

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

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

TUESDAY, 11 MAY 2010

The programme for the day is:

10.30 a.m: Resource Management Committee Meeting

On completion of RMC Meeting: Council Meeting

Workshop: Lake Brunner Plan Change

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, 11th May 2010**

P. EWEN
CHAIRPERSON

S. MORAN
Planning and Environmental Manager
C. DALL
Consents and Compliance Manager

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THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 13 APRIL 2010 AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL,
388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.34 A.M.****PRESENT:**

P. Ewen (Chairman), R. Scarlett, D. Davidson, B. Chinn, A. Robb, A. Birchfield, T. Archer, T. Scott

IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), S. Moran (Planning & Environmental Manager), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk), The Media

1. APOLOGIES

Moved (Ewen / Archer) *that the apology from T. Scott be accepted.*

Carried

2. MINUTES

Moved (Archer / Davidson) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 9 March 2010, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cr Ewen reported that he attended the budget round meeting with fellow Councillors earlier in the month. Cr Ewen reported that he had discussions with staff regarding the upgrade of the Greymouth Floodwall progress and a proposal from Grey District Council. He advised that a further meeting would be held tomorrow to progress this. Cr Ewen advised that he dealt with various enquiries relating to National Policy Statements and environmental statements and provided comments to media regarding mining on conservation land.

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

Carried

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

S. Moran spoke to his report. He advised that the hearing for the Coastal Plan Change 2 is to be reconvened for this afternoon. S. Moran reported that the NPS on Electricity Transmission is to be incorporated as part of the RPS review.

S. Moran reported that following the recent Road Safety Committee meeting funding for the final two years of the three year programme has been granted. He advised that Tai Poutini Polytechnic would continue with the Road Safety Coordinator contract for the remainder of time.

S. Moran advised that the flood warning alarm on the Whataroa River was triggered following a recent heavy rainfall event.

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S. Moran drew attention to the summary of contact recreation sampling for the season which has now finished. S. Moran stated for the most part there was a good result but there have been some issues with the Orowaiti Lagoon and Seven Mile Creek as was noted at last month's Council meeting.

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

Carried

5.1.2 CONTACT RECREATION SAMPLING RESULTS FOR OROWAITI LAGOON & SEVEN MILE CREEK

S. Moran spoke to this report advising that the results for the Orowaiti Lagoon are mostly in the low risk to moderately high risk category with only occasionally being in the very low risk category. He stated that Seven Mile Creek does get into the low risk to moderately high risk category but mostly in a season of the five monthly samples generally four times it is okay. S. Moran advised that generally Seven Mile Creek is fairly reasonable, however the Orowaiti Lagoon is the opposite and only a small amount of time it is in the low risk category. Cr Ewen queried whether signage should be in place at the Orowaiti Lagoon. S. Moran stated that this area is a site that triggers the categories in the MfE guidelines that should have a warning sign in place advising that this is a site that has a contact recreation risk to users. Cr Archer stated that there is signage in place on the Orowaiti Lagoon. He is hopeful that with the connection of reticulated sewage scheme in this area over a three year period, we may see some improvements. Cr Archer asked if the NPS on Freshwater Management is likely to put pressure on us to address these matters. S. Moran stated that under the current wording it would but it is not yet finalised. He said that on reading the policy statement that has come back from The Board of Inquiry these type of sites would be required to be identified then work done to enhance water quality in these areas. Cr Davidson feels that the major cause of contamination has been from urban sources rather than farming. Cr Robb asked if there is a test available that can determine if the contamination is from either urban or animal source. S. Moran responded that for this to be successful it needs to be a fairly high level of contamination. Cr Scarlett stated that as it stands at the moment we do not know the definite cause and birdlife could also be associated with the contamination problem.

