

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

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

TUESDAY, 9 APRIL 2013

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, 9th April 2013**

B.CHINN
CHAIRPERSON

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

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THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 11 MARCH 2013 AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL,
388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.30 A.M.**

PRESENT:

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

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

Staff from the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) provided a presentation to Council regarding the forthcoming changes to the RMA. Planning staff and elected members from Grey District Council, Westland District Council and West Coast Regional Council were present. Mr Guy Beatson, Deputy Secretary Policy, introduced himself to the meeting. Mr Beatson gave an overview of the proposed changes. Mr Beatson advised that submissions close on the 2nd of April. He stated that as yet no policy decisions have been made. C. Ingle thanked MfE staff for travelling to the West Coast; he also thanked all others present for taking the time to come to today's presentation. Cr Chinn also thanked MfE for their presentation and stated that this has been a great opportunity for Council to express their views directly to MfE staff on RMA reform. Mr Beatson thanked everyone present for the opportunity to meet today and advised that the notes taken today would be fed back into to work plan for RMA reform.

The meeting resumed at 11.18 a.m.

3. MINUTES

Moved (Birchfield / Robb) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 12 February 2013, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters Arising

Cr Archer asked if there was going to be a staff report relating to Mr Drew's presentation at last month's Resource Management Committee meeting. C. Ingle advised that J. Adams is able to provide a verbal report to today's meeting. Cr Birchfield stated that he would like to comment on this matter but he is aware that there are privacy matters to be considered and he therefore prefers that the verbal report is discussed in the public excluded part of today's meeting.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cr Chinn reported that he fielded two calls from concerned landowners regarding wetlands which he will discuss later in the meeting.

Moved (Chinn / Archer)

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 TrustPower's appeal on the Land and Water Plan has now been resolved and an Order from the Court is now in place. M. Meehan stated that the only change to the Proposed Plan is to the explanation of Policy 4.3.3. M. Meehan advised that Mr Paul Elwell-Sutton's appeal is yet to be resolved. Mr Elwell-Sutton has now applied to the Environment Court to amend his notice of appeal. M. Meehan advised that Mr Elwell-Sutton has reduced his appeal down to riparian margins within wetlands.

M. Meehan reported that the Reefton Airshed Committee met on the 18th of February. M. Meehan advised that the committee would not be submitting to Council regarding the new monitoring machine. M. Meehan stated that the committee is keen to promote the EECA grant scheme via the Clarion which is the local newspaper. M. Meehan reported that the committee sought feedback from the community on the idea of banning backyard fires. He stated that at this stage the committee has advised that they are not seeking a bylaw but they are keen to continue with a lot more education via the Clarion and school noticeboards. M. Meehan advised that Air Quality Consultant, Emily Wilton, was present at the recent meeting. Her recent inventory was discussed and the committee asked a number of questions on this matter. M. Meehan advised that the committee is also focussing on new technology which is now coming onto the market which is around how to reduce PM¹⁰ emissions from burners and how to capture some of the particles before they are emitted. M. Meehan advised that the committee is to invite an expert in this field to their next meeting.

M. Meehan reported that the Sustainable Dairying Water Accord is looking to improve water quality and to promote industry good practice and self-management which is something that Council should be supporting the dairy industry in. M. Meehan advised that other regional councils around the country have signed up as "friends of the accord". M. Meehan stated that he is recommending that Council signs up for this to show its support for the improvements the industry is seeking to approve.

Cr Chinn expressed his concern regarding landowners of schedule 2 wetlands. Cr Chinn feels that schedule 1 landowners had a chance to get into the loop but schedule 2 landowners did not have the same chance as they were put into the Plan by the Environment Court. Cr Chinn stated that a moss farmer contacted him as his land has been identified as a wetland and has not had a chance to be heard on this matter. Cr Chinn feels that this is unfair.

Cr Chinn stated that he is struggling with the term "friend" in the Sustainable Dairying Water Accord agenda item. He also is concerned about the rules around stock crossings as our Plan clearly outlines the rules in a different way to the Sustainable Dairying Water Accord. M. Meehan advised that by signing up to the Accord as a friend, the regional council has no obligations under the Accord, we are simply signing up to support the improvements that the dairy industry is seeking to achieve. M. Meehan advised that all the responsibilities in enforcing what is contained in the Accord are on Westland Milk Products and Dairy NZ. Cr Scarlett stated that he agrees with Cr Chinn. The Accord is between dairy companies and Dairy NZ. Cr Chinn agrees with Cr Scarlett and feels that it is messy. Cr Robb stated that he is of the understanding that the Accord goes above what is required in regional plans and that by supporting the dairy industry in signing the Accord then council is being seen as helping those in the dairy industry in being a better environmental citizen. Cr Robb does not

see a problem in signing the Accord as the key points in the Accord go above what is required and imposed by councils in their regional rules and plans. Cr Archer agrees with Cr Robb and stated that the Accord is made up of simple principles and by being a friend to an accord does not put any onus or responsibility on council and council's responsibility is on the statutory document, the Plan and that is council's sole centre of focus. Cr Archer stated he has read the Accord several times and in principle, he supports these views. Cr Scarlett stated that he would feel happier about signing the Accord if the wording was changed to principles rather than "friends" because he feels that "friend" is too soppy. Cr Birchfield stated that a word change is a good idea. Cr Robb stated that the Accord is a self-regulating mechanism that dairy farmers are using to improve environmental awareness in their industry and to ensure that customers in the international dairy markets can be aware of this. Further discussion ensued. It was agreed that the Council would sign in support of the principles of the accord.

Moved (Scarlett / Davidson)

1. *That this report is received.*
2. *That Council signs the Sustainable Dairying Water Accord as recognising the principles outlined in the Accord.*

Carried

5.1.2 SUBMISSION ON RESOURCE MANAGEMENT REFORM BILL

M. Meehan spoke to this report advising that Council's submission focuses on the proposed changes to section 35 and 360 of the RMA. Council's main concerns are around the cost implications of council having to undertake national state of the environment monitoring. Cr Scarlett requested that the submission be emailed to Mr Guy Beatson from MfE who spoke earlier on at today's meeting. Cr Scarlett feels that Mr Beatson may well have some empathy for the West Coast regarding this.

Moved (Archer / Birchfield) *that Council receive this report.*

Carried

5.1.3 BATHING BEACH WATER QUALITY SAMPLING UPDATE

M. Meehan spoke to this report and advised that this report is for the summer period from November to March. He advised that the results that are not coloured green in the report are generally associated with minor rainfall events in the week prior to sampling. M. Meehan advised that the final report for this summer will be brought to the April meeting.

Moved (Archer / Cummings) *that Council receive this report.*

Carried

5.2.1 CONSENTS AND COMPLIANCE GROUP

J. Adams spoke to this report advising that 24 non-notified resource consents were granted during the reporting period. He advised there were five changes to consent conditions granted and one limited notified consent granted to disturb the coastal marine area between the mouth of the Hokitika River and the Mikonui River for the purpose of removing selected stone. He advised that this stone would be removed by hand.

J. Adams reported that he attended a meeting last Friday with Grey District Council and members of the public regarding the notified consent relating to the Preston Road sewage system. J. Adams advised that it was put to last night's meeting of the Grey District Council to request funding to change the sewage system to an enclosed system. J. Adams advised that an outcome for this change is expected this afternoon.

Cr Chinn asked J. Adams if the consent holders for RC13024 are going to quarry their own rock for the river protection works they are doing. J. Adams confirmed this.

Moved (Scarlett / Archer) *That the March 2013 report of the Consents Group be received.*

Carried

5.2.2 COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT

J. Adams spoke to this report. 72 site visits were carried out during the reporting period. He advised this figure includes 49 dairy shed inspections with five dairy sheds being graded as significantly non-compliant due to unconsented discharges and lack of effluent storage. J. Adams reported that the two infringement notices that were issued were in relation to complaints of cattle in waterways. J. Adams reported that the other two infringement notices were in relation to mining activities. Cr Scarlett asked if it is too late to make a submission on the RMA changes regarding vexatious and problematic complainants who disregard the costs involved to council with repetitive and unfounded complaints. M. Meehan advised that submissions close on the 2nd of April. Cr Archer stated that he understands that MfE are noting on general submissions, only calling submissions on changes to the RMA. J. Adams advised that a list is kept of repeat complainers and a careful eye is kept on this.

Cr Scarlett stated that he was of the understanding that compliant dairy farmers would have their dairy shed inspected every second year and not every year but he has since been informed that inspections are done every year. J. Adams responded that he wants to get a baseline as to where all dairy farms are at with compliance. Cr Scarlett feels that once compliant, then biannual inspections should be acceptable. C. Ingle confirmed that there has never been a full year when every single farm has been visited.

Moved (Robb / Archer)

1. *That the March 2013 report for the Compliance Group be received.*
2. *That Council release the bonds held for Resource Consent RC10112 (McKay Mining Ltd).*

Carried

6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 12.02 p.m.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting – 9 April 2013
Prepared by: Michael Meehan, Planning and Environment Manager
Date: 1 April 2013
Subject: **PLANNING & ENVIROMENTAL MANAGERS REPORT**

Reefton Airshed Committee Meeting

The Reefton Airshed Committee received a presentation from Dr Rene Haerberli of Envirosolve Ltd on 22 March 2013. The presentation covered new technology that seeks to reduce PM₁₀ emissions from domestic chimneys. The company's device is called an OekoTube, which consists of a 1.5 metre long steel rod placed in the top inside of the chimney. A small electrical current is sent through the rod which causes PM₁₀ and smaller particles to cluster together and attach to the side of the chimney.

