

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, 10 September 2013**

B.CHINN
CHAIRPERSON

M. MEEHAN
Planning and Environmental Manager
J. ADAMS
Consents and Compliance Manager

<u>AGENDA NUMBERS</u>	<u>PAGE NUMBERS</u>	<u>BUSINESS</u>
1.		APOLOGIES
2.	1 – 4	MINUTES 2.1 Confirmation of Minutes of Resource Management Committee Meeting – 13 August 2013
3.		PRESENTATION Mrs & Mrs Dymock – Wetland Owners
4.		CHAIRMAN’S REPORT
5.		REPORTS
		5.1 Planning and Environmental Group
	5 – 6	5.1.1 Planning & Environmental Manager’s Monthly Report
	7	5.1.2 Reefton Air Quality Summary
	8 – 10	5.1.3 Reefton Airshed Committee
	11 – 13	5.1.4 Review of Hydrology and Flow Recording Sites
	14 – 15	5.1.5 Resource Management Act – Reform Proposals
	16 – 17	5.1.6 Regional Policy Statement Review
		5.2 Consents and Compliance Group
	18 – 20	5.2.1 Consents Monthly Report
	21 – 24	5.2.2 Compliance & Enforcement Monthly Report
		6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 13 AUGUST 2013 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, A. Robb, D. Davidson, A. Birchfield, I. Cummings, J. Douglas, F. Tumahai

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum

3. MINUTES

Moved (Davidson / Cummings) that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 9 July 2013, be confirmed as correct.

Carried

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cr Chinn reported that he has fielded further enquiries regarding schedule 2 wetlands from constituents. He stated that he has liaised with M. Meehan regarding these queries.

Cr Birchfield expressed his concern with the mapping of wetlands. Cr Chinn advised that this will be covered later in the meeting.

Moved (Chinn / Scarlett)

Carried

5. REPORTS

5.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

5.1.1 PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT

M. Meehan spoke to his report and advised that staff from the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) visited council last month to inform staff of the Proposed National Monitoring System for the RMA. M. Meehan reported that Mr Elwell-Sutton's appeal on the Land and Water Plan is still before the Environment Court. He advised that Council and the DoC have made an application for security of costs. Mr Elwell-Sutton has opposed this and has now informed the Court that he has secured the services of an Ecologist to give expert evidence. M. Meehan advised that the Judge has released a memorandum stating that Mr Elwell-Sutton has to provide a full brief of evidence by 30

August and if this is not complied with then the security of costs will be dealt with on the papers already filed.

M. Meehan reported that follow up letters have been sent out to wetland landowners and so far there have been around six phone calls received from wetland landowners that have not contacted Council before. M. Meehan stated that he is expecting to get more calls from the wetland landowners over the next month.

M. Meehan handed out a document to councillors called the Resource Management Summary of proposals 2013. He advised that this document relates to proposed changes to the RMA. M. Meehan advised that he will be providing a report to the next council meeting on what these changes will mean for this council. He advised that the main focus is on efficiencies and trying to improve the system.

M. Meehan explained to councillors the method used to map wetlands. Council has found areas that were mapped incorrectly and he advised councillors that if they receive phone calls from concerned landowners, instruct them to contact M. Meehan or H. Fairbairn as soon as possible. M. Meehan advised that the court has accepted that there would be some areas that were mapped incorrectly and these areas can be corrected via a plan change which will be notified once feedback is received from the most recent mail out. C. Ingle advised that Mike Slater, the Conservator, understood that there would be mistakes in the mapping. C. Ingle stated that he agrees with Cr Birchfield in that the approach taken was to over map rather than under map. C. Ingle advised that DoC staff carried out the mapping at the request of the Court and this was an agreed approach by all the parties involved in the court case in order to get fine tuning of the evidence that DoC had put forward. C. Ingle stated that one of the wetlands in the Kumara area included the state highway and this was an example of some of the glaring errors that were fixed through the court process. He stated that not all errors were corrected and this is why a second look is being taken at this. C. Ingle advised that the wetlands that are being looked at now are ones that are a developed paddock and not a wetland. He advised that originally areas like this were compared to the Google Earth data which was out of date and now the regional council has better aerial photography available than when the original mapping was done. Cr Scarlett asked who would determine whether a piece of land is a wetland or not. C. Ingle advised that it would go through the planning process. M. Meehan advised that council has a list of areas that should be excluded from the plan and consultation with DoC has been done on this and agreement has been made on some of these areas. Extensive discussion ensued. C. Ingle and M. Meehan answered various questions from councillors. Cr Scarlett stated that he is mindful that DoC will appeal decisions and there will be another long and convoluted court process and considerable cost to council and ratepayers. M. Meehan stated that the areas that council is looking to exclude are the areas that are obviously not wetland, they have been developed or the landowner has already got a resource consent or there is an area of pasture that is not a wetland. He stated that there is a view from some people that it could be a wetland and this is where there is a bit of a grey area. Cr Robb asked if there was anything in the new RMA summary of Reform Proposals that could assist landowners of wetlands. C. Ingle stated that he has not yet had a chance to read through this as it was only announced over the weekend. Cr Robb stated that the whole wetlands process is around the wrong way and that DoC should have had to prove that these areas were wetlands before the court included them in the plan as wetlands. He stated that this is wrong because now the landowner has to prove that they are not a wetland and it is unfair. Cr Davidson feels it is a very poor deal as there is no compensation for landowners and this is unfair. Cr Cummings is in agreement and stated that this is going on and on and it the same as the SNA's that Grey District Council has had to deal with for the last 11 years. Cr Chinn stated that this is freehold land and if the landowner cannot do anything with it then the land has been virtually taken off them.

F. Tumahai asked M. Meehan if the landowner has a black and white case and if both DoC and council agree then surely the landowner would not be held up in the court process. M. Meehan agreed with this and stated that some of these areas are humped and hollowed paddocks and they are definitely are no longer a wetland. M. Meehan advised that there are a couple that there may be a difference of opinion on and a decision will need to be made when the variation is taken to the Resource Management Committee as to whether council wants to proceed with removing those or not. M. Meehan advised that council now has a lot of good information on these sites and staff have also undergone training to identify these sites. C. Ingle advised that it is important now that the second letter has gone out to landowners, that council does get all landowners involved who want to be part of the process to get this tidied up, that they contact council so that their land can be removed from the plan if it has been put in wrongly.

C. Ingle offered to contact the Conservator to advise him that council is entering into this process and to advise him that council does not want to end up in a lengthy court process. C. Ingle is confident that DoC will agree that this would not be productive for anyone.

J. Douglas requested that runanga are provided with copies of the maps in relation to any other Maori reserve land at Bruce Bay and Karangarua.

Cr Archer asked for an update as to where H. Fairbairn (Wetlands Coordinator) is at with his investigations. M. Meehan responded that H. Fairbairn has contacted all landowners who contacted council following the first mail out and he has visited all the sites. There are around 15 of these sites that could be excluded from the plan but more information is required. The second letter has now gone out and H. Fairbairn has received around six phone calls but more are expected. M. Meehan advised that more information needs to be collected from the first mail out and he will then visit those who contact council after the second letter has been received. H. Fairbairn is also assisting landowners who wish to make a land exchange with DoC or a sale. DoC staff have been on site at some properties where they would like to look at making a land transfer.

Moved (Archer / Cummings) *that the report is received.*

Carried

5.1.2 FLOOD WARNING UPDATE

M. Meehan spoke to this report and advised that a new flow recorder has been installed at Waipuna, this replaces the equipment that was damaged during the November 2011 floods.

M. Meehan reported that satellite communications have been added to the Waiho River flood warning site. He stated that this will be very useful during times like when the Wanganui Bridge is washed out and when other forms of communication may be lost. M. Meehan advised that no floods were recorded during the reporting period.

