes. Although the effects of these direct discharges are still apparent in some places, the cumulative effects of “non-point source” discharges are now the most difficult challenge for regional councils in managing freshwater quality.

Non-point source discharges include nutrients, chemical pollutants, sediment, and bacteria that run off land or leach through soil into surface water and groundwater. In urban areas, the source is largely stormwater. In rural areas, the sources are animal urine and dung, fertiliser, eroding soil, dairy farm effluent, and septic tanks.

Although people often cite other causes of declining water quality, many scientists are sure that freshwater quality is declining because land is being used more intensively – for example, the number of dairy cows on farms has increased. Although many members of the farming community are taking steps to reduce the effects of non-point source discharges, some are resistant to the need for individual farmers to take responsibility for the levels of nutrients applied to, and leaching off, their properties.

## Scope of the audit

My aim was to provide an independent view of how effectively regional councils are managing land use (and the resulting non-point source discharges) for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing freshwater quality in their regions. We looked at four regional councils – Waikato Regional Council, Taranaki Regional Council, Horizons Regional Council, and Environment Southland. I have provided each of these councils with a detailed report on the results of our audit for their council. This report discusses matters arising from the audits of the four regional councils, and makes recommendations for all regional councils and unitary authorities.

## Overall audit findings

Each of the four regional councils we audited had adequate systems for collecting data on, and had a good understanding of, freshwater quality in its region.

Based on my detailed audit findings and analysis of scientific monitoring data, I conclude that Waikato Regional Council and Environment Southland are not adequately managing the causes of non-point source discharges in their regions. In both regions, significant intensification of land use (dairy farming) has meant more pressure on freshwater quality. The current regulatory and non-regulatory methods, and how they are being implemented in these regions, are not enough to reduce the known risks to freshwater quality. Both councils are trying to tackle the challenges of non-point source discharges and their cumulative effects, and there are some signs of improvement, but there is still significant work to be done.

Horizons Regional Council is maintaining and enhancing freshwater quality in the Rangitikei and Whanganui river catchments, but not for the Manawatu River catchment. The overall state of water quality remains undesirable in a number of places. Horizons Regional Council has a well-designed set of regulatory and non-regulatory programmes targeted at reducing the known risks to freshwater quality. These programmes should support future improvements in freshwater quality in the region.

Overall, Taranaki Regional Council is maintaining and, in places, improving freshwater quality in its region. Several aspects of Taranaki Regional Council's management of freshwater are effective. However, scientific monitoring of freshwater quality in low-elevation areas suggests that there is some vulnerability in the region. I consider that Taranaki Regional Council is well positioned to address these risks to freshwater quality by adapting its existing methods.

Overall, there is still some way to go if we are to halt and reverse the declining trends in freshwater quality. Changes are needed sooner rather than later, because it takes time before improved policies result in improved freshwater quality.

Regional councils cannot manage freshwater quality alone. I was encouraged to see strong collaboration – from high-level policy at the central government level to regional councils and dairy sector representatives working together at a strategic and on-farm level.

Some regional councils are taking a more regulatory approach to managing non-point source discharges. Some of the activities and land uses that regional councils are regulating are the same activities that the dairy sector has set targets for improving.

All four regional councils are implementing programmes or policies to respond to areas of poor or declining freshwater quality. Although it can take many years to make changes to regional plans, some regional councils are starting to implement innovative, scientifically based policies that seek to manage freshwater quality within limits.

In the Taupo catchment, Waikato Regional Council has taken a “whole farm” approach to managing nutrient emissions within limits, but the other three regional councils have not regulated to control all nutrient emissions from all farms. The Government's new National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management now requires regional councils to set freshwater quality limits for all bodies of freshwater in their region. Non-regulatory approaches and permitted activity rules are not likely to be sufficient to manage freshwater quality within limits.

With regard to enforcing compliance with regional rules and resource consent conditions, I was concerned to note that councillors in all the regional councils had some involvement either in deciding whether the council should prosecute or in investigating a case once the decision to prosecute had been made. There are strong and longstanding conventions against elected officials becoming involved in prosecution decisions. All investigation and enforcement decisions on individual matters should be delegated to council staff for an independent decision.