The device has undergone testing in Switzerland on wood burners, and the company states that the OekoTube can reduce particle emissions by 95%. One trial has been done with the OekoTube on coal burners.

The Airshed Committee is also looking into another developing technology, a down draught burner that can potentially reduce emissions discharged from the chimney.

MFE discussion document "Improving our resource management system"

The Ministry for the Environment (MFE) has released a discussion document suggesting further changes to the resource management system to make it easier to use, increase certainty, and reduce unnecessary duplication and cost. The document identifies six areas of change:

- Greater national consistency and guidance
- Fewer and better resource management plans
- More efficient and effective consenting
- Better natural hazard management
- Effective and meaningful iwi/Maori participation
- Guidance for councils to improve practice

For each of the six areas of reform, several changes are proposed, including:

- Adding, amongst other matters, the benefits of renewable energy generation, and the risk and impacts of natural hazards to RMA section 6 matters that councils must recognise and provide for;
- Adding a clause to section 6 that states there is no internal hierarchy amongst the matters listed;
- Limiting the Environment Court's role to interpreting and applying policy rather than making policy;
- Narrowing the scope of Environment Court appeals to appealing council's decisions, rather than the current process of starting from the proposed plan stage (de novo);
- Having joint plans.

Attached at the end of this report is a copy of Council's submission, which focuses on the above changes that will potentially be beneficial for the West Coast region. With regard to the last bullet point, the submission supports the idea of combining the three West Coast District Plans.

Submissions closed on 2 April.

Drought Committee Meeting

Council staff along with Councillor Robb attended the first Drought Committee meeting on 15 March 2013. Council provided climatic data to the committee to assist in their application for the declaration of a drought to the Ministry for Primary Industries. On 22 March 2013 the Minister of Primary Industries Nathan Guy declared a drought for the Buller and Grey Districts. The declaration provides for funding to West Coast Rural Support to use to visit the most affected farmers and provide feed budgeting and counselling services.

The Minister is visiting the region on 3 April 2013 to meet with the Drought Committee and survey the most affected areas.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report is received

Michael Meehan
Planning and Environment Manager



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26 March 2013

Ministry for the Environment
PO Box 10362
Wellington 6143

Dear Sir/Madam

SUBMISSION ON "IMPROVING OUR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM: DISCUSSION DOCUMENT"

The West Coast Regional Council wishes to thank the Ministry for the Environment for considering our submission on the above discussion document.

Council's submission focuses on several suggested changes that will potentially be the most beneficial for the West Coast region, plus three other matters that we have concerns about.

Changes supported

Some of the changes suggested have potential for improving implementation of the Resource Management Act (RMA), and the Council supports the following changes:

- The rewording of section 6 is simplified to what was proposed by the TAG, and the addition of renewable energy generation and natural hazards is a positive step. It will enable, for example, micro and small-scale renewable hydro generation projects with minor effects to be developed to make efficient use of the West Coast's generally abundant water resources. Greater importance on managing the impacts and risks of natural hazards will ensure people's safety is given greater priority, a critical matter on the hazard-prone West Coast.
- Addition of the new clause (2) in section 6 clarifying that there is no internal hierarchy amongst the matters listed will assist decision makers. Council's hearings panels have repeatedly sat through consent and plan hearings where individuals or groups with an environmental protection bias have argued at length that a development or plan provision is not consistent with the current section 6 of the Act. This is despite caselaw which determines that section 6 does not override section 5. The new clause (2) should help to reduce these protracted and unhelpful arguments.
- Council strongly agrees that the Environment Court should not be determining values or policy. Many of the appellants and interested parties involved with appeals on West Coast regional plans are national organisations which may not necessarily represent the views of West Coast communities. The scope of appeals should be limited in the RMA to exclude the Environment Court determining values or policy. This will reinforce that this is the role Councils should have at hearings.
- We also strongly support the suggestion that appeals should be heard based on Council's Decisions rather than starting from the proposed plan stage (de novo). Addressing appeals from the stage where Council releases its Decisions on submissions will reduce costs and delays in the Court process. It has cost West Coast ratepayers a lot of money to resolve appeals on regional plan objectives and policies, the most recent being appeals on significant wetlands that took eight years to settle.

- Combining the three West Coast district plans will make them more user-friendly, and less repetitive for land use activities. In our experience of processing consents for activities requiring district and regional consents, there are several types of rules and definitions that can be standardised as they are based on national standards anyway. For example, access off the State Highway, signage, and noise.

Other concerns

Joint district/regional plans:

If appeals on joint regional/district plans are limited to where the council deviates from the recommendation of the hearings panel, council would need to make sure that the hearing panel clearly understood the West Coast context.

It is unclear from the discussion document whether a single district/regional resource management plan will be mandatory. The discussion document talks about it being both optional, but also that it will be a requirement in the 2013 Bill. The Ministry should clarify this.

Council is also unsure whether the benefits of having a joint district/regional plan (limited appeal points) will outweigh the costs. Developing a joint plan will require very careful management and very skilled staff to undertake this process. Will a joint plan be more user friendly, and will it be worth it? People may still need consents from both a district council and the regional council, and this can be a point of confusion. We suggest that having a joint district/regional plan remains optional, and Changes to the Environment Court process should not be dependent on whether councils have one joint plan with the districts.

Further limits on the Court's plan-making powers:

The Environment Court's current powers to rewrite plans are unconstitutional as they cut across the rights of local ratepayers to have regional plans that democratically reflect the communities' values. The appeals on Council's Proposed Land and Riverbed Plan are a good example of this. The Court decision supported DOC's appeal and added another 200 significant wetlands to the current 25 wetlands in the Proposed Plan. Many of the wetlands are on private land, and the landowners were not consulted about it by DOC or the Court, unlike Council's requirement in the Act to consult with parties affected by a proposed plan change. Council is now in the position of having to review the boundaries and assess the state of each wetland.

Further streamlining:

The Ministry should be cautious that further amendments to the Act may result in increased complexity in practice. The Ministry needs to ensure that any changes genuinely do make processes quicker and simpler rather than more cumbersome.

Yours sincerely

Chris Ingle
Chief Executive

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee Meeting 9 April 2013
 Prepared by: Nichola Costley – Regional Planner
 Date: 26 March 2013
 Subject: **Civil Defence & Regional Transport Report**

Civil Defence Emergency Management

EMIS Training

Training on the Emergency Management Information System (EMIS) continues on the West Coast with more staff from all four Councils, as well as Emergency Service liaison, Department of Conservation and Community and Public Health staff taking part. While also providing basic training on what the system entails and the primary functions of messaging and tasking, some staff have also participated in forms training which looks at the development and processes involved with Situation Reporting, Incident Action Plans and media releases. This training will be tested during Exercise Te Ripahapa on 29 May 2013.

West Coast Controllers Forum

Controllers from throughout the West Coast, key Emergency Service personnel and the Chairs of both the Welfare Advisory Group and the Engineering Lifelines Group met on 13 March 2013 for a one day forum. Hosting Jim Frater, Controller of the Nelson Tasman CDEM Group, as the keynote speaker provided an opportunity to hear about how the response was handled during the flood events in 2011. A series of workshops based on topical issues also provided an opportunity for Controllers to further build relationships with one another. These topics are also of relevance leading up to Exercise Te Ripahapa as they addressed issues such as maintaining situational awareness in an Emergency Operations Centre and the importance of the Planning and Intelligence role in an event.

Regional Transport

Financial Assistance Rate Review

As reported on previously, the NZ Transport Agency has commenced a process to review the Financial Assistance Rates (FAR) which part fund transport activities. The NZ Transport Agency are undertaking the review in a two-step process:

1. Seeking feedback on the principles that should sit behind how the Agency sets the funding assistance rates and the different overall approaches the Agency could take to setting those rates;
2. A second round of consultation in late 2013 on options for specific methods for setting FARs and what those specific options would actually mean for different stakeholders.

The NZ Transport Agency have released a discussion document which sets out how the current FAR system works as well as identifying the advantages and disadvantages of eight potential principles. These include:

1. Every approved organisation having the same FAR for every land transport activity – such as setting the FAR for every land transport activity of every approved organisation at, for example, 50% (the 'flat approach').
2. An approved organisation having the same FAR for every activity but different approved organisations having different FARs which are set to address relative differences between the approved organisations. These differences can be divided into three main categories:
 - Differences in the ability of approved organisations to raise the local share of the cost of land transport activities (e.g. rates revenue).
 - Differences in the intrinsic costs in undertaking land transport activities in different areas, due to factors such as topography, climate, and geology.
 - Differences in the demands placed on approved organisations due to things like the percentage of heavy vehicle traffic on their network (the 'differences approach').
3. Different FARs would then be set for activities depending on their classification in a national road

classification system and a national classification system for public transport activities (the 'classification approach').

4. Setting FARs to reflect where the NLTF revenue was generated (the 'revenue approach').
5. Determining FARs by population – the larger an approved organisation's population, the higher its FAR, with the aim of providing a more equal financial benefit for each New Zealander from the National Land Transport Fund (NLTF) (the 'population approach').
6. Setting targets which approved organisations are required to meet, like efficiency targets and outcome targets, and giving a lower FAR if targets are not met and a higher FAR if targets are met (the 'incentives approach').
7. Allocating NLTF funding generally in accordance with the degree to which a district/region contributes to the New Zealand economy – such as setting FARs in accordance with the GDP of a district/region, the number of heavy vehicle kilometres travelled within the district/region, or the number of vehicle or passenger kilometres travelled within the district (the 'contribution approach').
8. Setting FARs to reflect the extent to which particular land transport activities benefit property owners (ratepayers) and the extent to which they benefit land transport system users – in other words having higher FARs for activities which have greater land transport system user benefits when compared to property owner benefits (the 'relative benefit approach').