Moved (Robb / Scarlett) *that the report is received.*

Carried

5.1.3 REEFTON AIR QUALITY SUMMARY

M. Meehan spoke to this report and advised that 13 exceedances have been recorded during the reporting period. M. Meehan that currently the recordings are tracking under what has been recorded previous years and he is hoping now that the weather is improving there won't be any further exceedances. M. Meehan reported that the Reefton Airshed Committee is working with funders to gain funding for trials. He reported that the committee visited Dispatch and Garlick last week to inspect a down draught burner running. He stated that foundry staff are working with Ecan to get funding for this. M. Meehan advised that the Reefton Airshed Committee **will** be providing a report to the next council meeting to outline their recommendations.

Moved (Scarlett / Archer) *that the report is received.*

Carried

5.2.1 CONSENTS AND COMPLIANCE GROUP

J. Adams spoke to this report and advised that 22 non-notified resource consents were granted during the reporting period. J. Adams reported that the decision on the hearing for the RC12212 is due out at the end of this week.

J. Adams advised that the appeal by the Biodiversity League against the Cypress Mine was heard in the Environment Court on the 22nd of July. He advised that a decision is yet to be released. J. Adams reported that Solid Energy are due to start mining on Monday morning. J. Adams reported that Forest and Bird have been refused leave to appeal to the Court of Appeal and they have now appealed this decision. He advised that Forest and Bird are seeking a judicial review on the DoC access agreement with Bathurst Mining Ltd.

Moved (Robb / Davidson) *That the August 2013 report of the Consents Group be received.*

Carried

5.2.2 COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT

J. Adams spoke to this report advising that 41 site visits were carried out during the reporting period. He advised that 14 of the site visits were found to be non-complaint and some of these were the results of complaints. J. Adams advised that periodically monitoring is being done in the Franz Josef area to ensure that further household rubbish is not dumped in this area. J. Adams reported that 10 infringement notices and five abatement notices were issued during the reporting period.

Moved (Archer / Birchfield) *That the August 2013 report of the Compliance Group be received.*
Carried

6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Archer raised the matter of a letter councillors had received regarding a complaint about white baiting structures on banks of the Mokihinui River. It was agreed that Cr Scarlett and Cr Archer would discuss a response to this matter with J. Adams after today's meeting.

The meeting closed at 11.10 a.m.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting – 10 September 2013
Prepared by: Michael Meehan, Planning and Environment Manager
Date: 2 September 2013
Subject: **Planning and Environment Manager's Report**

Waiuta Clean Up

The Prohibition Ball Mill, near Waiuta, forms an important part of West Coast mining history. Processes used to extract gold from the ore also caused the soil around the old mill to be contaminated with arsenic. As arsenic is toxic to humans and animals, a major effort will be made to clean up the site, while preserving the remains of an interesting piece of West Coast heritage.

Financial backing for the clean-up will be shared equally between the Department of Conservation and the Ministry for the Environment. Valuable support has been and will continue to be provided by the University of Otago, CRL Energy Ltd, and the West Coast Regional Council.

Objectives of the work are: to making the site safe for visitors and maintenance workers; and to reduce arsenic concentrations in the nearby stream to well within acceptable levels. The project will take a month to complete with work aimed to commence before the end of this year.



The Prohibition Ball Mill Site, Waiuta

Land and Water Plan Update

The appeal from Mr. Paul Elwell Sutton remains before the Environment Court. In June 2013 Council and the Department of Conservation made an application for security of costs.

The court directed Mr. Elwell Sutton to file a full brief of evidence from his expert witness by 30 August 2013. Mr Elwell Sutton has complied with this direction, it is likely the court will issue further directions and make a decision on the security of costs application.

Wetland Work

Follow up letters and maps were sent out to those Schedule 2 landowners that have not been in contact with Council following the original letter posted in September 2012.

So far 29 landowners have made contact with Council requesting site visits to discuss their individual situation. Following the first letter we were contacted by 45 landowners, and have visited all these properties, some of this work is ongoing.

With the amount of new enquiries and other ongoing work any variation to the Proposed Land and Water Plan is likely to be notified in early 2014.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report is received

Michael Meehan
Planning and Environment Manager

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee Meeting 10 September 2013
 Prepared by: Michael Meehan – Planning and Environment Manager
 Date: 1 September 2013
 Subject: **REEFTON AIR QUALITY SUMMARY**

There have been fifteen exceedances of the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Air Quality) Regulations 2004 for PM₁₀ in Reefton so far this year (See Figure 1).

An exceedance occurs when there has been an average of more than 50 micrograms/m³ of PM₁₀ recorded over a 24 hour period. The National Environmental Standard (NES) allows one exceedance per year; any further exceedances are in breach of the NES.

The highest 24hr average PM₁₀ during this period was 87 micrograms/m³ on 11 July 2013.

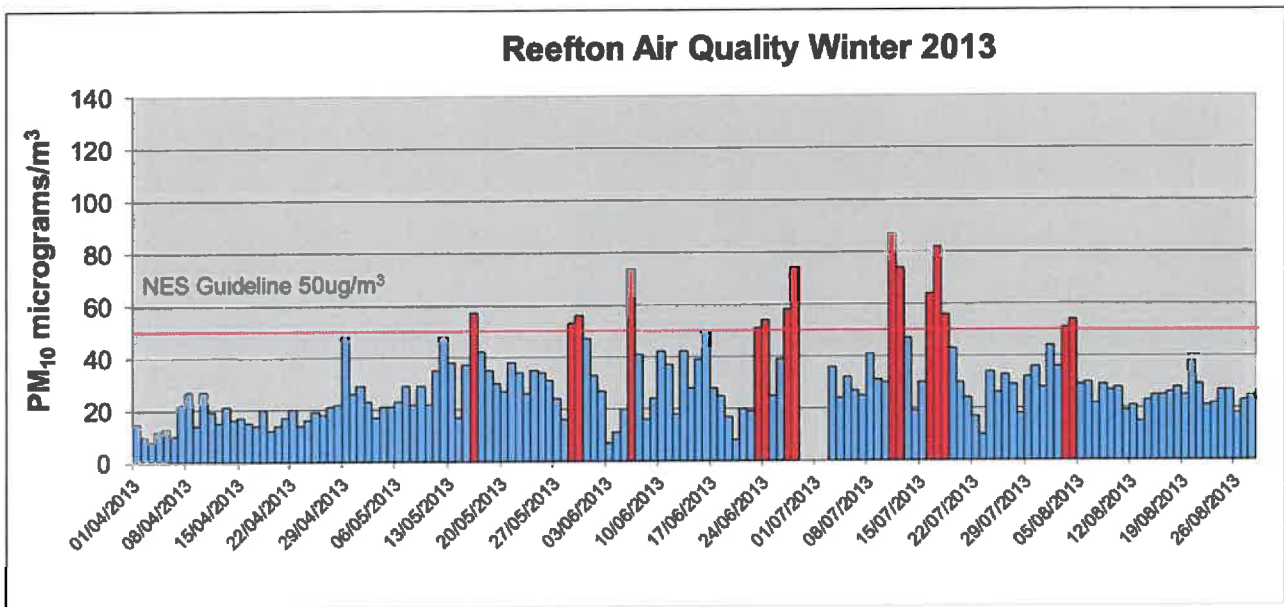


Figure 1. Graph showing daily average PM₁₀ for Reefton 2013 with exceedances of the national guideline in red.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report is received

Michael Meehan
Planning and Environment Manager

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared For: Resource Management Committee – 10 September 2013
Prepared By: Michael Meehan – Planning and Environment Manager
Date: 27 August 2013
Subject: **Reefton Airshed Committee**

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the Reefton Airshed Committee's (RAC) progress.

Background

Council held a public meeting with the Reefton community to discuss air quality. At this meeting the RAC was elected and given Terms of Reference (attached) to work to.

The RAC has met on a monthly basis with workshops held to discuss new technology. The RAC has also been proactive in supplying educational messages to the community via the Reefton Clarion.