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

Carried

5.1.3 BOARD OF INQUIRY'S CHANGES TO THE WATER NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT

S. Moran spoke to this report. He advised that there are quite a few areas that we were concerned about which have been picked up by the Board. These include the inclusion of a new national issue and goal relating to wetlands management and the inclusion of a new national goal for phasing out contamination of water. S. Moran stated that it is unclear what contamination means or what level it means, as under the RMA you are able to have some effect. He is concerned about how far this is intended to be taken by central government. Cr Scarlett stated we should also be concerned about the wetlands management also. Cr Birchfield stated that there is a clause in the NPS that states the new policies will take effect immediately and will require consent to take, use, dam or diversion or draining of a wetland. Cr Birchfield stated that this takes the whole thing away from what we have been arguing about with DoC. Cr Ewen stated that this reinforces the concerns he has had for NPS's and if this is where central government is heading then this reinforces our case for compensation for wetland landowners. Cr Ewen asked C. Ingle if there is still benefit in Council going ahead with the Plan Merge process. C. Ingle advised that the Plan Merge process is proceeding quite well and there are not any controversial elements to this apart from the Lake Brunner changes. He feels that if the Board of Inquiry comes out with an NPS and it is adopted by government then a whole new suite of changes may be needed but it is such a moving target that we should not plan ahead on this basis. S. Moran advised that the current version of the NPS allows for regional plan changes in 2014, or a programme of defined timeline stages for full implementation by December 2030 with annual reporting of targets. C. Ingle stated that his understanding of the NPS for Freshwater is that it is being referred by the Minister to the Land and Water Forum and there is no guarantee that it will go through in its current form. Cr Scarlett feels that we should be honing in on the wetlands aspect and making it very clear from this council that we are not at all happy with wetlands being included. Cr Scarlett feels this is a very serious matter and we need to be writing to ministers and perhaps The Board of Inquiry themselves with our concerns. Cr Scarlett stated it is important that we get support from other regional councils as well. Cr Chinn expressed his concern with another of the

Board of Inquiry's key changes which states "any change in the character, and any increase in intensity or scale of a land use or activity involving a discharge of contaminants to land or water, from what immediately preceded it". Cr Chinn is concerned that this means that you cannot increase production or the amount of stock or what is done with your land. Cr Robb expressed his concern with this also. C. Ingle stated that this would be counter productive to the government's attempts to kick start the economy and she feels that for this reason it will not go anywhere. Cr Scarlett feels that wetlands is still the one we have to watch. Cr Archer noted that the content of the submission made to The Board of Inquiry is very focussed and to the point. He feels the Board of Inquiry have taken up on this council's submission and most of the changes recommended in this council's submission have been adopted. Cr Scarlett would like a letter to be written to the Board of Inquiry and the Minister expressing our concerns with the NPS. Cr Davidson is concerned about the amount of control on land and the way it could be interpreted. Cr Scarlett would like to include the Minister for the Environment and the Prime Minister in these letters in view of the fact that he is keen to get this country back on track economically. Cr Davidson stated he sees this as a priority issue for the council as the long term costs to the West Coast are huge, if it goes ahead it could have a disastrous effect on the farming industry. Cr Scarlett requested that C. Ingle works up a letter and circulates it to Councillors for their feedback within two or three days, then the letters sent off to the Ministers concerned.

Moved (Scarlett / Davidson)

1. *That this report be received.*
2. *That C. Ingle writes to The Prime Minister, Minister for the Environment and Minister of Economic Development expressing Councillors concerns regarding the Proposed National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.*

Carried

5.1.4 WEST COAST PEST PLANT STRATEGY REVIEW

C. Ingle spoke to this report advising that this strategy has been in place for five years this August. He advised that the Biosecurity Act requires us to review the document on a five yearly basis. C. Ingle stated that it is pleasing to see that the strategy has had some effect. We have managed to get rid of a couple of pest plants and it has also been quite low cost with few resources having to be put into it as a lot of the work has been done by DoC officers rather than council officers. C. Ingle advised that the rules for the boundary control pest plants like Ragwort and gorse have worked well in that it has not been an overly regulatory approach and we have not had to issue Notices of Direction or had to take formal compliance action as it seems that once people know that there is a rule that can be enforced then they do what is required. Often a phone call from Council staff has been enough to get some action. C. Ingle stated we have done quite well with total control pest plants, Spartina and Coltsfoot have now been eradicated and good progress is being made with Africa Feather Grass and Nodding Thistle infestations. C. Ingle advised that DoC has increased their annual pest plant programmes for progressive control plants. He stated that DoC believe progress has been good with progressive control areas. C. Ingle stated that he is happy for council to add to the list of pest plants if councillors wish but he feels we would not add to the list if it were going to cost the council or landowners a lot of money with little justification. Cr Scarlett feels only those plants that are highly significant should be added to the list. Cr Davidson stated that the strategy has worked well and has been very cost effective and we should continue on with it.