Staff from the NZ Transport Agency met with Councillors and staff from the Regional Council, Grey District and Westland District Councils in March to discuss the discussion document and the various options. A further meeting has been arranged for 11 April.

The deadline for making submissions on stage one of the FAR review closes on Friday 3 May 2013. It is likely that the West Coast Councils will make a joint submission once the implications of the various principles have been assessed.

A copy of the discussion document and submission form can be downloaded from [www.nzta.govt/far](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/far)

South Island Freight Plan

The NZ Transport Agency are currently reviewing the key challenges for moving freight efficiently in the South Island and are in the process of developing a South Island Freight Plan. Councillors and staff from the Regional Council, Grey District and Westland District Councils met in March with NZ Transport Agency staff to look at the issues with moving freight within and outside the West Coast region. This information will assist the Transport Agency with progressing the overall Freight Plan.

Future of R Funding

R funds expire in 2015 at the end of the current Regional Land Transport Programme. There has been no indication what the extra 5c/litre tax the Government initiated when R funds commenced would be put towards but it is likely to just go into the general National Land Transport Funding 'pot'. R funding for the West Coast has ensured that works have continued within the region. Without the availability of R funds it is unlikely that the same level of work would continue as projects are ranked nationally and due to vehicle numbers and other variables, West Coast projects do not rank as highly as those in Auckland or the other major urban areas.

Taranaki Regional Council is coordinating a joint approach to seeking the continuation of R funds, or a similar scheme, in conjunction with the West Coast, Gisborne, Hawke's Bay and Manawatu-Whanganui Regional Councils, requesting a meeting with the Minister of Transport, Hon Gerry Brownlee.

A copy of the letter is attached to this report.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report is received.

Chris Ingle
Chief Executive

21 March 2013
Document: 1174821

Hon Gerry Brownlee
Minister of Transport
Freepost Parliament
Private Bag 18 888
Parliament Buildings
Wellington 6160

COPY

Dear Minister

Regional funding allocation concerns for land transport

As you will be aware the current Regional (R) Funding mechanism is due to expire in 2015. With the expiry of this funding source fast approaching, there is much concern throughout productive provincial regions as to how they will ensure that their land transport networks do not degrade due to lack of sufficient funding support, and thereby ensure their ability to contribute to the New Zealand economy is not constrained by inefficient transport networks.

The Chairs of the following five Regional Transport Committees wish to collectively meet with you to discuss these concerns and explore a way forward:

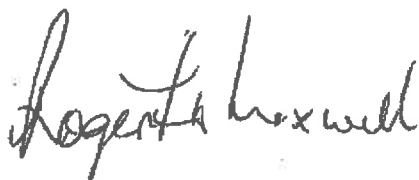
Gisborne
Hawke's Bay
Manawatu-Whanganui
Taranaki
West Coast

The R Funds system, which allocates a specific portion of transport revenue to each region, has proven to be a vital funding source for regions such as Taranaki whose transport improvement projects are generally not considered to be of sufficient national priority to compete for National (N) Funds.

In order to support regional and national economic growth, there is a real need to put in place an alternative regional funding mechanism to assure regions of some funding for improvement activities. A brief background paper is attached for your information in regard to this issue.

I look forward to hearing from you in respect of an appropriate meeting time.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Maxwell', written in a cursive style.

RFH Maxwell
Chair, Taranaki Regional Transport Committee

Enclosure: Background paper, 'Regional funding allocation for transport infrastructure' (TRC Document #1087400)

Copies to: Hon Steven Joyce, Minister for Economic Development
Hon Nathan Guy, Minister for Primary Industries
Michael Woodhouse, Associate Minister of Transport
Jonathon Young, MP for New Plymouth
Chester Borrowes, MP for Whanganui
Shane Ardern, MP for Taranaki-King Country
Lawrence Yule, LGNZ President

Regional funding allocation for transport infrastructure

Background paper prepared for Taranaki Regional Council – February 2013

Key message

Regions like Taranaki are facing increasing difficulty in accessing funds for their land transport networks. The current funding model channels a significant proportion of available funds into RoNS and the major metropolitan centres where population and traffic volumes are greatest. While the need to fund roading improvements in the major metropolitan centres is recognised, this should not be at the expense of economically productive regions like Taranaki. Funding of ongoing incremental transport improvements in provincial regions where resources are located is crucial to achieving New Zealand's economic growth and productivity objectives.

Regional (R) Funds were devised as a mechanism to assure regions of some funding for improvement activities. This has been largely successful and the need still exists, as does the facility to collect the funding source. Either a continuation of R Funds, or the putting in place of an alternative regional funding mechanism, is necessary to support regional and national economic growth.

Background

- Currently there are two main types of funds within the National Land Transport Fund:
 - Nationally distributed funds (N Funds) are the main funding stream and are contestable funds distributed throughout the country.
 - Regionally distributed funds (R Funds) is additional revenue collected nationally and allocated to each region on a population basis.
- The 2011/12 year was the eighth year of allocating R Funds in addition to N Funds, under the *National Land Transport Programme*. This followed a Government decision announced in December 2003 to provide an increase in land transport funds for ten years to be distributed on a regional basis according to population.
- The purpose of establishing R Funds was to provide a minimum dedicated spend in each region for transport improvement projects that were important to the region.
- The extra funds resulted from a 5 cent per litre increase in fuel excise duty (FED) and an equivalent increase in road user charges (RUC) for light vehicles. The collection and allocation of R funds was limited to a finite 10-year period (April 2005 to April 2015).
- The original policy for allocating N and R funds was developed by Transfund in 2004. Under this policy, N funds were allocated to the highest priority activities on a national basis, with R funds allocated to those projects which each region determined to have regional priority and which would not have otherwise obtained N Funds to proceed. R funded projects still required to be viable projects consistent with national/regional land transport objectives. This changed during the 2009/10 year however when advice was received that R Funds would now be allocated to the highest priority projects in a region (as determined by the NZTA rather than the region) ahead of any N funds being allocated.

The success of a dedicated regional funding allocation

- R Funds have proved to be a vital funding source for regions such as Taranaki whose transport improvement projects are generally not considered to be of sufficient national priority to compete for N Funds.
- These funds have been critical in ensuring that rural regions such as Taranaki have been able to make progress in removing restrictions to growth within/between their regions through improving their transport networks. Such incremental improvements are vital to both the resilience of the individual regions, as well as to facilitating the movement of primary industry products from the provinces through to national and international markets - thereby achieving the Government's objective of economic growth.
- Some of the larger projects that have progressed on Taranaki state highways through the use of R Funds include the Bell Block Bypass, Rugby Road Underpass and Tangahoe Bridge Widening. Should this funding source not have been available, it is more than likely that these projects would not have occurred or progressed as rapidly due to their relatively low 'national priority'.
- The concept of Regional or 'R' funds has been a sound one because it ensures some of the money collected in the region is spent in the region on worthwhile and economically viable projects that might not otherwise be funded because they are forced to compete with higher profile national projects. This is clearly the case with the projects mentioned above, as well as those discussed below.

Development of the Regional Land Transport Programme 2012-15

- The Council is seriously concerned about the future funding for smaller regions once the R funds current funding comes to an end.
- This issue has been highlighted during the development of the *Regional Land Transport Programme for Taranaki 2012-15*, with much focus being placed on the use of Taranaki's unspent R Funds. In particular, the spotlight fell on how to utilise the remaining R Funds in respect of two key projects within the region, the Normanby Overbridge Realignment Project and the Vickers to City corridor improvements (incorporating the Waiwhakaiho Bridge) project.
- Insufficient R funds to fund both despite the fact that both are crucial to the region and would deliver important economic and road safety benefits to Taranaki and the nation as a whole.
- If the region was assured of an ongoing dedicated regional funding allocation then both these critical improvement projects could be progressed as required. Instead there is much uncertainty and increasing concern as to the future.
- There has been a sense of frustration that the Regional Transport Committee has been placed in a situation where there is simply insufficient funding being made available to fund vitally important projects that not only benefit Taranaki but also the national economy.
- The activities proposed for funding in the RLTP 2012-15 were far from the complete picture of works required in Taranaki. A range of other important projects with positive BCRs that make economic sense to progress were not even put forward by organisations due to the funding signals given by NZTA.