Progress to date

To date the committee has investigated a number of matters from new technology to potential policy and rules changes that would give effect to the NES.

Council is working towards a trial of the Oeko tube electrostatic filter in Reefton, and is keeping informed of developments in the testing of the down draught burner technology. It is expected that information that may influence the direction of recommendations will be available later this year.

The RAC through its Terms of Reference are required to report back to Council with recommendations by October 2013. With the testing results of the technology not available till later in the year the RAC requests more time to consider these important developments and report to Council in March 2014.

RECOMMENDATION

1. *That Council receives this report.*
2. *That Council amend Objective 3 from the Reefton Airshed Committee's Terms of Reference to read:*

To present the recommendations to the West Coast Regional Council, by March 2014.

Michael Meehan
Planning and Environment Manager

Reefton Airshed Committee Terms of Reference

Establishment and Status

The Reefton Airshed Committee is established under the Local Government Act 2002. It has the status of an Advisory Committee of the West Coast Regional Council.

The Committee's Purpose

The purpose of the Committee is to consult with the Reefton community and then develop recommendations to Council: identifying potential policies, methods and rules for the Regional Air Plan review, so that Council can meet the statutory requirements of the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Air Quality) Regulations 2004 (NES).

The area of the Reefton Airshed is shown on the attached map.

Objectives of the Reefton Airshed Committee

1. To develop recommendations that seek to manage air quality in Reefton, to meet the NES.
2. To consult with relevant stakeholders throughout the development of the recommendations.
3. To present the recommendations to the West Coast Regional Council, by October 2013.

The RAC is an advisory committee and has no decision-making powers.

Committee Membership

The Committee will comprise no more than 7 members made up as follows:

- 1 member appointed by the Regional Council who shall be an elected member
- 1 member appointed by the Buller District Council who shall be an elected member
- 1 member appointed by Te Runanga O Ngati Waewae.
- Up to four members appointed from the Reefton community who come from a range of background and interests within the community, preferably living within the airshed.

Chairman and Quorum

The Regional Council's Reefton Liaison Committee shall appoint the Chair and Deputy Chair from among the appointed membership of the Reefton Airshed Committee.

The quorum at a meeting consists of:

- (i) half of the members if the number of members (including vacancies) is even; or
- (ii) a majority of members if the number of members (including vacancies) is odd.

Proxies or alternates are not permitted. The Committees will at all times operate in accordance with the requirements of the Standing Orders of Council, The Local Government Act 2002, and the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act.

Term of Appointment and meetings

Members of the Committee are appointed for a term of 1 year from the date of the inaugural meeting. The Committee is expected to meet monthly, with workshops and additional meetings as required.

General Operating Principles

The Committee is expected to:

1. Work in a collaborative and co-operative manner using its best endeavours to reach solutions that take account of the interests of all sector of the community.
2. The Committee will seek consensus in its decision-making where at all possible.
3. Where the Committee encounters fundamental disagreements, despite having sought assistance and exhausted all avenues to resolve matters, they will report the matters where agreement was achieved and also those matters where disagreement remained including whether there was a consensus, or a majority view, on each matter.

Principles of Air Quality Management from the Regional Council

- The National Environmental Standard for Air Quality has set a limit of 3 PM₁₀ exceedances by 2016 and 1 by 2020; and the Regional Council is legally obliged to take steps they consider to be reasonable to comply with this mandatory government standard.
- Reefton residents need to be able to warm their homes in winter. Having warm homes is just as important to good health and well being as is having good winter air quality outdoors.
- During an emergency event involving power outage, residents may need to use 'non compliant' burners to keep warm. This is considered reasonable.

- Residents need to be given time to change their heating systems, if there is a new capital cost involved. Because Council is offering financing assistance these timeframes do not need to be too long.
- If an individual has recently purchased a new multifuel appliance, they should be entitled to use it for a reasonable time before being required to move towards a MfE compliant wood burner or heat pump.
- Proper insulation of homes is considered just as important as an efficient low emission burner.

Committee Support

The Committee shall be supported by the West Coast Regional Council, with the primary contact being the Planning and Environment Manager, Michael Meehan.

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee Meeting, 10 September 2013
Prepared by: Stefan Beaumont, Hydrologist
Date: 27 August 2013

Subject: Review of hydrology and flow recording sites

Background

In 2012 NIWA announced a review of their hydrology and water quality monitoring network. The reason for this review has been a shift in focus away from operational hydrology towards providing innovation in the hydrological monitoring. The introduction of national monitoring standards means regional council data sets are becoming more standardised and comparable. Nationally regional councils are by far the largest collector of hydrological information with over 1,000 sites in comparison with 120 NIWA sites. With a high number of NIWA sites the West Coast region is unique compared to the rest of New Zealand.

On 14 August 2013 NIWA staff visited Council to seek feedback on the proposed changes. It is likely that some of the NIWA flow recording sites on the West Coast will be discontinued; the remainder will be kept as "benchmark sites". The water quality sites on the Grey, Buller and Haast Rivers will continue as benchmark sites.

Council set an Annual Plan target to investigate setting up a new flood warning service for Seddonville on the Mokihinui River. The NIWA rationalising of hydrology sites means the Council's hydrology budget is now unlikely to stretch far enough to allow this new site to be established.

Current Working Relationship with NIWA

Council works very closely with NIWA in providing its flood warning service, with many hydrological sites run jointly in conjunction with NIWA. Council and NIWA share all their site information freely and often share site maintenance. It is a very positive and supportive relationship. Council staff often complete routine maintenance on joint sites, while NIWA undertakes more complex flow gaugings and maintains the flow ratings, which convert water level data into flow rates needed to work out return periods of floods and droughts and generate water allocation or minimum flow limits. This close working relationship allows Council to operate its sites with a comparatively small team.

Outcome of the August Meeting with NIWA

Following the 14 August meeting with NIWA, NIWA owned flow sites have been placed into four categories:

- 1) Keep as benchmark site.
- 2) Discontinue site.
- 3) Transfer site to WCRC to operate.
- 4) Still to be decided.

1. Benchmark Sites

The four sites NIWA have selected as benchmark sites (Buller River at Te Kuha, Grey River at Waipuna, Grey River at Dobson and Haast River at Roaring Billy) will not change from how they are currently run. NIWA will continue to do flow gauging at these sites. Due to the size of these rivers a jet boat is required to measure flow. See appendix 1 for a full list of river recorder sites.

2. Sites to be reviewed and potentially discontinued

NIWA are yet to make a final decision on eight sites (Inangahua at Blacks Point, Taipo, Taramakau at Greenstone Bridge, Moeraki, Makaawhio, Ivory sites and Arawata,) but it appears these sites will likely be discontinued. From a drought and flood reporting basis, this will leave a very large gap in South Westland. Inangahua River at Blacks Point is used regularly by Council for water resource information, consenting, compliance and for flood warning as an upper Inangahua River flow site that can indicate what is occurring upstream of Reefton in the upper Inangahua River during flood events. However the Council's Inangahua River site at Landing, downstream, will continue.

3. Ahaura River site: Transfer to regional council

The Ahaura River at gorge site was not earmarked for benchmarking. Due to its critical importance for both flood warning and general council use (consents/compliance/reporting etc.) we have accepted this site being transferred to Council. This will require additional work for the hydrology team and a small increase in budget to ensure it can be run properly in the absence of NIWA's gauging and flow rating contribution.

4. Sites to be decided

There are five sites in this category. Two of these sites (Karamea River at Gorge, Hokitika River at Gorge) are critical parts of our flood warning system. Another two are useful for the flood warning network but not critical (Whataroa River and Buller River at Longford). Pattinsons Creek in the Grey Valley is a useful flow site for water resource investigations and consent information requirements.

NIWA have made it clear these sites will continue to be maintained in the short term at least, and may even become benchmark sites in the longer term. NIWA will advise Council if they are considering discontinuing any of these sites and Council can then consider whether to pick up their on-going funding.