Cr Archer queried what the implications would be of adding boundary control methods to some of the pest plants that are migrating through fence lines in view of the fact that it is unknown as to what degree the problem is and the cost benefits. C. Ingle agreed with this, he stated it is important that the benefits of including more pest plants outweigh the costs, as Council could be accused of not meeting Section 72 of the Biosecurity Act. C. Ingle asked Councillors if they thought it this could be dealt with more efficiently by appointing a subcommittee to work through the strategy, as we do not have to notify it until August. Cr Scarlett agreed with this. Cr Ewen asked those councillors who are interested in being part of the subcommittee to email C. Ingle. Cr Chinn advised that there is virtually no Ragwort in the Waitaha Valley but the seeds come down the valley and Ragwort is all through the riverbed. Cr Chinn would like DoC as a landowner to be made to get rid of Ragwort before it gets out of control. Cr Chinn stated that DoC sprayed the wild passion fruit

but left the Ragwort. He stated that he finds this disgusting. Cr Scarlett stated that Karamea has the same problem and he is concerned about who decides what DoC sprays. Cr Scarlett advised that the RAC are looking at the Good Neighbour principle and it is looking as though it will come to pass. This would mean that DoC would have to do something about it if there were a rule in the strategy. C. Ingle advised that we do have a Progressive Control area for the whole of the Karamea area and Ragwort could be added to this list if it met S72. Cr Robb asked if this would apply to all landowners. C. Ingle responded that not at the moment because the rule only applies to The Crown. C. Ingle advised that DoC is seeking to change this. C. Ingle advised that for gorse and ragwort which are already well established, millions of dollars would need to be spent each year to try to eradicate them. He states this is why we only have boundary control rules for the well established pest plants. Cr Scarlett feels that if DoC were to control Ragwort on riverbanks this would help to keep it out of the valleys. C. Ingle agreed to assist with the formation of a Council subcommittee for the Pest Plant Strategy.

Moved (Robb / Scarlett) *that Council move to notify an amended Pest Plant Strategy for the West Coast, prior to August 2010.*

Carried

5.1.5 REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT REVIEW

S. Moran spoke to this report advising that this is the commencement of the ten year review required by the Resource Management Act. S. Moran advised that cross over issues such as sewage effluent and stormwater, where there is a shared function, will be discussed with District Councils. Cr Archer asked if there is any indication as to when the NPS for freshwater management is likely to be implemented. S. Moran advised that the Land and Water forum has to report back in June and they have been tasked with looking at the Board of Inquiry's changes or amendments and sometime after this has been done the Minister will make a decision but the timeline remains unclear. S. Moran advised that the timeline for the cost benefit analysis work is June. Cr Archer asked if we are exposed to any potential negative impact by going through plan changes when the NPS's are likely to have an impact on us as plans that are not to be inconsistent with the NPS or do we just respond to changes as we go along? S. Moran stated that the Minister has said he is interested in NPS's and NES's and they could keep these rolling out but if we wait we could be waiting for some time.

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

Carried

5.2 CONSENTS AND COMPLIANCE GROUP

5.2.1 CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT

C. Ingle spoke to this report in C. Dall's absence. He drew attention to the limited notified and notified resource consent granted for T. Visser. This was to discharge sediment from humping and hollowing at Aratika.

C. Ingle reported that C. Dall has given further evidence at the Environment Court hearing for J. Groome's appeal against the consents granted by Council for TrustPower Ltd for the Arnold Valley Hydro Scheme. C. Ingle advised that a decision is expected within the next four to eight weeks but that environment court are not bound by the timelines. C. Ingle reported that Meridian Energy Ltd wishes to be a party to the appeal by Solid Energy on the HDL Hydro Scheme consent that was granted. He stated that Meridian is entitled to be a party as they did make a submission. C. Ingle reported that the submission period for Solid Energy's Hydro Scheme consent on the Stockton Plateau closed on 12 March. C. Ingle advised that approximately 27 submissions have been received with about just over half of the submissions being in opposition to the scheme.