Post R Funds - the future without regional funding allocations

- The provision of adequate funding to regions such as Taranaki is critical and urgently needs to be addressed.
- The Council is seriously concerned that regions such as Taranaki will not be able to access transport infrastructure funding sufficient to release a brake on the region's development.
- Inadequate funding mechanisms mean that much needed and worthwhile projects in Taranaki are not being funded now and are unlikely to be in the foreseeable future once the 'R' funding mechanism expires in 2015.
- Funding constraints, the need for a fair and equitable funding system, and the potential use of additional or alternative funding sources, is a key issue for Taranaki.
- The amount of R Funds available for distribution is the revenue derived from 5 cents per litre FED and the equivalent in light vehicle RUC. Advice from NZTA is that post R-Funds this additional revenue will continue to be collected but will be merged into the contestable N Fund pool, rather than be dedicated to the regions.
- If there is no alternative for this put in place then regional councils should have the ability to fund specific regional projects by other funding mechanisms, such as a regional fuel tax.
- Future funding appears directed at the larger centres. There needs to be some consideration of sustainability of funding in the future for smaller regions. In the recent *Land Transport Management Act Amendment Bill* the Council therefore submitted that an equivalent funding policy be put into place similar to the R funds regime that currently exists or some change to funding allocation mechanisms to allow regions to fund transport projects.
- Regional fuel tax is the only user focused funding tool to enable regions to be more responsible for investing in transport. The intended removal of regional fuel tax signals an unwillingness to address the more substantive issue around revenue collection for and funding of transport. The Council does not support its removal from the Bill on principle, linked to the debate around the limitations of rating and funding of the land transport system generally.
- While the Council has no particular desire at this time to implement a regional fuel tax in the region, with no sign of alternative adequate regional funding provisions being put in place despite ongoing advocacy in this regard, Taranaki is facing little choice in order to progress vital transport infrastructure.
- National funding priorities mean that regionally desired transport outcomes are often not met; and this issue remains of critical concern to the Council. The Council believes there is a need for an explicit provision of other alternative funding mechanisms to address the widening funding gap for land transport in smaller regions.

The economic case in support: example of State Highway 3 north

Recent work undertaken by the New Zealand Institute of Economic Research (NZIER) for Venture Taranaki Trust on State Highway 3 north from New Plymouth to the Waikato has found a strong business case exists for further development of this strategically important route that would yield national economic benefits. However, difficulties in accessing relatively modest funding for even short-term, rapid payback projects is constraining this region's economic development potential and ability to contribute to national economic goals.

The Venture Taranaki report noted that some 57% of Taranaki's economy is export oriented – twice the national level – and the region's industries, particularly its agricultural, oil and gas, manufacturing and specialist heavy engineering, is directly driving wealth creation. Nationally, the oil and gas industry contributes close to \$3 billion to GDP, most of which is captured in Taranaki, more than \$400 million annually in royalties, close to 4,000 direct well paid jobs in Taranaki and almost another 4,000 downstream New Zealand jobs.

Taranaki is fundamental to the Government's strategy to further develop New Zealand's natural resources and attract new oil and gas exploration. However, the Venture Taranaki report highlights a number of constraints on State Highway 3, our only major access to the north, that make it difficult for freight and particularly restrictive for Taranaki's world-class heavy engineering industry. The limitations are more severe for oversized vehicles which more than doubles the cost of moving oversized freight. This affects the oil and gas and heavy engineering sectors in particular.

The NZIER analysis shows that current constraints can be largely alleviated by a series of short term fixes that will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the route, improve its safety performance and increase the resilience of the roading network to closure. The NZIER has costed this work at \$22 million or 5.1% of the \$432 million returned annually to the Government through the Taranaki region's oil and gas royalties. Targeting investment to these projects will release economic benefit almost immediately.

However, as current Government policy stands, State Highway 3 is unlikely to qualify for any significant new spending. While the Council recognises that there is a need to fund road improvements in the major metropolitan centres and to relieve congestion as a result of population, it is strongly of the view that this should not be at the expense of providing the infrastructure needed to develop efficient transport solutions for productive regions such as Taranaki. Some form of continuing regional funding, changes to the Government's funding statements and policies or alternative or additional funding sources (or combinations of all of these) are needed.

Reference: *The Road Ahead: Economic Development Study on State Highway 3 North*, available at <http://www.taranaki.info/business/list.php/page/state-highway-3-north-report>

National support

This issue and concern is not limited to Taranaki. A number of other regions are also greatly concerned and have written to the Council of their support in this regard, including: Gisborne, Hawke's Bay, Manawatu-Wanganui, Northland, Waikato and the West Coast. Some excerpts and examples of enabled works are given below:

- *The Northland Regional Council most certainly supports the concept of having this funding extended beyond April 2015.... I would like to reiterate the support of the NRC in this matter and look forward to working alongside you on this issue.*
- *Waikato...share your concerns about regions ability to attract funding from the NLTP in the absence of R funds beyond 2015.... It is our view that a dedicated regional funding mechanism such as R Funds will be critical to ensure regions can continue to influence national funding outcomes; and to ensure a more balanced investment approach across modes and activities that not only delivers on the Government's economic objectives, but also on other regionally important transport needs.*

The R funds have advanced a number of projects in the Waikato that would not otherwise have gone ahead, including the:

- *East Taupo Arterial (major benefit to Taupo District Council)*
- *Tapapa Curves (improved safety)*
- *Hamilton Ring Road (major benefit to Hamilton City Council)*
- *Awakino Gorge Improvements (of benefit to the Taranaki region also)*

- *The West Coast finds itself in a similar situation... As a result we are very keen to see that some form of R Fund equivalent be made available to regions following April 2015 in order for further improvement, however minor, to continue on the provincial transport network. ... Securing a future funding option is essential to continued network improvements for all of us without Roads of National Significance or major metropolitan areas.*

Projects on the West Coast involving the use of R Funds include seal extensions, retrofits and replacements of bridges, road strengthening and widening. All of these projects have added to the resilience, safety, security and economic efficiency of the transport network for the West Coast region. One standout project enabled by R Funds has been the Franz Josef and Fox Glacier walk/cycle ways. The tracks, the first of their kind in New Zealand, utilised innovative design and construction methods that have resulted in greatly enhancing the visitor experience and heralded a new approach to accessing areas of the country's national parks. The project won the MWH Consulting Award for Best Cycle Facility Project in the 2012 Cycle Advocate Network Awards earlier in 2012. This project would not have progressed without the commitment of R Funds and the support of the Regional Transport Committee.

- *\$9.0M in R funds have allowed the Gisborne District Council to encourage and facilitate economic development opportunities in the region by creating capacity for high productivity motor vehicles (HPMV) along the following routes:*
 - *From Tolaga Bay to Gisborne Port.*
 - *The Western Industrial Area to Port Gisborne -the major component of this project is Gladstone Road bridge*

The use of R funds was specifically targeted towards the forestry industry so the wall of wood could be delivered to the Port in a more cost effective manner.

- *Some of the most significant projects enabled in the Manawatu-Wanganui region through R Funds include:*

- *Ohingaiti Makohine realignment (\$15M) – realignment of 3.6km of SH1 south of Taihape, including construction of a rail overpass to remove a level crossing with a high number of serious injury and fatal crashes*
- *Foxton South Curves (\$4M) – curve improvements and seal widening over a 2.7km stretch of SH1 south of Foxton (linking to future RoNS)*
- *Papatawa realignment (\$12.9M) – Major realignment and seal widening of SH2 between Woodville and Dannevirke, including construction of a rail overpass and passing opportunities, on high crash route.*
- *Napier-Taihape Road seal extension (\$10M) – seal extension of strategic alternate route between the Hawkes Bay and central North Island. This route played a major role in the 2004 flood event when the Manawatu Gorge and other east/west alternate routes were unavailable.*

Future projects:

- *Manawatu Gorge alternate route upgrades – the closure of the Manawatu Gorge for 14 months over 2011 and 2012 highlighted the importance of maintaining a viable east/west connector route.*
- *Whakaruatapu realignment (\$7M) – bridge replacement and realignment on SH2 north of Dannevirke on high crash route.*
- *Manawatu Hill realignment (\$11M) – improve alignment, replace existing bridge and construction of passing lanes on SH2 north of Norsewood on high crash route.*

It is important to note that many of these projects have (or will) occur on nationally strategic highways (SH1 & 2, as classified by NZTA) or regionally strategic (SH3) and without them, there would be major deficiencies in the national network.

- *The Hawke's Bay Regional Council supports your approach to raise this as a significant concern, recognising it will be in a similar situation to Taranaki once the R fund scheme expires. Council is aware of the difficulty it will face to ensure there is funding directed at smaller regions for transport projects. We are very happy to join with Taranaki to progress this matter, thank you for leading this initiative.*

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee
 Prepared by: Jackie Adams - Consents & Compliance Manager
 Date: 27 March 2013

Subject: CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT**Consents Site Visits 28 February – 26 March 2013**

Date	Name, Activity & Location	Purpose
4/03/13	Mahitahi Roopu Meeting, Fox Glacier	A joint meeting for and between Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio, the Department of Conservation the West Coast Regional Council and the Westland District Council.
25/03/13	RC13042 - Oceana Gold (New Zealand) Ltd, Gold mining, Blackwater	To gain a better understanding of the proposed gold mining operation.

Non-Notified Resource Consents Granted 28 February – 26 March 2013

Consent no. & Holder	Purpose of consent
RC12095 Pearson Contracting Ltd	To disturb the Coastal Marine Area for the purpose of sand removal at North Beach, Westport.
RC12102 GP Contracting Ltd	To disturb the Coastal Marine Area for the purpose of sand removal at North Beach, Westport.
RC12158 West Coast Regional Council	To construct a stopbank which may impact a Schedule 1 wetland (KAMP003 Kongahu South), Kongahu Swamp. To divert flood water, Kongahu Swamp.
RC12160 Westroads Greymouth Ltd	To disturb the Coastal Marine Area for the purpose of gravel removal from the Blaketown tip head to Merrick Street, Greymouth. To disturb the Coastal Marine Area for the purpose of gravel removal from Merrick Street to the Aerodrome, Greymouth. To disturb the Coastal Marine Area for the purpose of gravel removal from the Allied concrete plant to Jacks Road, Greymouth. To disturb the Coastal Marine Area for the purpose of gravel removal from Jacks Road to South Beach, Paroa, Greymouth.
RC12231 WP McCormack	To take and use surface water from Deadmans Creek for hydro electricity generation, Rochfort Terrace. To divert water from Deadmans Creek for hydro electricity generation, Rochfort Terrace. To discharge water containing contaminants to water from hydro electricity generation, Rochfort Terrace.
RC12236 Mill Creek Mining Ltd	To undertake earthworks associated with alluvial gold mining at Greenstone.