Mokihinui River Flood warning Investigation

An annual plan target was set to assess the practicalities of installing a new flood warning system on the Mokihinui River to provide a flood warning service for Seddonville. The investigation identified a rain gauge location in the mid catchment and also a NIWA flow recorder. Following the Meridian decision not to pursue the Mokihinui Dam project NIWA informed Council it was to discontinue the site. Council took over the NIWA assets at this site which includes a pole, box and cableway. To date, Council has not deployed any flow recording equipment at this site.

It is recommended that any potential new warning service at the Mokihinui River is weighed up against potential changes to the NIWA network (in particular the Hokitika and Karamea River sites) and likely future water resource information requirements in drier parts of the region. It is not recommended that new investment proceed at this point in time given our current floodwarning budgets are not likely to be able to sustain a new flood warning service, long term.

Recommendations:

1. *Council receives this report.*
2. *Council puts any further investigation into a potential Mokihinui River flood warning site on hold, pending potential changes to the NIWA monitoring network that may affect existing flood warning services that Council delivers (at Karamea, Westport, Greymouth, Hokitika, Franz Josef).*

Appendix 1: West Coast river flow recorder sites.

Site	Owner	Ratings/ Gaugings	Preliminary NIWA Decision	Purpose of site
Karamea River at Gorge	WCRC/ NIWA	NIWA	Further discussion required.	Flood Warning / Water Allocation / Reporting / Consents / Compliance
Buller River at Longford (In Tasman but used by WCRC)	NIWA	NIWA	Further discussion required.	Water Quality and Flood Warning
Buller River at Woolfs	WCRC	WCRC / NIWA	Not affected	Flood Warning / Water Allocation / Reporting / Consents / Compliance
Buller River at Te Kuha	WCRC/ NIWA	NIWA	NIWA to operate as benchmark	Flood Warning / Water Allocation / Reporting / Consents / Compliance
Inangahua River at Blacks Point	NIWA	NIWA	NIWA to discontinue.	Flood Warning / Water Allocation / Reporting / Consents / Compliance
Inangahua River at Landing	WCRC	WCRC	Not affected	Flood Warning / Water Allocation / Reporting / Consents / Compliance
Pattinson Creek at Weir Site	NIWA	NIWA	Further discussion required.	Water Allocation/Small Catchment
Grey River at Waipuna	WCRC/ NIWA	NIWA	NIWA to operate as benchmark	Flood Warning / Water Allocation / Reporting / Consents / Compliance
Grey River at Dobson	WCRC/ NIWA	NIWA	NIWA to operate as benchmark	Flood Warning / Water Allocation / Reporting
Ahaura River at Gorge	WCRC/ NIWA	NIWA / WCRC	Transfer to Regional Council	Flood Warning/Water Allocation
Taramakau River at Greenstone Bridge	NIWA	NIWA	NIWA to discontinue.	Engineering and reporting (droughts and floods)
Taipo River at State Highway Bridge	NIWA	NIWA	NIWA to discontinue	Engineering and reporting (droughts and floods)
Hokitika River at Gorge	WCRC/ NIWA	NIWA	Further discussion required.	Flood Warning/Water Allocation/Reporting/Cons ents/Compliance
Butchers at Kaniere	WCRC	WCRC	Not affected	Water Allocation/Small Catchment
Whataroa River at SH Bridge	NIWA / Meridian	NIWA	Further discussion required	Timing of floods moving up or down the coast
Makawhio River at Rocks	NIWA	NIWA	NIWA to discontinue	Not used by council
Ivory at Ripplerock	NIWA	NIWA	NIWA to discontinue	Not used by council
Ivory at Lake	NIWA	NIWA	NIWA to discontinue	Not used by council
Moeraki at Lake Moeraki	NIWA	NIWA	NIWA to discontinue.	Not used by WCRC other than reporting droughts and floods
Haast River at Roaring Billy	WCRC/ NIWA	NIWA	NIWA to operate as benchmark	Flood Warning/Water Quality/Reporting
Arawata River at County Bridge	NIWA	NIWA	NIWA to discontinue.	Not used by WCRC other than reporting droughts and floods

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee – 10 September 2013
 Prepared by: Nichola Costley – Regional Planner
 Date: 30 August 2013
 Subject: **Resource Management Act – Reform Proposals**

Purpose

To provide an update to Council on the current Resource Management Reform proposals. These proposals are expected to proceed to Parliament as a Bill within the next month or two.

Background

Council provided feedback to the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) in February 2013 on the discussion document 'Improving our Resource Management System'.

There are four proposed areas for change as set out below, however for some aspects of the changes it is unclear how they would be applied in practice.

Improving Resource Management Planning

Changes to the planning system have been proposed to make things easier for applicants, improve engagement between Councils and the community, and to reduce the overall costs for users. These changes include:

National Planning Template

A national planning template developed for all RMA plans. This is intended to standardise the planning documents but still allow for specific local issues to be addressed through locally-developed plan content.

The intent is for a greater level of consistency through common structures and formats as well as clearly documenting national planning directions through national environmental standards and national policy statements, as well as reducing the high cost of preparing plans.

It is intended that the Minister for the Environment will develop the content for the template through a public consultation process.

A Single Resource Management Plan

MfE also proposes that a single resource management plan per district, or other agreed area, will be developed. Councils would have to compile all the content from their relevant regional policy statement and regional and district plans into a single planning document (using the national template). This single plan would be made accessible to the public through a website.

The single resource management plan is to be produced three years from when the legislation is to be enacted. However the national template is to be produced within two years of the enactment of the legislation meaning councils will be required to implement the standardised format within one year of the templates enactment, in their single resource management plans. Full adoption of the template is to be completed within five years.

Plan Development

Changes are also proposed to the way the consultation and hearing processes can take place. Three options would be made available to Councils to choose from when developing their plans. These include:

1. The existing Schedule 1 approach, with strengthened consultation requirements for parties who will be affected by the Plan;
2. A Collaborative Planning Process which would apply to freshwater management only.
3. A Joint Council Planning Process available for any plan content not directly related to freshwater. Councils would be required to consult with their community earlier in the process using this option.

The hearing would be more rigorous by an independent panel which would make recommendations to the relevant Council. The Council will then either accept or reject these recommendations with associated appeal rights limited to points of law if the Council accepts the panel's recommendations.

Council Planning Agreement

All Councils will be required to enter into and publish a council planning agreement within six months of the enactment of the legislation.

This agreement will set the high-level framework for how the single resource management plan would be produced per district, or other agreed area. The agreement will outline the roles and responsibilities of the Councils who are [party to the agreement, as well as outlining the plan development option that they intend to take.

Recommendation

That Council receives this report.

Michael Meehan
Planning and Environment Manager

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee – 10 September 2013
 Prepared by: Nichola Costley – Regional Planner
 Date: 29 August 2013

Subject: **Regional Policy Statement Review**

Purpose

To provide an update to Council on the review of the Regional Policy Statement (RPS).

Background

Council has previously received papers on the review of the RPS. It had been decided at the time to put the RPS review on hold pending the release of a Biodiversity National Policy Statement as well as the impending changes to the Resource Management Act (RMA) and in particular the review of Sections 6 and 7.

However given the current state of the West Coast region, with the economy going through a depressed period and a number of our communities facing significant hardship, a review of this strategic piece of the planning framework needs to be commenced. This is an opportunity to determine how the resources of the West Coast should be managed and the RPS needs to clearly reflect this.

Since the RPS became operative in 2000 the following major changes have occurred:

- Changes to the law (RMA and the Local Government Act);
- There are new national policies and standards that need to be addressed; and,
- The potential effect of the RPS on enabling our communities to become more sustainable.