Moved (Robb / Birchfield) *that the April 2010 report of the Consents Group be received.*

Carried

5.2.2 COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT

C. Ingle reported that 85 site visits were carried out during the reporting period with 70 – 80% of consent holders found to be compliant. C. Ingle reported that dairy effluent issues have been dealt

with in accordance with the policy. He advised that a field day on low application effluent management was held yesterday for farmers in the Lake Brunner catchment. This went well with over half the farmers in the catchment attending. C. Ingle reported that Westroads Ltd is now halfway to their allowable limit for gravel extraction. C. Ingle reported that an Abatement Notice has been issued to Pike River Coal Ltd following the discharge of coal fines into Big River. He advised that Pike River Coal Ltd is investigating the ecology of the river to ascertain whether or not this is serious and they commissioned a report from Golders Associates. They concluded that accidental release of coal fines has not resulted in any significant adverse effects on the aquatic benthic communities in Big River and will not result in any long term ecological impacts. Cr Davidson asked how objective would this report be as Pike River had commissioned and paid for the report. C. Ingle stated that council has dealt with Golders in the past with regard to bonds for Solid Energy and have found that Golders are reliable and they are an international company with an excellent reputation.

Moved (Archer / Chinn) *that the April 2010 report of the Compliance Group be received.*

Carried

6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 11.35 a.m.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee
 Prepared by: S. Moran – Planning & Environmental Manager
 Date: 30 April 2010

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

PLANNINGResource Management Act (Water Metering) Regulations

On 30 April the Environment Minister Dr Nick Smith announced that the government would be proceeding with the Resource Management Act (Water Metering) Regulations (the Regulations) and that it would be phased in from 1 July 2010 as follows:

- all water takes of more than 20 litres a second to be metered within two years (2012),
- water takes of more than 10 litres a second to be metered within four years (2014), and
- water takes of more than 5 litres a second to be metered within six years (2016).

The regulations will not apply to activities that are specifically permitted in section 14 of the RMA (and hence do not require consent). These include:

- takes for an individual's domestic purposes
- takes for animals' drinking water
- takes for fire-fighting
- any takes which are permitted by regional plans (these are most often takes of a volume or rate below specified 'permitted take levels').

Consented takes of less than five litres per second are also not affected by the regulations.

The purpose of the Regulation is to improve monitoring of national water stocks as well as promote a move toward greater efficiency of use and allocation.

The Council previously made submissions on the Proposed National Environmental Standard for Water Metering seeking flexibility in the application of any standard as well as exemptions to provide for those areas where water is not a scarce resource. Staff have continued to lobby officials about these issues and it is pleasing to see that these are expected by the Minister to be reflected in the drafting of the Regulation. Dr Smith has stated that

"A limited set of exemptions and dispensations will be provided for in the regulations. Dispensations will provide an element of flexibility in the regulations to account for circumstances where it is physically impractical or highly costly for consent holders to meet certain minimum requirements. Exemptions will cover non-consumptive water takes, and councils will be able to apply to the Minister for the Environment to exempt individual catchments from the regulations. The Minister will consider catchment exemptions only where the allocation status will not result in adverse effects on the water resource in the foreseeable future, and where the exemption would have negligible impacts on national reporting."

Coastal Plan Change 2

The Hearing was reconvened on 13th April to receive further evidence from the Department of Conservation. The Hearing was then closed, and deliberations held. The decisions report will be released shortly. After the report is released there is a 30 working day period for submitters to lodge appeals to the Environment Court.

Reform of aquaculture legislation

The Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture has announced a range of legislative and other changes will be made to reform the aquaculture regime. No new aquaculture space has been created under the current regime in the last five years. There is a lack of incentives for local government to plan for

aquaculture space and for industry to invest. The reform package aims to encourage investment in aquaculture.