Consent no. & Holder	Purpose of consent
RC12239 WJ & MJ Gault	<p>To take and use groundwater via seepage into a pond at Greenstone for use in an alluvial gold mining operation.</p> <p>To take and use surface water from the Big Hohonu River for use in an alluvial gold mining operation.</p> <p>To discharge sediment-laden water to land in circumstances where it may enter groundwater and surface water (the Big Hohonu River).</p>
RC13007 Riverlands Farm Little Wanganui Ltd	To disturb the bed of an unnamed tributary of the Orangipuku River associated with the construction of a weir.
RC13010 Solid Energy New Zealand Ltd	<p>To divert flow of an unnamed tributary of the Orangipuku River.</p> <p>To discharge dairy effluent to land where it may enter water and groundwater (Little Wanganui River) near DS827, Little Wanganui.</p> <p>To undertake earthworks and vegetation clearance both within and outside riparian margins, tributary of Anderson's Creek.</p>
RC13022 KiwiRail Holdings Ltd	<p>To disturb the bed of a tributary of Anderson's Creek to undertake diversion works.</p> <p>To divert water, tributary of Anderson's Creek.</p> <p>To dam/impound water, Reddale Mine Pit.</p> <p>To disturb the bed of an unnamed creek for the purpose of replacing Rail Bridge 127, Fairdown.</p> <p>To disturb the riparian margins of an unnamed creek for the purpose of replacing Rail Bridge 127, Fairdown.</p> <p>To divert water for the purpose of replacing Rail Bridge 127, Fairdown.</p> <p>The incidental discharge of sediment to an unnamed creek for the purpose of replacing Rail Bridge 127, Fairdown.</p>
RC13027 Paul Steegh Contracting Ltd	To undertake earthworks, including on slopes greater than 25 degrees, associated with track construction, Inangahua Junction.
RC13035 Camelback Farm Ltd	To disturb the bed of the Hokitika River associated with the construction of river protection.
RC13037 Moir Farms Maimai Ltd	To discharge dairy effluent from a milking shed to land and groundwater near DS518, Mawheraiti.
RC13039 Westroads Greymouth Ltd	<p>To disturb the following waterbodies for the purpose of gravel extraction:</p> <p>Canoe Creek, Granite Creek (near Barrytown), Grey River (at St Kilda, Kiwi Point, Taylorville & Omoto), Haupiri River, Crooked River at two locations, New River, Taramakau River (downstream of the William Stewart Bridge & downstream of the SH6 road/road bridge), Hokitika River (upstream of the SH6 bridge outside of the CMA to Arthurstown inclusive, & at Kanlere), Kokatahi River, Donnelly Creek (Ross), Kakapotahi River, Wanganui River, Poerua River, Whataroa River,</p>

Consent no. & Holder	Purpose of consent
RC13044 N Mouat	Waitangitaona River, Waiho River, Docherty Creek (south of Franz Josef), Cook River, Bullock Creek (south of Fox Glacier), Karangarua River, Haast River, Turnbull River, Arawhata River and Jackson River. To disturb the bed of the Punakaiki River on the true right bank approximately 50 metres upstream from the State Highway 6 bridge for the purpose of extracting gravel. To disturb the bed of the Punakaiki River on the true left bank approximately 50 metres upstream from the State Highway 6 bridge for the purpose of extracting gravel. To disturb the bed of the Punakaiki River approximately 1200 metres upstream from the State Highway 6 bridge for the purpose of extracting gravel.
RC13046 Department of Conservation	To disturb the bed of the Oparara River in order to relocate rock and gravel for flood protection purposes.
RC13049 West Contractors Ltd	To disturb the dry bed of Coal Creek, Seddonville for the purpose of extracting gravel.
RC13051 Longview Farm Ltd	To take and use surface water from Callaghan's Creek for irrigation purposes.

Changes to Consent Conditions granted 28 February – 26 March 2013

CONSENT NO, HOLDER & LOCATION	PURPOSE OF CHANGE
RC07068[v1] Animal Health Board Inc Hokitika/Kowhitirangi Operational Area	To increase the area of the aerial 1080 operation and to amend the newspapers in which the notification is placed.
RC07085[v2] Animal Health Board Inc Kokatahi Operational Area	To decrease the area of the aerial 1080 operation.
RC09028[v3] and RC10225[v1] Solid Energy New Zealand Ltd Millerton Mining Block, Stockton	To change the monitoring location site.
RC10217[v4] Solid Energy New Zealand Ltd Reddale Mine, Reefton	To extend the consented area to incorporate a new overburden stockpile, spot coal recovery and extend the mine pit.
RC10256[v2] Solid Energy New Zealand Ltd McCabes Mining Block, Stockton	To amend the monitoring conditions for Total Suspended Solids (TSS).
RC11057[v1] Little Paddock (2010) Ltd Blue Spur	To increase the maximum disturbed area associated with a gold mining operation, and a subsequent increase in the bond amount.
WS955[v1] BJ McInroe & DA Waghorn Taramakau River	To allow a change of design of whitebait structure.

Limited Notified or Notified Resource Consents 28 February – 26 March 2013

Consent no., Holder & Location	Purpose of Change
RC13025 "Roundhill Farms"	To disturb the riparian margins of Brown Creek for the purpose of constructing a bridge.
	To disturb the riparian margins of Brown and Rough Creeks while constructing a bridge, undertaking gravel extraction and constructing rock protection.

Notified Consents Update

On 27th March 2013 the Environment Court released its Interim Decision with regard to the Escarpment Mine Consent (Buller Coal Ltd). The court has indicated that the consent will be granted but with amendments to the current consent application. All parties have until the 16th April to reply to the court in relation to this Decision.

Public Enquiries

24 written public enquiries were responded to during the reporting period. 23 were answered on the same day, 1 the following day. 2 LGOIMA requests were responded to, all within the required timeframe.

RECOMMENDATION

That the April 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: 26 March 2013
 Subject: **COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT**

Site Visits

A total of 70 site visits were undertaken during the reporting period, which consisted of:

Activity	Number of Visits
Resource consent monitoring	2
Dairy shed inspections	60
Mining compliance & bond release	8

These totals include 2 visits in response to complaints. Out of the 70 site visits for the reporting period, 57 were compliant and 13 were non compliant. Seven infringement notices and one abatement notice have been issued in relation to these visits.

Specific Issues

Dairy farms: A total of 60 dairy farms were inspected throughout the region. Four farms were graded as minor non-compliant due to lack of pond maintenance. Four farms were graded significantly non-compliant due to un-consented discharges to ground and also a lack of effluent storage.

Alluvial Gold Mining: An alluvial gold mining operation was issued with four infringement notices. Two notices were for the breach of an abatement notice and two were for the discharge of sediment in breach of consent conditions.

Complaints/Incidents between 27 February 2013 & 26 March 2013

The following 14 complaints/incidents were received during the reporting period:

Activity	Description	Location	Action/Outcome
Discharge to land	Complaint regarding burying of materials.	Greymouth	Enquiries are on going.
Storm water complaint	Complaint received about a drain being filled in which may affect a neighbouring property.	Kumara	Enquiries are ongoing.
Discharge to air	Complaint that someone regularly burns rubbish causing a nuisance to a neighbour.	Kaiata	Complaint unsubstantiated after making enquiries.
Stock access to water	Complaint regarding cows accessing a river in the Brunner catchment.	Brunner	Site visit was undertaken and the complaint was unsubstantiated.
Creek diversion	Complaint regarding the diversion of a creek.	Ikamatua	Enquiries established that the property owner was in the process of diverting a creek with out resource consent. Enforcement action was undertaken.

Activity	Description	Location	Action/Outcome
Gold Mining	Complaint about a gold miner undertaking an unauthorised creek diversion.	Kaniere	Site inspection carried out. There were no issues at the time of the inspection.
Gold Mining	Complaint that a black sand miner was using mechanical equipment on the beach.	Westport	Enquiries are on going
Discharge to water	Complaint received that a stream was discoloured.	Granity	Site visited, enquiries are ongoing.
Discharge to air	Complaint received that aerial spraying has killed a Kahikatea Tree.	Stillwater	Enquiries are on going.
Earthworks	Complaint regarding earthworks undertaken within the Coastal Marine Area (CMA).	Charleston	Site visited and established that the activity was outside of the CMA and was compliant with the relevant rule.
Discharge to water	Complaint regarding a creek discoloured with sediment.	Marsden	The area was visited but staff were unable to find the source of the discharge.
Gold Mining	Complaint regarding the discharge from a mine site.	Mikonui	Site visited and the operation was compliant at the time of the inspection.
Discharge to water	Complaint that there was a white discharge to the river.	Hokitika	Site visit undertaken. Complaint unsubstantiated.
Stock access to water	Complaint that stock have access to a water way.	Stafford	Enquiries are on going.

Formal Enforcement Action

The following seven infringement notices were issued during the reporting period:

Activity	Location
Unauthorised discharge of sediment to water (2)	Notown
Breach of an Abatement Notice (2)	Notown
Unauthorised works in the bed of a water body	Ikamatua
Unauthorised diversion of water	Ikamatua
Discharge to Air	Dobson

One abatement notice was served during the reporting period:

Activity	Location
Unauthorised Creek diversion	Ikamatua

MINING

Work Programmes

The Council received the following three work programmes during the last reporting period. All three programmes were processed in the 20 day timeframe.