The Role of the RPS in Promoting Positive Effects

The RPS is about promoting positive effects as much as it is about avoiding, remedying or mitigating adverse effects. In general the current RPS focuses solely on environmental bottom-lines with little consideration towards the social, cultural and economic well-beings. This is then replicated through Regional and District Plans, as well as at consent hearings, where the focus on anything other than adverse effects on the environment is often overlooked. This is a problem that occurs nationally.

Taranaki has taken a new approach to their second generation RPS. Their new RPS clearly sets out that the use and development of natural and physical resources is just as much a significant resource management issue as is the protection of those resources. The Taranaki RPS emphasises the various positive issues which are important to the region such as the prominent role of farming and other land based activities that contribute to employment opportunities, the benefits of tourism as a result of developments around the region's mountains, forests and other natural resources as well as the strategic importance of Taranaki's oil and gas industry to New Zealand; all issues that have similarities to the situation on the West Coast.

Section 3 of the Act defines 'effect' as explicitly including both positive and negative effects. The RPS should give potential positive effects equal weighting to adverse effects. The second generation West Coast RPS should set out how in the broadest sense it will achieve the sustainable management of our natural and physical resources, reflecting its statutory role in coordinating the regional enablement of those positive social and economic effects. Council can clearly state that it approves of development activities that can create economic opportunities and employment opportunities for our communities. Policies that manage environmental effects will remain, sitting alongside these new "resource use and development" policies.

It is often the larger projects that create the most significant positive economic or social effects, that also result in the most significant potential adverse effects. The notification requirements of these projects (discretionary or non-complying) mean that they rely on the objectives and policies primarily within the Regional and District Plans for support. These Plans are driven by the strategic direction in

the RPS. However, if the RPS, and consequently the following planning documents fail to recognise appropriately the positive effects that arise from regionally significant infrastructure or development projects, then the chances of these projects to achieve consent are reduced.

Ensuring that the RPS clearly articulates how the region wants to use the natural and physical resources from the outset will provide better direction during consenting processes in the future.

The new RPS needs to take a holistic view of the resource management issues of significance to the West Coast, preparing us for more modern resource management decision-making for the coming decade. Resource management issues are much broader than solely ecological matters and the RPS review will need to provide opportunities for long term community sustainability.

Review Process

This is an opportunity for the Regional Council to be bold in its approach to the management of resources in the region. It is also a chance to seek input at an early stage from our own communities to inspire fresh thinking about what they think are the important issues, and the options to manage our resources and development activities to ensure that we have sustainable communities into the future.

To facilitate the involvement of the community, a Discussion Document will be developed in the first stage. The Discussion Document is not intended to be a draft RPS nor be a piece of Council policy. It is intended that the Discussion Document will identify the potential regionally significant issues that require consideration.

Implications of the latest RMA Reforms

The preparation of the Discussion Document for the new RPS will commence at the same time as the next stage of the RMA reforms take place. These reforms include changes to Section 6 (a revised list of matters of national importance to be considered in decision-making) and Section 7 (clear expectations of best-practice approaches to resource management decisions as well as a provision to improve the balance between public and private interests). These RMA amendments are expected to complement the recommended new approach to be taken in the RPS review process.

The reform also proposes changes to plan development processes, by providing for new optional pathways for plan development, including joint planning with District Councils. There may be further opportunities that arise from these changes which will become clearer as the RMA reform proceeds.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council receives this report.*
- 2. That Council endorses the preparation of a West Coast Regional Policy Statement Review Discussion Document, for consulting with our communities, based on the broader Resource Management approach used in the recent Taranaki Regional Policy Statement.*

Chris Ingle
Chief Executive

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee
 Prepared by: Jackie Adams - Consents & Compliance Manager
 Date: 30 August 2013
 Subject: **CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT**

CONSENTS**Consents Site Visits 1 – 29 August 2013**

DATE	NAME, ACTIVITY & LOCATION	PURPOSE
15/08/13	RC13142 - Robert Quigley, Sewage effluent discharge, Nelson Creek	Onsite waste water evaluation. Failed to meet Permitted Activity Rule 79, therefore Resource Consent required.
20/08/13	RC13132 - Hamish Johnston, Sewage effluent discharge, Punakaiki	Onsite inspection to better understand applicant's proposed discharge of treated waste water.

Non-Notified Resource Consents Granted 1 – 29 August 2013

CONSENT NO. & HOLDER	PURPOSE OF CONSENT
RC11194 Inchbonnie Hydro Ltd	To take and use surface water from Rubieslaw Creek and an unnamed creek for hydro electricity generation, Inchbonnie. To divert water from Rubieslaw Creek and an unnamed creek for hydro electricity generation, Inchbonnie. To discharge water containing contaminants to water from hydro electricity generation, Inchbonnie.
RC12226 7 Mile Mining Ltd	To undertake earthworks/vegetation clearance on slopes greater than 25 degrees and within riparian margins to construct a hydro electricity generation scheme, Inchbonnie. To undertake earthworks on slopes greater than 25 degrees associated with access track construction for exploration purposes only, 7 Mile Mine.
RC13045 New Zealand Transport Agency	To disturb the bed of the Otira River, Ribbonwood Creek, Blackwater Creek, Douglas Culvert No.2, Haast River, Prospector Flats Culvert and Douglas Creek to undertake river protection and stream training works. To divert water, Otira River, Ribbonwood Creek, Blackwater Creek, Douglas Culvert No.2, Haast River, Prospector Flats Culvert and Douglas Creek. To discharge sediment to water from river protection and stream training works, Otira River, Ribbonwood Creek, Blackwater Creek, Douglas Culvert No.2, Haast River, Prospector Flats Culvert and Douglas Creek. To disturb the bed of an unnamed waterway (Culvert 60) to undertake river protection and stream training works. To divert water, unnamed waterway (Culvert 60). To discharge sediment to water from river protection and stream training works, unnamed waterway (Culvert 60). To disturb the bed of the Wanganui River to undertake river protection and stream training works.

	To divert water, Wanganui River.
	To discharge sediment to water from river protection and stream training works, Wanganui River.
RC13070 Kagal Farm Ltd	To discharge treated dairy effluent from a herd home to land and groundwater near DS871, Karamea.
	To discharge treated dairy effluent to water within the coastal marine area (the Oparara River) near DS871, Karamea.
RC13082 Eldon Holdings Ltd	To undertake earthworks associated with alluvial gold mining near Deadmans Creek, Ngahere.
	To take and use surface water from Deadmans Creek, Big Nugget Creek and Rangis Creek for alluvial gold mining.
	To discharge sediment-laden water to land at Ngahere in circumstances where it may enter groundwater.
RC13084 K & A Pines Partnership	To disturb land within the Greymouth Earthworks Control Area associated with the harvesting of exotic forest and land preparation, constructing new sections of road, constructing log processing sites and hauler pads, Boddytown.
	To discharge storm water containing sediment to land from roading; construction of log processing and hauler sites, harvesting and land preparation, Boddytown.
	To discharge sediment to water as a result of forest harvesting activities and crossings, Boddytown.
RC13120 Puzzle Point Ltd	To discharge treated dairy effluent to land from a dairy shed where it may enter surface water (Ellis Creek) and groundwater near DS172, Waitaha Valley.
RC13125 MC Vavasour	To disturb the bed of the New River to undertake a diversion and construct river protection works.
	To divert water, New River.
RC13128 J Barrer and E Phillips	To discharge treated sewage effluent to land at State Highway 6, Charleston.
RC13130 Antrim Ltd	To discharge dairy effluent from a milking shed to land and groundwater near DS038, Whataroa.
RC13132 Hamish Johnston	To discharge treated sewage effluent to land at 2-4 Hartmount Place, Punakaiki.
RC13133 R J Dairy Farming Ltd	To discharge treated dairy effluent to land from a dairy shed where it may enter surface water (Arthur Creek) and groundwater near DS068, Whataroa.
RC13136 A Nolan	To disturb the bed of the Kokatahi River to construct river protection works (rock rip-rap).
RC13143 G C Smith Contracting Ltd	To disturb the dry bed of the Inangahua River for the purpose of extracting gravel.