Changes are likely to include:

- A more active role for central government who will be promoting the development of aquaculture;
- Establishing a power for the Minister to amend regional coastal plans in exceptional circumstances where it is in significant regional or national interest;
- Reform of Resource Management Act planning and consenting processes for aquaculture to reduce costs and shorten timeframes;
- Removal of the requirement that aquaculture activity must be located within Aquaculture Management Areas (AMAs) defined in Regional Coastal Plans.
- Broadening the range of factors the Minister of Conservation may have regard to in deciding whether a proposal under the Resource Management Act is nationally significant and should be "called in" for national decision-making.
- Integrating the Undue Adverse Effects on Fishing Test (known as the UAE test) as a step in the consent process, and aligning appeal and review rights and timeframes;
- Making fishing-related information held by the Ministry of Fisheries available to councils and applicants, subject to suitable protection of privacy and for commercial interests.
- Developing guidance material to help councils and the aquaculture industry operate effectively under the new regime.

An Aquaculture Reform Bill is expected to be introduced in mid-2010. The reforms are unlikely to have a significant impact on this Council.

Civil Defence and Emergency Management

West Coast CDEM Group Plan

Submissions of the draft CDEM Plan for the West Coast Group closed on the 12th of April. Four submissions were received on the draft. An extraordinary meeting of the CEG was held on 22 April to review the submissions made and to make consequential changes to the Plan. This revised draft has now been endorsed by the CEG to be presented to the CDEM Group for their approval. It will then be sent to the Minister Civil Defence Emergency Management (Hon John Carter) for formal comment before its final adoption.

West Coast Engineering Lifelines Group

The Engineering Lifelines Group met on 22 April. As requested by the Group members previously, the meeting provided the opportunity to exercise some of the roles Lifelines undertake during an event such as assigning priorities for the Group Controller, and identifying the interdependencies between utilities.

The meeting also provided the opportunity for a presentation by Rob Langridge (GNS) on work completed on developing a surface rupture avoidance zone for the Alpine Fault.

Test of the National Warning System

MCDEM ran its quarterly test of the National Warning System on the 22nd of April. The Group (Regional Council) received and responded to the warning within required timeframes.

Exercise Tangaroa

Exercise Tangaroa is a Tier 4 exercise scheduled for the 20th of October 2010. The exercise will involve all 16 CDEM Groups as well as MCDEM and other agencies. The scenario is based on a tsunami generated by an earthquake in Chile. On the West Coast, all four councils and Emergency Services have expressed an interest to participate. It is anticipated that exercise activity will include trialing the new Emergency Management Information System (EMIS – due to be rolled out in June), public information management, and decision making within and between agencies.

More information on the Exercise will be forthcoming as exercise planning gets underway.

RESOURCE SCIENCE

Water Quality

Substantial rain in the month of April has hampered water quality monitoring programmes but staff have managed to fit enough fieldwork into fine periods to stay on track for the autumn sampling round.

Jonny Horrox from the Environmental team recently attended an oiled wildlife response (OWR) training course run by Massey University and sponsored by MNZ. He is to replace Mike Meehan who was previously in the role. Jonny will be the Regional Council OWR rep and Ian Cooper from Okarito, who also completed the course, will be the Wildlife Expert. Ian and Jonny will work in conjunction with others knowledgeable on West Coast wildlife to review and update the OWR section of the WCRC Oil Spill Response plan.

Hydrology / Flood Warning

The week of 25th to 30th April brought a series of low pressure systems with associated frontal rainfall to the West Coast. While this produced significant flooding and damage to Fiordland and Southland, on the West Coast only the Waiho and Whataroa Rivers exceeded their alarm levels.

The Waiho River had three significant peaks during this week, and generally remained high due to the significant volume of gravels building up within this river system.

Site	Time of peak	Peak level	Warning Issued
Waiho Rv @ SHB	03:00 4/4/2010	7276mm	01:30
Waiho Rv @ SHB	16:30 13/4/2010	7188mm	14:30
Waiho Rv @ SHB	14:45 26/4/2010	7400mm	15:20 (25/4/2010)
Waiho Rv @ SHB	14:30 27/4/2010	7582mm	Monitoring continued from above
Waiho Rv @ SHB	00:15 30/4/2010	7210mm	16:00 (29/4/2010)
Whataroa Rv @ SHB	01:15 30/4/2010	4308mm	Acknowledged at 01:20, monitored by FDO