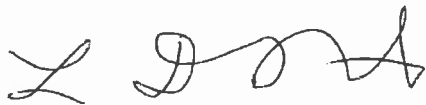
One of the most notable challenges to managing freshwater quality is balancing the rural sector's economic contribution with everyone's desire for clean lakes and rivers.



Managing freshwater quality needs an integrated approach. I encourage those involved to consider:

- collaboration at all levels – central and local government, across local government, with the dairy sector, stakeholders, iwi, farmers, and communities;
- sharing knowledge and information – especially easy availability of nationally comparable, high-quality, scientific data and research;
- a holistic approach to managing freshwater that integrates land use, freshwater quality management, and the effects on the coastal marine environment; and
- strong links between freshwater management planning and using scientific monitoring to measure the effectiveness of the policies being implemented.

I thank the four regional councils for their willing co-operation with this audit, the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Limited for its advice, and Fonterra, DairyNZ, the Ministry for the Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Ecologic Foundation, and the Office of the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment for their helpful comments.



Lyn Provost  
Controller and Auditor-General

21 September 2011

## Our recommendations

We have already provided Waikato Regional Council, Taranaki Regional Council, Horizons Regional Council, and Environment Southland with specific recommendations (see Appendix 1).

The recommendations that we make here are aimed at **all regional councils and unitary authorities**.

We recommend that all regional councils and unitary authorities:

1. review methods for reporting results of their freshwater quality monitoring to ensure that the methods:
  - compare the freshwater quality monitoring results with (ideally specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound) plan objectives, limits, and standards where possible and with guidelines where necessary;
  - say whether freshwater quality is getting better or worse;
  - outline probable reasons why freshwater quality is in the condition that it is; and
  - discuss what the council and the community are doing, or can do, to remedy any problems;
2. set up stronger links between freshwater quality monitoring results and how they measure the effectiveness of their policies for maintaining and enhancing freshwater quality; and
3. meet the requirements of sections 35(2)(b) and 35(2A) of the Resource Management Act 1991 to monitor the effectiveness and efficiency of the policies, rules, or methods in their policy statements and plans, and to compile and make the results of this monitoring available to the public at least every five years.

We recommend that the Ministry for the Environment:

4. provide guidance on what is expected from regional councils to meet the requirements of sections 35(2)(b) and 35(2A) of the Resource Management Act 1991.

We recommend that all regional councils and unitary authorities:

5. include specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound objectives in their regional plans and in their long-term plans under the Local Government Act 2002.

We recommend that the Ministry for the Environment:

6. seek input from regional councils and unitary authorities on whether they need information on:
  - the economic assessments required to implement the changes required in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management; and
  - what has been learned from limit-setting processes already carried out in New Zealand and internationally.

We recommend that all regional councils and unitary authorities:

7. be able to demonstrate that they are co-ordinating their efforts effectively with appropriate stakeholders to improve freshwater quality; and
8. review their delegations and procedures for prosecuting, to ensure that any decision about prosecution is free from actual or perceived political bias.

Appendix 2 of this report is a self-assessment audit tool for regional councils and unitary authorities to use to assess their own performance against the criteria we used for our audit and against the emerging issues and best practice that we identified during our audit.

**CONFIDENTIAL COUNCIL MEETING**

## 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.

- |         |     |  |
|---------|-----|--|
| 41 – 42 | 8.1 | Confirmation of Confidential Minutes 13 September 2011 |
|         | 8.2 | Overdue Debtors Report (to be tabled)                  |
|         | 8.3 | Response to Presentation (if any)                      |
|         | 8.4 | In Committee Items to be Released to Media             |

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>General Subject of each matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution.</b>
8.			
8.1	Confirmation of Confidential Minutes 13 September 2011		Section 48(1)(a) and in particular Section 9 of 2nd Schedule Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.
8.2	Overdue Debtors Report (to be tabled)		
8.3	Response to Presentation (if any)		
8.4	In Committee Items to be Released to Media		

I also move that:

- Chris Ingle
- Robert Mallinson
- Michael Meehan
- 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.