Changes to Consent Conditions granted 1 – 29 August 2013

CONSENT NO, HOLDER & LOCATION	PURPOSE OF CHANGE
RC06244[v3] Westland District Council Butler's Landfill	To change the sampling frequency.
	To reduce the monitoring frequency.

RC07164[v1]
Holcim (New Zealand) Ltd
Cape Foulwind

RC08057[v1]
TBfree New Zealand Ltd
Arahura – Taramakau Operational
Area

RC13088[v1]
Grey District Council
Grey River at Cobden

WS885[v1]
PR Large
Paringa River

WS1257[v1]
I Price
Wanganui River

To amend the aerial 1080 operational area.

To increase the volume of gravel extracted.

To change the design of the whitebait structure.

To change the design of the whitebait structure.

Limited Notified and Notified Resource Consents granted 1 – 29 August 2013

CONSENT NO. & HOLDER	PURPOSE OF CONSENT
RC12212 SJ Rothera, RF Marshall, MR Craw and SR Craw	<p>To undertake earthworks and vegetation clearance associated with alluvial gold mining activities at Chinaman's Terrace within MP 53314.</p> <p>To disturb water bodies for diversion associated with alluvial gold mining activities within MP 53314 at Chinaman's Terrace.</p> <p>To take and use ground water within MP 53314 for alluvial gold mining activities at Chinaman's Terrace.</p> <p>To divert water within MP 53314 for alluvial gold mining activities at Chinaman's Terrace.</p> <p>To discharge sediment-laden water to land in circumstances where it may enter the unnamed tributaries of the New River within MP 53314.</p> <p>To discharge sediment-laden water from treatment ponds to the unnamed tributaries of the New River.</p>

Notified Consents Updates

The appeal on the Cypress mine was not upheld by the environment court and mining will commence within the next two weeks.

Public Enquiries

28 written public enquiries were responded to during the reporting period. 22 were answered on the same day, 4 the following day, and the remaining 2 no more than 10 working days later. 3 LGOIMA requests were responded to, all within the required timeframe.

RECOMMENDATION

That the September 2013 report of the Consents Group be received.

Jackie Adams
Consents & Compliance Manager

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee
 Prepared by: Jackie Adams – Consents & Compliance Manager
 Date: 29 August 2013
 Subject: **COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT**

Site Visits

A total of 53 site visits were undertaken during the reporting period (1 August 2013 to 29 August 2013), which consisted of:

Activity	Number of Visits¹
Resource consent monitoring	23
Mining compliance & bond release	19
Dairy	2
Complaint Related	13

Out of the 53 site visits for the reporting period, 44 were compliant, 9 were non-compliant.

One abatement notice and two formal warnings have been issued in relation to these visits.

Specific Issues**Dairy farms:**

Calving is well underway and the milk tankers have begun their runs again. Dairy Farm inspections will begin again mid-September with a focus on Dairy effluent storage and disposal, including not only the ponds and irrigation systems but also any areas where cows will be held waiting for milking – areas like races and stand-off/crop-feed pads.

Alluvial Gold Mining:

Two abatement notices were served on a gold mining operation at Blue Spur as a result of its on going discharges of sediment laden water into a creek. One notice was served on the company and a second notice was served on the site operator. Enforcement action is pending.

Whitebait:

The season is about to kick-off on the 1st September. Council staff have been out and about marking out stand locations. There has been an increased amount of relocations and transfers forms over the past month as the stand holders try to establish their stand in the best position for the season. Compliance inspections will begin soon.

Gravel Extraction:

The Council has sent out letters to contractors requesting that they supply the volume of gravel extracted from rivers under their resource consents. It is a condition of their consents that they supply the information to the Council and a stricter approach is being taken for the information to be supplied.

¹Four of these site visits came about as a result of a complaint and these have been entered twice – once as a complaint and once as a mining site visit. This is in order to keep both tables accurate for audit purposes. Hence the table shows 57 visits when in fact only 53 took place.

Complaints/Incidents between 1 August 2013 & 29 August 2013

The following 25 complaints/incidents were received during the reporting period:

Activity	Description	Location	Action/Outcome
Discharge to Air	Complaint regarding the burning of rubbish	Seddonville	Enquiries established no breach of the Regional Rules.
Discharge to Land	Complaint that 1080 had been dropped in the Slab Hut Area.	Reefton	Enquiries established that it was an aerial pre feed non toxic bait operation.
Discharge to water	Gold Mining complaint, sediment discharge to water.	Cameron's	Compliant at the time of the inspection.
Storm water discharge	Complaint regarding the discharge of storm water causing flooding to a neighbouring property.	Runanga	Site visit undertaken – enquiries are continuing.
Works within the CMA	Complaint regarding the opening of Break Creek.	Karamea	Enquiries established no breach of the relevant permitted activity rule.
Stock access to water	Cows have had access to a water way and damaged the banks.	Maruia	Observed during the Council compliance flight. The land owner was formally warned.
Gravel Extraction	Complaint regarding the extraction of gravel from the Haast River.	Haast	Enquiries failed to establish who carried out the work.
Discharge to land	A septic tank appeared to be performing poorly and discharging to a drain.	Gladstone	Samples were obtained and established no adverse effect.
Discharge to water	Complaint regarding the discharge of sediment from a gold mining operation.	Kumara	Compliant at the time of the inspection.
Discharge to Air	Complaint regarding the discharge of odour from a fish factory.	Westport	Site visit undertaken and compliant at the time of the inspection.
Discharge to water	Complaint regarding the discharge of a green coloured substance to the Hokitika River.	Hokitika	Site visit was undertaken and the complaint was unsubstantiated.
Discharge to water	Complaint that a forestry operation is causing the discharge of sediment to a creek.	Waiuta	Site visit undertaken which resulted in an abatement notice being served on the company.
Discharge to water	A car was dumped or abandoned in the wet bed of the Hokitika River.	Hokitika	The car was recovered by a contractor and the vehicle details passed onto the Police.
Stock access to water	Complaint that stock are grazing the banks of the Arahura River	Milltown	Site visit was carried out and established no breach of the relevant regional Rules.
Discharge to water	Sediment discharge from a gold mining operation	Blue Spur	Site visit was undertaken and enquiries are continuing.
Gravel Extraction	Complaint regarding the stock piling of gravel.	Blaketown	Site visit was carried out and established the operation was compliant.

Activity	Description	Location	Action/Outcome
Discharge to water	Complaint received that there is diesel in the Blaketown Lagoon.	Blaketown	Site visit was undertaken and established that a small amount of diesel had been discharged to the lagoon from an unknown source. No remedial action was required.
Discharge to Air	Complaint regarding the discharge of smoke from a domestic fire.	Reefton	No breach of the Regional Rules, complaint was passed onto the Buller District Council.
Unauthorised gold mine operation	Complaint that a gold miner was operating outside of their consented area.	Kaniere	Site visit was undertaken and the complaint was unsubstantiated.
Flood protection	Complaint alleging that someone has undertaken unconsented flood protection work.	Maruia	Enquiries are continuing
Discharge to water	Complaint regarding the discharge of sediment from a gold mining operation.	Blue Spur	Site visit was carried out and enquiries are still continuing.
Discharge to water	Complaint regarding the discharge of sediment from a gold mining operation.	Blue Spur	On going problem with this operation a site visit was carried out and enquiries are still continuing.
Discharge to water	Complaint regarding the discharge of sediment from a gold mining operation.	Kaniere	Site visit was carried out and enquiries are still continuing.
Stock access to water ways	Complaint regarding stock grazing the riparian margin of a stream within the Lake Brunner catchment.	Lake Brunner	Site visit was undertaken and the farmer had already removed the stock.
Discharge to water	A vehicle had damaged its fuel tank in the shantytown car park. This resulted in a discharge of diesel to a storm drain and into Infants Creek	Paroa	Site visit was carried out. A small amount of fuel was discharged no remedial action was required.