Date	Mining Authorisation	Holder	Location
5/03/13	RC04161	Hard Rock Mining Ltd	Greenstone
7/03/13	RC96051	Birchfields Coal Mines Ltd	Reefton
25/03/13	RC05085	Greid Mining Ltd	Awatuna

The following bonds were received during the reporting period:

Mining Authorisation	Holder	Location	Amount
RC10056	Rockies Mining Ltd	Granity	\$33,000
RC10009	Barrett	Marsden	\$20,000
RC10061	Iron River Company	Cameron's	\$6,000
RC03094	Red Rock Holdings Ltd	Westport	\$5000

The following bond is recommended for release as a replacement bond has been lodged under Humphreys Mining Ltd

Mining Authorisation	Holder	Location	Amount
RC09084	Peter Morrison	Arahura	\$20,000

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the April 2013 report of the Compliance Group be received.*
- 2. That Council release the bond held for RC09084 (Peter Morrison)*

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, 9th April 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 – 3	3.1 Minutes of Council Meeting 12 March 2013
4.		REPORTS
	4 – 5	4.1 Planning & Environmental Manager's Report on Engineering Operations
	6 – 8	4.2 Corporate Services Manager's Report
	9	4.2.1 Adoption of Annual Plan 2013 / 14 for Public Consultation
	10 – 16	4.2.2 Eight Month Review 1 July 2012 – 28 February 2013
5.		CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
6.	17	CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT
7.		GENERAL BUSINESS

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 12 MARCH 2013,
AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH,
COMMENCING AT 12.03 P.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. C. Ingle asked the Chairman if he would like him to make a response to the MfE representatives following on from their presentation this morning. It was agreed that Council's submission on the new discussion document would be drafted and then circulated to councillors prior to submitting it.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved (Birchfield / Cummings) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 12 February 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 and advised that a small amount of flood repair work has been completed in the Wanganui rating district. He advised that tenders were received for work in the Vine Creek and Taramakau rating districts with Westland Contractors Ltd being the successful tenderer for both of these contracts. M. Meehan reported that rock supply totals are back to full in the Whataroa quarry. He advised that work has gone well in the quarries recently but the rock in the Whataroa quarry may be used for future works at Franz Josef.

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

Carried

4.2 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT

R. Mallinson spoke to this report and advised that this report is for the seven months to the end of January. He advised that the surplus was \$953,000 which was helped by a very good performance from the

investment portfolio over this period. R. Mallinson reported that 65 loans have now been made to ratepayers under the Warm West Coast scheme. Cr Scarlett asked if this scheme was financially neutral to council, R. Mallinson confirmed this.

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

Carried

Cr Archer asked how long Council has been with Westpac. R. Mallinson responded that the start date was the 30th of September. Cr Archer stated that he thought Council was going to be getting three month reports from Westpac. R. Mallinson advised that he will follow up on this.

5.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

C. Ingle provided a verbal report and advised that a drought meeting will be held here on Friday. He advised that this meeting is an initiative led by Federated Farmers. C. Ingle advised that local representatives from Federated Farmers, MAF and the Ministry for Primary Industries will be in attendance and it is up to these people to decide if the region is severe enough to be declared officially as a drought region. C. Ingle advised that M. Meehan and his team will provide the technical decision making in terms of rainfall data and low river levels. C. Ingle advised that the local Federated Farmers members have invited Councillors to attend, particularly those Councillors with farming interests.

C. Ingle reported that the Animal Health Board has advised that they are merging with the NAIT organisation. He advised that he has read through the information on the merger and advised that regional councils collectively still have a position on the shareholder council and will carry on in the new organisation. C. Ingle advised that the Hawkes Bay Chairman is our representative on this Board at the moment. C. Ingle stated that the new organisation may see itself as having a broader scope that just managing Tb. He advised that he would be keeping an eye on this.

C. Ingle advised that there is an important transport meeting on this Thursday at 11.30 am at the Kingsgate Hotel to discuss the South Island Freight Plan and a review of the Financial Assistance Rates (FAR) which will have financial implications. C. Ingle advised that he would be attending this meeting and he invited Cr Chinn to also attend this meeting.

C. Ingle advised that a Civil Defence Group Controllers forum will be hosted here tomorrow with district council controllers also attending. C. Ingle advised that a civil defence controller from the Nelson / Tasman group would be in attendance to share their recent experiences during flood events. C. Ingle reported that he was advised this morning that the Ministry of Civil Defence officials have now signed off on our claim for the flood event of 2010. C. Ingle advised that the Minister himself still has to sign off on this but the officials involved have given the claim the green light.

C. Ingle reported that he attended the Regional Chief Executives meeting on the 27th of February. He advised that the water issue that has been on the agenda for the past two years is now taking a back seat to the housing issue.

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

Carried

6.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT (VERBAL)

Cr Scarlett reported that he attended the Regional Sector Group meeting which was held recently in Wellington. He stated that it is action year for the Government and that next year is quite a long way off in terms of voting. Cr Scarlett stated that the big one is the proposed changes to the RMA. Cr Scarlett advised that the other matter that the Government is keen to progress is affordable housing. He advised that land is pretty free throughout the provincial councils but in Auckland it is a lot different. Cr Scarlett stated that Mayor Brown in Auckland is keen to build up and not out, as the costs associated with infrastructure are huge.

Cr Scarlett stated that Murray Sherwin who is heading the Productivity Report also spoke at the Regional Sector Group meeting and advised that Government Ministers are "grumpy" about the productivity report. Cr Scarlett stated that Mr Sherwin advised that councils are doing pretty well but central government is not doing so well and is not listening. Cr Scarlett advised that Audit NZ also spoke at the meeting and advised that most councils are doing well with rate increases on average 5% over the last ten years.

Cr Scarlett reported that he attended the Zone 5 and 6 meeting in Dunedin and advised that Mr Alexander, CEO of Local Government NZ spoke at this meeting. Mr Alexander is looking at the Queensland association model where councils can go in and look at one council to get the information they are seeking. This

requires less consultants and costs a lot less. Cr Scarlett advised the Minister Bill English also spoke at this meeting and advised that Auckland is where it all happens and what Auckland decides has huge impact on the rest of the country. Cr Scarlett stated that the costs benefit ratio of earthquake strengthening was discussed at the meeting. He stated that in the last 150 years 200 people have been killed in earthquakes but the amount of people who die of medical conditions is far higher. It was felt that the cost benefit of upgrading of buildings to earthquake proof them is marginal. Cr Scarlett added that in terms of building material costs, New Zealand has the highest costs in the world.

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

Carried

7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 12.24 p.m.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting 9 April 2013
Prepared by: W. Moen – River Engineer and Paulette Birchfield – Engineering Officer
Date: 25 March 2013
Subject: **ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT**

RIVER AND DRAINAGE INSPECTIONS

- Franz Josef RD – Inspection
- Otira River – NZ Rail - Inspection
- Taramakau RD – Inspection
- Vine Creek – Inspection
- Wanganui RD – Inspection
- Whataroa RD - Inspection

WORKS COMPLETED AND WORKS TENDERED FOR

Recently completed Taramakau Rating District 3rd Rock Retard – 24 March 2013

Franz Josef Rating District – Flood Damage

Council received four tenders for work involving approximately 3,000 tonnes of rock and 800 m³ of compacted hardfill. The successful tenderer was Westland Contractors Ltd at a price of \$67,332 (G.S.T. Exclusive)

FUTURE WORKS

- Inchbonnie Rating District
- Karamea Rating District
- Redjacks Creek Rating District

Approximate rock in quarry as at 22 March 2013 (in tonnes)

Quarry	Rock Available	Emergency Stockpile
Blackball	2,300	
Camelback	6,500	2,000
Inchbonnie	3,000	
Kiwi	2,500	-
Whataroa	6,500	2,000
Okuru	1,500	-

RECOMMENDATION

That the report is received

Michael Meehan
Planning and Environment Manager

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting
 Prepared by: Robert Mallinson – Corporate Services Manager
 Date: 2 April 2013

1. Financial Report

FOR THE EIGHT MONTHS ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2013	ACTUAL	YEAR TO DATE BUDGET	ACTUAL % ANNUAL BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET
REVENUES				
General Rates	1,353,337	1,346,667	67%	2,020,000
Rates Penalties	43,407	46,667	62%	70,000
Investment Income	1,064,854	643,000	110%	964,500
Resource Management	722,155	737,567	67%	1,073,500
Regional Land Transport	37,714	58,333	43%	87,500
Emergency Management	48,440	48,000	67%	72,000
River, Drainage, Coastal Protection	1,020,963	836,707	81%	1,255,061
Regional % Share Controls	435,084	433,333	67%	650,000
VCS Business Unit	2,635,652	1,330,167	132%	1,995,250
	7,361,606	5,480,441	90%	8,187,811
EXPENDITURE				
Governance	235,140	255,674	61%	383,511
Resource Management	1,848,825	1,783,263	69%	2,674,895
Regional land Transport	80,681	100,569	53%	150,854
Hydrology & Floodwarning Services	287,733	265,883	72%	398,825
Emergency Management	95,006	89,457	71%	134,185
River, Drainage, Coastal Protection	970,512	841,443	77%	1,262,165
Regional % Share Controls	553,287	591,429	62%	887,144
VCS Business Unit	2,189,827	996,833	146%	1,495,250
Roofing contract	35,520	0	0%	0
Portfolio Management	30,988	40,000	52%	60,000
	6,327,519	4,964,553	85%	7,446,829
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	1,034,087	515,888		740,982