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received

Simon Moran
Planning and Environmental Manger

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee
 Prepared by: Colin Dall - Consents & Compliance Manager
 Date: 29 April 2010

Subject: CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT

CONSENTS**Consents Site Visits from 30 March – 27 April 2010**

DATE	ACTIVITY, NAME & LOCATION	PURPOSE
30/03/10	RC10067, G & T Taege, Alluvial gold mining, Takutai	To investigate the site to gain a better understanding of the proposed mining operation.
8/04/10	RC09181, R & P Adams, Alluvial gold mining, Rutherglen	To investigate the site to gain a better understanding of the proposed mining operation.
16/4/2010	Consent to be lodged – HBF Chinn, Gold mining, Ross	To advise the applicant on the planning and consent requirements associated with the proposed mining operation.
16/4/2010	PA10013 - Stoney Meadows Ltd, Onsite sewage discharge, Welshmans Road	To investigate the site and gain a better understanding of the proposed onsite sewage treatment and disposal system.
19/4/2010	PA10021 – G Oakden, Onsite sewage discharge, Omoto Valley Road	To investigate the site and gain a better understanding of the proposed onsite sewage treatment and disposal system.

Non-Notified Resource Consents Granted from 30 March – 27 April 2010

CONSENT NO. & HOLDER	PURPOSE OF CONSENT
RC06022 R Anderson & Co Ltd	To undertake land disturbance associated with the humping and hollowing and land flipping of up to 174 hectares of land at Kongahu. To undertake land disturbance associated with the humping and hollowing and land flipping of up to 40 hectares of land adjacent to Blue Duck Creek on SEC 25-27 LOTS 5-7 DP7832 BLK IX OTUMAHANA SD. To take and use surface water from Blackwater Creek for the purpose of dairy farming activities. To discharge water containing sediment to land where it may enter water as a result of humping and hollowing and land flipping at Kongahu Swamp. To discharge water containing sediment to land where it may enter water as a result of humping and hollowing and land flipping adjacent to Blue Duck Creek. To discharge treated dairy effluent from DS843 to "Blackwater Drain".
RC08145 Boatmans Energy Ltd	To undertake land disturbance, vegetation removal, and earthworks associated with an opencast coal mine on Mining

	Permit MP 41079 at or about map reference NZMS 260 L30: 213 - 052.
	To discharge water containing contaminants from a coal mining operation to land in circumstances where it may enter water (Coal Creek).
RC09053 Westco Lagan Ltd	To undertake earthworks associated with gold mining, Ruatapu.
	To take and use groundwater for a gold mining operation, Ruatapu.
	To discharge water to land from a gold mining operation, Ruatapu.
	To discharge water containing sediment from a gold mining operation to water (the old dredge pond), Ruatapu.
RC09112 Alljohn Ltd	To discharge dairy effluent from a stand-off pad to land near Bakers Creek, Karamea.
RC09167 Granville Mining Ltd	To undertake earthworks associated with alluvial gold mining activities at Nelson Creek on SEC 52 BLK VIII MAWHERANUI SD.
	To disturb the wet bed of Nelson Creek for diversion associated with alluvial gold mining activities and land reclamation in SEC 52 BLK VIII MAWHERANUI SD.
	To divert Nelson Creek associated with alluvial gold mining activities and land reclamation.
	To discharge sediment-laden water to land in circumstances where it may enter water at Nelson Creek in SEC 52 BLK VIII MAWHERANUI SD.
RC10007 Grey District Council	To construct river protection works (including rock rip rap and groynes) on the bed of Ford Creek.
	To disturb the bed of Ford Creek for the purpose of gravel/rock relocation.
	To divert water from structures (groynes) in Ford Creek.
RC10027 Shooting Creek Ltd	To discharge dairy effluent to land and water (the Hokitika River) near DS196, Ross.
RC10040 D & S Carew	To disturb the bed of the Inangahua River for the purpose of constructing river protection works (rock spurs and a stop bank).
	To disturb the bed of the Inangahua River for the purpose of extracting gravel.
	To permanently divert water in the Inangahua River.
RC10044 JP Pugh	To disturb the bed of the Taramakau River for the purpose of diverting a channel of the river.
	To permanently divert water of the Taramakau River.
RC10048 New Zealand Transport Agency	To construct rock spurs on the bed of Bullock Creek.
	To divert water off rock spurs in Bullock Creek.
	The incidental discharge of sediment to water associated with the construction of rock spurs, Bullock Creek.
RC10050 Animal Health Board Inc	To authorise the aerial discharge of 1080 (sodium monofluoroacetate) possum control cereal or carrot baits (up