Formal Warnings: Two formal warnings were issued during the reporting period.

Activity	Location
Unauthorised works in the bed of a river	Maruia
Stock damage to a riparian margin.	Maruia

Abatement notices: 3 abatement notices were served during the reporting period:

Activity	Location
Gold Mining (2) one notice issued to the company and one notice issued to the operator.	Blue Spur
Forestry	Waiuta

Mining Work Programmes

The Council received the following 9 work programs during the last reporting period. Two programmes were approved in the 20 day timeframe. The remaining work programmes have been recently received and require site visits prior to approval.

Date	Mining Authorisation	Holder	Location
5/8/13	RC11063	BBC Excavations	Waimangaroa
14/8/13	RC08146	Gilman	Kaniere
15/8/13	RC03175	SENZ Cypress	Stockton Plateau
16/8/13	RC09088	Phil Hampton	Atarau
16/8/13	RC09031	Henry Adams	Hokitika
22/8/13	RC09059	Paul Wilson	Blackwater
23/8/13	RC10183	Ridgeback Enterprises	Taramakau
26/8/13	RC03181	S Jasper	Marsden
28/8/13	RC09053	Westco Mining Ltd	Ruatapu

The following bond was received during the reporting period:

Mining Authorisation	Holder	Location	Amount
RC10109	South West Energy	Ross	\$10000

RECOMMENDATION

That the September 2013 report of the Compliance Group be received.

Jackie Adams
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, 10th September 2013** commencing on completion of the Resource Management Committee Meeting.

A.R. SCARLETT
CHAIRPERSON

C. INGLE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

<u>AGENDA NUMBERS</u>	<u>PAGE NUMBERS</u>	<u>BUSINESS</u>
1.		APOLOGIES
2.		PUBLIC FORUM
3.		MINUTES
	1 – 4	3.1 Minutes of Council Meeting 13 August 2013
4.		REPORTS
	5 – 8	4.1 Planning & Environmental Manager's Report on Engineering Operations
	9	4.2 Corporate Services Manager's Report
5.		CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
6.	10	CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT
7.		GENERAL BUSINESS

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 13 AUGUST 2013,
AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD,
GREYMOOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11.11 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), J. Adams (Consents & Compliance Manager), M. Meehan (Planning & Environmental Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved (Davidson / Robb) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 9 July 2013, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

REPORTS:

4.1 ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT

M. Meehan spoke to this report advising that annual inspections of council's rating districts are currently being undertaken by Council's River Engineer. M. Meehan reported that capital works have been completed in the Wanganui Rating District. The placement of rock work was carried out by Westland Contractors Ltd.

M. Meehan reported that emergency repair works has been tendered out in the Lower Waiho Rating District. He advised that this work is as a result of further damage to the Milton & Others Stop bank.

M. Meehan reported that council quarries have been very busy, with the Camelback quarry having a large stockpile of rock which will be used up fairly quickly for the seawall at Hokitika. M. Meehan advised that he is mindful of the need to have plenty of rock available in all quarries in case the spring rains cause damage and if rock is required further south then it will easily be available.

Cr Archer asked for an update on the Hokitika seawall. M. Meehan responded that work commenced last week with quarry rubble being placed at the site. M. Meehan advised that the seawall is to be completed in sections and each section will be surveyed to ensure consistency for the entire wall. M. Meehan advised that he will include an update on the Hokitika seawall in his future engineering reports. He stated that he is getting weekly progress updates from the contractors.

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

Carried

4.2 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT

R. Mallinson spoke to his report advising that this report is the interim end of year financial result. He stated that the final surplus is well in excess of \$1M. R. Mallinson reported that the investment portfolio eased back slightly in June but most of these losses were made up for in July. R. Mallinson stated that he will be finalising the Annual Report during August and the next financial report will be for two months to 31 August 2013.

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

Carried

4.2.1 STRIKING OF RATE TO FUND LOAN REPAYMENTS FOR HOKITIKA SEAWALL

R. Mallinson spoke to this report. He advised that because this project is outside of the annual plan or long term plan process, this rate needs to be struck separately.

Moved (Archer / Robb)

1. *That Council strike a rate of \$136,611 GST inclusive for the year 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014.*

First instalment 1 September 2013, final date for payment 20 October 2013

Second instalment 1 March 2014, final date for payment 20 April 2014

10% late payment penalty.

2. *That Council agree to borrow \$1,500,000; to be repayable over a 20 year term, and that the Chief Executive and Corporate Services Manager to negotiate the best possible interest rate terms involving entering into a 5 year interest rate swap to fix the rate for the first 5 years.*

Carried

4.2.2 12 MONTH REVIEW 1 JULY 2012 – 30 JUNE 2013

C. Ingle spoke to this report advising that this report feeds into the Annual Report and relates to the targets set in the Long Term Plan from 2012. C. Ingle answered various questions from Councillors. Cr Archer stated that he this is a very good report. Cr Archer asked if management is still of the view that the water quality targets for Lake Brunner can still be met. C. Ingle responded that he believes these targets can be met. The implementation of the new regional plan rules has only really started this year and therefore improvements would not be expected just yet. He stated that the result so far is the same as last year and he would expect the results to begin to improve over the next two to three years.

Cr Archer stated that Marrs Beach is often non-compliant, he asked what steps can or will be taken to identify the source of contaminants. C. Ingle stated that this area has not been looked at in the past. Cr Archer asked what costs would be involved in an investigation. C. Ingle responded that Council's Scientist could do an initial investigation and then report back and council could then decide where to from there. M. Meehan stated that Marrs Beach has never had an in depth investigation but this could be looked at.

Cr Archer asked when a decision is likely on whether or not to proceed with the installation of a new flood warning system on the Mokihinui River. C. Ingle advised that since this target was set there have been other issues that have arisen around NIWA wanting to exit from a lot of the sites that they maintain that council also use for flood warning. C. Ingle advised that these sites are in Karamea, the Buller River and the Grey River and also Whataroa and Haast. C. Ingle stated that this is a resourcing issue that has become a lot bigger and needs to be looked at in a broader context. C. Ingle stated that council is also now receiving a lot of resource consent applications for irrigators in the upper Grey Valley. C. Ingle advised that the hydrology and flood warning budget may need to be stretched to cater to the needs of low flow monitoring. C. Ingle stated that the proposed new site at Mokihinui has now dropped down the priority list. C. Ingle advised that staff are preparing a report to council on this matter.

Cr Davidson stated that there seems to be a media attack about pollution in waterways in New Zealand. Cr Davidson asked if there is a way the council could monitor waterways. C. Ingle stated that council monitors 46 sites in the region and the water quality in West Coast Rivers is significantly improving. Cr Davidson stated he would drink out of most West Coast Rivers.

Cr Archer stated that this is a very good report and he would like council's appreciation to management and staff for the work that has gone into this report to achieve the performance targets.

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

Carried

5.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

C. Ingle spoke to his report. He reported that he is involved with the SOLGM group looking at planning and accountability mainly focusing on the Local Government Act and Long Term Plans. He advised that this group is looking at proposed changes to the Local Government Act and he is providing a regional council perspective to this group. C. Ingle advised that he is attending the Regional Council's CEO's group meeting in Wellington tomorrow and is expecting to hear more about the latest RMA reform that has just been announced.

C. Ingle reported that at last month's council meeting he asked council to make a resolution to amend the financial strategy which is contained in the Long Term Plan, to increase the financial cap to enable borrowing. He stated that council's Auditor contacted him to advise him that a change is not required to the Long Term Plan and it might be simpler if this is adopted as a council policy to relax the caps, but a formal plan change is not made. C. Ingle advised that following public notification of the amendments, there were no formal submissions received. Because no submissions were received and the plan change does not need to be completed, there are no further actions needed on this matter.