BREAKDOWN OF SURPLUS (-DEFICIT)	Variance Actual V Budgeted YTD	ACTUAL	BUDGET Year to date	ANNUAL BUDGET
Rating Districts	93,524	251,815	158,291	237,436
Quarries	-43,110	-44,222	-1,112	-1,668
Regional % Share of AHB Programmes	39,893	-118,203	-158,096	-237,144
Investment Income	430,866	1,033,866	603,000	904,500
VCS Business Unit	112,492	445,825	333,333	500,000
General Rates Funded Activities	-79,946	-499,474	-419,528	-662,142
Other	-35,520	-35,520	0	0
TOTAL	518,199	1,034,087	515,888	740,982

Net Contributors to General Rates Funded Surplus (-Deficit)	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budet ytd</u>	<u>Annual Plan</u>
<u>Net Variance</u>			
<u>Actual V YTD</u>			
Rates	6,670	1,353,337	2,020,000
Rates Penalties	-3,260	43,407	70,000
Representation	20,534	-235,140	-383,511
Resource Management	-80,973	-1,126,670	-1,601,395
Planning Activities	-731	-42,967	-63,354
River, Drainage, Coastal Protection	4,773	-157,142	-242,872
Hydrology & Floodwarning	-21,850	-287,733	-398,825
Emergency Management	-5,109	-46,566	-62,185
	-79,946	-499,474	-662,142

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION @ 28 FEBRUARY 2013

	@ 28/02/2013	@ 30/06/2012
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
Cash	272,676	71,191
Deposit - Westpac	0	0
Accounts Receivable - Rates	-352,701	284,961
Accounts Receivable - General Debtors	276,105	1,178,808
Prepayments	127,499	94,431
Sundry Receivables	322,687	146,660
GST Refund due	0	0
Stock - VCS	31,459	592,585
Stock - Rock	555,138	436,302
Stock - Office Supplies	14,740	14,740
Accrued Rates Revenue	618,502	0
Unbilled Revenue	429,356	264,683
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,295,461	3,084,361
<u>Non Current Assets</u>		
Investments	11,328,870	11,624,353
Term Deposit - PRCC bond	50,000	50,000
MED & DOC Bonds	31,651	31,651
Investments-Catastrophe Fund	622,434	569,713
Warm West Coast Loans	115,095	0
Fixed Assets	4,613,132	4,452,535
Infrastructural Assets	49,180,358	49,180,358
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	65,941,540	65,908,610
TOTAL ASSETS		
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	68,237,001	68,992,971
<hr/>		
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
Bank Short Term Loan	500,000	857,000
Accounts Payable	339,125	951,396
GST	13,487	0
Deposits and Bonds	499,814	460,645
Sundry Payables	336,044	545,161
Accrued Annual Leave, Payroll	305,636	324,032
Other Revenue in Advance	0	495,790
Rates Revenue in Advance	0	53,627
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,994,106	3,687,651
<u>NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
Future Quarry restoration	70,000	70,000
Greymouth Floodwall	1,958,700	1,993,267
Inchbonnie	53,003	64,423
Punakaiki Loan	137,914	167,654
Office Equipment Leases	886	21,669
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,220,503	2,317,013
TOTAL LIABILITIES		
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4,214,609	6,004,664
<u>EQUITY</u>		
Ratepayers Equity	19,030,749	19,004,722
Surplus transferred	1,034,087	
Rating Districts Equity	1,237,104	1,263,132
Tb Special Rate Balance	39,344	39,344
Revaluation	32,295,638	32,295,638
Quarry Account	338,758	338,758
Catastrophe Fund	569,713	569,713
Investment Growth Reserve	9,477,000	9,477,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL EQUITY	64,022,393	62,988,307
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	68,237,001	68,992,971

2. Investment Portfolio

Westpac Investment Funds

	Catastrophe Fund (Conservative Portfolio)	General fund (Moderate Portfolio)	Major Portfolio	TOTAL
opening balance 1 July 2012	\$ 569,711	\$ 884,100	\$ 10,740,252	\$ 12,194,064
income/-loss				
July 12			\$ 176,223	\$ 176,223
Aug 12			\$ 159,636	\$ 159,636
Sep 12	\$ 25,114	\$ 37,755	\$ 139,092	\$ 201,961
Oct 12	\$ 6,717	\$ 6,939	\$ 66,069	\$ 79,725
Nov 12	\$ 4,214	\$ 4,534	\$ 80,057	\$ 88,805
Dec 12	\$ 3,589	\$ 4,111	\$ 85,503	\$ 93,203
Jan 13	\$ 8,413	\$ 10,667	\$ 158,219	\$ 177,299
Feb 13	\$ 4,675	\$ 11	\$ 78,608	\$ 83,272
Mar 13				\$ -
Apr 13				\$ -
May 13				\$ -
Jun 13				\$ -
total income	\$ 52,722	\$ 63,995	\$ 943,407	\$ 1,060,124
Withdrawals	\$ -	-\$ 906,261 for working capital requirements	-\$ 400,000 as per LTP 12/13	-\$ 1,306,261
	\$ 622,434	\$ 41,834	\$ 11,283,659	\$ 11,947,927
			Conservative	\$ 52,722
			Moderate	\$ 63,995
			Major portfolio	\$ 943,407
				\$ 1,060,124

The moderate portfolio was in the process of being liquidated for working capital purposes as at 28/2/2013.

3. General Comment

The surplus for the eight months to 28 February 2013 was \$1,034,000 compared to the budgeted \$515,000.

The Investment Portfolios continue to perform, with returns amounting to \$1,060,000 for the period.

4. Warm west Coast Scheme

As at 31/3/2013 total funding of \$321,510 including GST has been allocated to 75 ratepayers as part of the Warm West Coast Voluntary Rate Loan Scheme. Locations of the loans are shown below:

Reefton	10
Westport	4
Hokitika	6
Greymouth	49
Other	6
Total	75

The cost to Council excluding GST for these 75 loans will be \$279,574 when the loans are fully paid out

To fund these Warm West Coast loans I have arranged 5 year fixed rate 4.80% funding from Westpac of \$400,000 to draw down on 28 June 2013.

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: 2 April 2013

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF ANNUAL PLAN 2013/14 FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Councillors attended a workshop on 26 March 2013 with regard to the 2013/14 Draft Annual Plan and budgets.

Matters raised at the workshop included testing the proposed levels of Council chargeable hourly rates against Council's own cost structure, as well as benchmarking these chargeable hourly rates against local and other similar Councils. This was done and confirmed the appropriateness of the proposed chargeable rates for WCRC.

The actual draft Annual Plan 2013/14 document will be circulated to Councillors later in the week ending 5/4/2013.

Some issues are being experienced with being able to download the valuation data from QV into our rating database. We are working with our software provider Civica to overcome this issue.

For this reason the pages regarding the actual rating factors will be left blank. These pages will be circulated to Councillors and included in the Annual Plan once we have been able to download this valuation data and check its accuracy. It is expected that this should occur no later than Friday 12/4/2013.

As soon as we have confirmed the rating factors, we can then advertise the Draft Annual Plan 2013/14 as being available for public consultation.

A Summary of the Draft Annual Plan will be published in the West Coast Messenger on 24 April 2013.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the 2013/14 Draft Annual Plan be approved for release to public consultation pursuant to sections 83 and 95 of the Local Government Act 2002, subject to the finalisation of the rating factors by the Corporate Services Manager.*
- 2. That the 2013/14 Draft Annual Plan be publicly notified no later than 20/4/2013.*
- 3. That the public consultation period will run for one month from the date publicly notified.*
- 4. That public hearings be held at 10.30 am on Tuesday 28 May 2013.*
- 5. That following the consideration of public submissions, Council will finally confirm the 2013/14 Annual plan at its meeting on 11 June 2013.*

Robert Mallinson
Corporate Services Manager

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting – 9 April 2013
Prepared by: Robert Mallinson – Corporate Services Manager
Date: 1 April 2013

Subject: **EIGHT MONTH REVIEW: 1 JULY 2012 – 28 FEBRUARY 2013**

Attached is the Eight Month Review showing progress for the first eight months of this financial year.

This report shows achievements as measured against the performance targets in the 2012 / 2022 Long Term Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received.

Robert Mallinson
Corporate Services Manager

Democracy Performance Targets (CS)	Achieved / Progress																								
<p>Conduct eleven monthly meetings of Council and the Resource Management Committee, plus other scheduled meetings and scheduled workshops during the year with at least 80% attendance by all Councillors.</p>	<p>Achieved.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="391 398 639 1041"> <thead> <tr> <th>Councillor</th> <th>Number attended</th> <th>%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Scarlett</td> <td>6 out of 7</td> <td>86 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chinn</td> <td>7 out of 7</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Davidson</td> <td>7 out of 7</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Robb</td> <td>7 out of 7</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Birchfield</td> <td>7 out of 7</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Archer</td> <td>7 out of 7</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cummings</td> <td>7 out of 7</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Seven Council meetings occurred in the reporting period.</p>	Councillor	Number attended	%	Scarlett	6 out of 7	86 %	Chinn	7 out of 7	100%	Davidson	7 out of 7	100%	Robb	7 out of 7	100%	Birchfield	7 out of 7	100%	Archer	7 out of 7	100%	Cummings	7 out of 7	100%
Councillor	Number attended	%																							
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Archer	7 out of 7	100%																							
Cummings	7 out of 7	100%																							
<p>Prepare and notify the Council's Annual Plan or LTP Statement of Proposal by 31 May each year, and the Annual Report by 31 October, in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Local Government Act 2002.</p>	<p>Achieved.</p> <p>The Annual report for 2012 was adopted by Council at the October 2012 Council meeting.</p> <p>The Annual Plan process for 2013/14 is on track for notification before 31 May 2013.</p>																								
<p>Publish an informative Council newsletter twice a year to be circulated to all ratepayers, with their rate demand, in March and September and ensure required information is posted on the Council website when Council invites submissions on a new or revised policy document.</p>	<p>Achieved.</p> <p>Newsletters accompanied the rates instalment in September 2012 and March 2013.</p>																								
<p>Continue to invite attendance of Makaawhio and Ngati Waewae representatives as appointees to the Council's resource management committee, to enable Maori participation in resource management decision-making.</p>	<p>Achieved.</p> <p>Council continues to invite attendance from both Runanga.</p>																								

Resource Management Performance Targets (C&C)	Achieved / Progress
<p>All significant consented discharges¹ are monitored at least annually, and all dairy sheds at least every second year depending on each individual compliance record. All non-compliances publicly reported to the Resource Management Committee and responded to using Council's Enforcement Policy.</p>	<p>In Progress</p> <p>For this period 119 mining inspection visits occurred for a total of 74 mine sites in the region. In total 239 dairy farm sheds have been inspected of a total of 386 dairy farms. All District Council landfills and sewage schemes have been monitored. Appropriate enforcement action has been carried out when necessary in accordance with the Councils Enforcement Policy.</p>
<p>Operate a 24-hour environmental complaints service, assessing and responding to all genuine complaints within 24 hours where necessary. All non-compliances publicly reported to the Resource Management Committee and responded to using Council's Enforcement Policy.</p>	<p>Achieved.</p> <p>A 24 hour environmental complaints service has been provided. Council staff have responded to 131 Complaints during this Period. All non compliance has been publicly reported to the Resource Management Committee and responded to using the Councils Enforcement Policy.</p>
<p>Process all resource consent applications without incurring any cost to Council due to the RMA discounting regulations; and process at least 95% of mining work programmes² within 20 working days of receipt.</p>	<p>Achieved.</p> <p>Council has not incurred any costs due to RMA discounting regulations and 100% of mining work programs have been processed within 20 working days of receipt.</p>
<p>Respond within 4 hours to all spills, using Council or MNZ spill equipment to contain spills; plus ensure at least 25 staff are trained responders.</p>	<p>Achieved.</p> <p>Council currently has 26 staff trained as responders.</p>

¹ Significant Consented Discharge includes: any consented discharge from a municipal sewage scheme or landfill, any consented discharge from a working mine site, any consented discharge of dairy effluent to water, and any large scale industrial discharge (WMP, Kokiri).

² This target assumes the work programme is submitted with all necessary information provided.

Resource Management Performance Targets (P&E)	Achieved / Progress
<p>A comprehensive environmental farm plan is completed for each participant farmer, within the Lake Haupiri and Lake Brunner catchments.</p>	<p>In progress. The Lake Haupiri Farm Plan is completed. Farm planning work in the Lake Brunner catchment has commenced with all farms interested in completing a plan. Council has successfully obtained Ministry for the Environment funding from their Freshwater Clean Up Fund to provide for projects associated with Freshwater.</p>
<p>Complete current regional plans to operative stage, and ensure compliance with statutory requirements for the review of Council's plans and strategies to maintain their community acceptability</p>	<p>Achieved. The Land and Riverbed Plan and the Water Management Plan have been made operative. The Land and Water Plan has one appeal remaining which is currently before the Environment Court.</p>
<p>Submit on all central or local government discussion documents, draft strategies, policies or Bills that may impact on West Coast interests, within required timeframes.</p>	<p>Achieved. Council has made submissions to the Local Government law reform process, the Productivity Commission, RMA reforms, and the Marine Transport law reform process, including presenting to two select committees.</p>

Hydrology and Flood Warning Performance Targets (P&E)	Achieved / Progress
Provide a continuous flood monitoring service for the five rivers monitored and respond in accordance with the flood-warning manual, ensuring real time data on river levels is available on the Council website (updated 12 hourly; or 3 hourly during floods).	Achieved. Flood monitoring service provided noting floods in all the major rivers during the reporting period.
Assess the practicalities of installing a new flood warning system on the Mokihinui River, by July 2013, to warn those that live in Seddonville of impending river floods.	In progress. Site visit has been undertaken and communications (radio) service assessed.

Regional Transport Activities Performance Target (CEO)	Achieved / Progress
Compliance with statutory requirements for the preparation, review and implementation of the Regional Transport Strategy and Programme acceptable to our West Coast community.	Achieved. The Strategy review was completed in 2011. The Programme review was completed early in 2012.
Implement the total mobility programme where taxi services exist, ensuring at least 90% of users rate the overall service and value for money as good, very good or excellent.	Achieved. In the last survey all users rated the overall service as good, very good or excellent.

Civil Defence Performance Targets (CEO)	Achieved / Progress
Ensure at least 30 Council staff are trained as Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) personnel so that we have three shifts of EOC staff trained and exercised in case of a regional emergency.	Achieved. Currently over 30 Council staff trained to operate the EOC.

Quarry Management Performance Targets (P&E)	Achieved / Progress
<p>Deliver on requests for rock within two weeks, and ensure sufficient stockpiled rock is available where practical, with priority given to Council rating district customers</p>	<p>Achieved. Rock has been provided within two weeks for all requests.</p>
<p>Visit each active quarry site at least twice a year, when contractors are working the quarry (where possible), to ensure Health and Safety standards and other permit requirements are being adhered to.</p>	<p>In progress. Quarries are being visited frequently to ensure that Health and Safety standards are met.</p>
Rating District Performance Targets (P&E)	Achieved / Progress
<p>Meet or exceed the flood protection, drainage or erosion protection levels of service; complete all rating district meetings, and perform all repair and maintenance works as agreed at those meetings.</p>	<p>Achieved. All levels of service currently being met and all rating district meetings complete. Maintenance works arising have commenced.</p>
<p>Monitor all rating district infrastructural assets to ensure they perform to the service level consistent with the Asset Management Plan of each Rating District, or whatever level the community has decided is an acceptable risk.</p>	<p>Achieved. Annual inspections were completed in July, with river cross section surveys being completed and reported to their rating district community on a 3 yearly cycle. An aerial inspection in South Westland was undertaken immediately following the January 2013 flood</p>
<p>Review all Rating District Asset Management Plans in 2012/13.</p>	<p>Commenced.</p>

Business Unit Performance Targets (VCS)	Achieved / Progress
Tender for, and win, sufficient vector control contracts to provide or exceed the annual budgeted return to Council.	Achieved. Ground control team at full capacity for the contract year. Successfully delivered over 50,000 hectares of aerial contracts across three regions.
Meet the performance objectives and contractual obligations set by the Animal Health Board, avoiding penalties for contract or block failures.	Achieved. Ground control results so far have avoided any penalties. 81% of ground control contracts are complete, 3 contracts left to start which are on track for completion by the 31st May 2013.
Have staff available as a response unit for marine and terrestrial pollution spill events as per the MOU dated 11 November 2005.	Achieved.
Have 4 staff plus a vehicle available for biosecurity emergencies, as per the National Biosecurity Capability Network agreement 2011.	Achieved.
Develop a new service to assist mining and dairy sector clients to meet their RMA requirements, winning sufficient work annually to cover costs and earn a moderate surplus for Council.	Achieved. New service is working well to date with 4 full time employees specialising in this new area of business.

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting 9 April 2013
Prepared by: Chris Ingle – Chief Executive
Date: 27 March 2013
Subject: **CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT**

Meetings Attended

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

- Hosted the West Coast Civil Defence Controller's forum on the 13th of March.
- Attended NZTA's South Island Freight Plan meeting at Kingsgate Hotel on the 14th of March.
- Spoke to Parliamentary Select Committee on Thursday 21st March, speaking to the Council's submission to the December 2012 RMA Amendment Bill.
- Attended the Councillor Budget workshop on 26th March.
- Attending an Envirolink Meeting in Wellington on 2nd April.

Annual Plan Process

Following the Council's budget workshop we are now in a position to adopt an annual plan for public consultation and submissions.

The Annual Plan is essentially rolling out year 2 of the Long Term Plan 2012, adopted by Council last year.

The public notification of the Draft Annual Plan will occur in mid April with submissions being open till mid May. A hearing date needs to be set by Council in late May, which allows staff to make final amendments to the Plan as a result of decisions on submissions, before the 11 June Council meeting adopts the final Annual Plan for the 1 July 2013 – 30 June 2014 year.

There are several changes proposed to rating district boundaries or classifications, as requested at the rating district consultation meetings last year. These changes will be promulgated through the annual plan process and any ratepayers affected by the proposed changes will receive a letter inviting them to make submissions on the proposed change.

These changes affect the Red Jacks, Whataroa and Wanganui rating districts only.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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.
18 - 21
- 8.1 Confirmation of Confidential Minutes 12 March 2013
 - 8.2 Overdue Debtors Report (to be tabled)
 - 8.3 Enforcement Matters
 - 8.4 Investment Opportunity
 - 8.5 Response to Presentation (if any)
 - 8.6 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 12 March 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	Enforcement Matters		
8.4	Investment Opportunity		
8.5	Response to Presentation (if any)		
8.6	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.