Moved (Archer / Davidson)

1. *That this report be received.*
2. *That Council agrees to adopt the publicly notified amendments to Council's 2012 – 22 Long Term Plan, as Council Policy, but not to complete the changes to the Plan itself.*

Carried

6.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT (VERBAL)

Cr Scarlett reported that he attended the Local Government New Zealand conference on the 21st of July. Cr Scarlett stated that there were some very good speakers at the conference.

Cr Scarlett reported that he attended the meeting for the Hokitika seawall on the 24th of July along with his fellow councillors. Cr Scarlett reported that he chaired a mining consent hearing on the 26th of July.

Cr Scarlett, C. Ingle and a group of chair's and CEO's from around the region, met with the Minister of Transport, Hon Gerry Brownlee, to discuss R Funding for transport. Cr Scarlett stated that R Funding is the only regional funding for transport, and this ceases by 2015. Cr Scarlett advised that the West Coast receives about \$1.5M annually in R funding which is divided between Buller, Grey and Westland. Cr Scarlett felt that this was a very positive meeting and he is hopeful that the Minister will ensure that R Funding remains in place for the West Coast after 2015.

Cr Scarlett stated that he dealt with general constituency matters during the reporting period.

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

Carried

7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 11.41 a.m.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting – 10 September 2013
 Prepared by: W. Moen – River Engineer and Paulette Birchfield – Engineering Officer
 Date: 30 August 2013
 Subject: **ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT**

RIVER AND DRAINAGE INSPECTIONS

- Lower Waiho RD – Inspection
- Franz Josef RD – Inspection
- Waitangitona RD – Inspection
- Whataroa RD – Inspection
- Wanganui RD – Inspection
- Southside RD – Inspection
- Kaniere RD – Inspection
- Vine Creek – Inspection
- Hokitika Foreshore – Inspection
- Taramakau RD – inspection
- Coal Creek Rd – Inspection
- Red Jacks Creek RD – Inspection
- Nelson Creek RD – Inspection
- Punakaiki RD – Inspection
- Kongahu RD – Inspection
- Karamea RD - Inspection

WORKS COMPLETED AND WORKS TENDERED FORLower Waiho Rating District – Emergency Repairs

This work involving the placement of approximately 2,500 tonnes of rock riprap has been completed by Westland Contractors Ltd. Final costs were not available at the time of compiling this report.

Okuru Rating District – Emergency Repairs

This work, involving the placement of approximately 300 tonnes of rock and 200 tonnes of rubble has been tendered and awarded to J.J. Nolan Ltd at a price of \$11,000 (G.S.T. Exclusive).

Hokitika Foreshore - Erosion Protection

Westland Contractors Ltd. commenced construction of the 650m long seawall at Hokitika on 6 August 2013.

The initial work has involved the excavation of sand material, the carting of quarry rubble, gravel and heavy rock.

Below is a timeline of the expected milestones:

Seawall construction completed	Date
100m	13 September
200m	27 September
300m	11 October
400m	25 October
500m	8 November
600m	22 November
650m	29 November
Project completed and surveyed	5 December



*HOKITIKA BEACHFRONT – 29 August 2013
South End Showing Placing of Filter Fabric*



*HOKITIKA BEACHFRONT – 29 August 2013
View of Fabric Laying Mechanism*



*HOKITIKA BEACHFRONT – 27 August 2013
Placing of 1st layer of Heavy Rock Armouring*

FUTURE WORKS

- Waitangitaona Rating District
- Whataroa Rating District
- Wanganui Rating District
- Vine Creek Rating District
- Nelson Creek Rating District
- Punakaiki Rating District
- Kongahu Rating District
- Okuru Rating District

QUARRIES

The majority of work is being undertaken in Camelback Quarry with the contractors achieving approximately 2000 tonne of rock per week to supply the Hokitika Seawall contract.

There are good supplies of rock in the other quarries with blasting planned for Whataroa to ensure adequate rock is available for spring rain.

Approximate rock in quarry as at 20 August 2013 (in tonnes)

Quarry	Rock Available	Emergency Stockpile
Blackball	2,300	
Camelback	11,500	2,000
Inchbonnie	8,000	
Kiwi	4,000	-
Whataroa	1,500	2,000
Okuru	800	-

RECOMMENDATION

That the report is received

Michael Meehan
Planning and Environment Manager

4.2

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting
 Prepared by: Robert Mallinson – Corporate Services Manager
 Date: 2 September 2013
 Subject: Corporate Services Manager's Report

1. Financial Report

As per my report to the August meeting, no financial report has been prepared for the one month to 31 July 2013.

My efforts have been focused on finalising the Annual Report to an audit ready state. This is progressing well and the annual audit is scheduled to commence on 9 September.

The unaudited surplus will be very similar to the \$1.030 million provisionally reported to the August meeting.

2. Investment Portfolio

July 2013	Catastrophe Fund	Major Portfolio	Total
Opening balance 1 July 2013	\$ 676,460	\$ 11,444,380	\$ 12,120,840
Income July 2013	\$ 7,315	\$ 100,006	\$ 107,321
Deposit	\$ -	\$ -	
Withdrawal			
Closing balance 31 July 2013	\$ 683,775	\$ 11,544,386	\$ 12,228,161
Total income year to date 31 July 2013	\$ 7,315	\$ 100,006	\$ 107,321

3. General Comment

The portfolio recovered strongly during July following the negative returns incurred during June.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received.

Robert Mallinson
 Corporate Services Manager

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting 10 September 2013
 Prepared by: Chris Ingle – Chief Executive
 Date: 29 August 2013
 Subject: **CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT**

Meetings Attended and Annual Leave

- I attended the Regional Council CEOs meeting on 14 August and the Chief Executives Environmental Forum the same day in the afternoon.
- I met with Crown Public Health on the 22nd of August to discuss the Reefton Oeko tube trial.
- I attended a SOLGM meeting at Rolleston on the 26th of August.
- I met with Ian Goss from OCEL (coastal engineer) on 29 August to discuss the groyne field at Hokitika Beach.
- I will be attending a Civil Defence Recovery workshop on the 3rd of September.
- I will attend a meeting at Grey Base Hospital on the 4th of September.
- I will be attending a meeting at Development West Coast on the 6th of September to discuss the Canterbury Collaboration opportunities around the City Re-build.
- The Mayors and Chair forum is scheduled for 9 September.

I took a day's annual leave on the 23rd of August.

Changes to the Local Government Act

Local Government Minister Chris Tremain announced on 29 August new changes requiring councils undertake longer-term infrastructure planning, while streamlining other planning requirements.

A 30 year infrastructure strategy will be needed in our next long term plan. While this will impact more on District Councils who will have to prepare strategies for stormwater, sewerage and roading assets, the Regional Council will need a strategy for our flood protection assets. The value of the insurance cover and any self-insurance schemes, will also be needed.

At the same time, the consultation process around annual plans is to be streamlined, by introducing streamlined, more focused consultation documents; and providing greater flexibility about methods and frequency of consultation.

National State of the Environment Reporting

The Secretary for the Environment has now taken responsibility for national reporting in conjunction with the Chief Executive of Statistics NZ. There will be a report every third year produced on:

- Air
- Freshwater
- Coast
- Atmosphere and Climate
- Land

There will be a sixth report that covers all the above, also once every three years.

These six reports will be completed on a six monthly cycle, starting in early 2014 with the one on Air Quality. In late 2014 the comprehensive report on all environments is to be released.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received.

Chris Ingle,
 Chief Executive

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

To: Chairperson
West Coast Regional Council

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

Agenda Item No. 8.

- | | | |
|---------|-----|---|
| 11 – 12 | 8.1 | Confirmation of Confidential Minutes 13 August 2013 |
| | 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 |

Item No.	General Subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution.
8.			
8.1	Confirmation of Confidential Minutes 13 August 2013		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		
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
- Jackie Adams

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.

CONFIDENTIAL COUNCIL MEETING