	to maximum rate of 5kg per hectare), containing a maximum of 0.15% weight/weight of 1080, to land in the "Tanthe/Karnback Operational Area".
RC10052 Animal Health Board Inc	To authorise the aerial discharge of 1080 (sodium monofluoroacetate) possum control cereal or carrot baits (up to maximum rate of 5kg per hectare), containing a maximum of 0.15% weight/weight of 1080, to land in the "Oneone/Saltwater Operational Area".
RC10059 Southern Screenworks Ltd	To disturb the dry bed of the Otira River near its confluence with Kellys Creek for the purpose of extracting gravel.
RC10060 West Coast (Dairy) Ltd	To take and use ground and surface water near the Maruia River for the purpose of irrigation.
RC10065 D & S Carew	To disturb the dry bed of the Inangahua River for the purpose of extracting gravel.
RC10073 Pike River Coal Ltd	To discharge contaminants (alkaline wash water) to land via a soak pit, where it may enter water, Pike River Coal Mine.
RC10074 Arthur Gillman Junior	To disturb the dry bed of the Taramakau River downstream of the State Highway 6 bridge for the purpose of extracting gravel.
RC10075 Roa Mining Company Ltd	To discharge water containing contaminants (sediment and coal fines) to water (an unnamed tributary of the Grey River), Stillwater.

Changes to Consent Conditions Granted from 30 March – 27 April 2010

CONSENT NO. & HOLDER	CHANGE SOUGHT
RC93048 Grey District Council Erua Moana (Blaketown) Lagoon	To increase the volume of material that can be dredged and discharged.
RC03174 Department of Conservation Kahurangi National Park	To change the consent conditions to allow bird repellent to be added to 1080 baits on a trial basis and to allow the reapplication of 1080 in the trial area earlier than is currently allowed by the consents.

Limited Notified and Notified Resource Consents Granted from 30 March – 27 April 2010

CONSENT NO. & HOLDER	PURPOSE OF CONSENT
RC07150 Meridian Energy Ltd	To construction and operation of a hydropower scheme, Mokihinui River.

Notified Consents Updates

At the time of writing this report, the Council had received Notices of Appeal from three parties (West Coast ENT Incorporated, Whitewater New Zealand Incorporated and the Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Incorporated) opposing the West Coast Regional and Buller District Councils' decision to grant consent to Meridian Energy Limited for its proposed Mokihinui River hydropower scheme.

The Council received notice from another person (F Inta – one of the submitters) wishing to be a party to the appeal by Solid Energy New Zealand Limited against the granting of the consents to Hydro Development Limited for its proposed hydro power scheme on the Stockton Plateau. The Council has advised the Environment Court that it agrees to mediation.

Public Enquiries

41 written public enquiries were responded to during the reporting period. 30 (73%) were answered on the same day, 6 (15%) the following day, 4 (10%) no more than 10 working days later and 1 more than 10 (2%) working days later.

RECOMMENDATION

That the May 2010 report of the Consents Group be received.

Colin Dall

Consents & Compliance Manager

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee
 Prepared by: Colin Dall – Consents & Compliance Manager and Michael Meehan – Compliance Team Leader
 Date: 29 April 2010
 Subject: **COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT**

Site Visits

A total of 79 site visits were undertaken during the reporting period, which consisted of:

Activity	Number of Visits	Fully Compliant (%)
Resource consent monitoring	8	63
Dairy shed inspections	50	82
Complaint response	7	86
Mining compliance & bond release	14	71

Specific Issues

Dairy Effluent Discharges: A field day was held on 12 April for farmers in the Lake Brunner catchment in regard to low rate application effluent management. The field day was well attended by farmers and industry professionals.

Beach Gravel Extraction – Westroads: The Council received complaints from Blaketown residents regarding the following:

- Coastal erosion, especially at the Robinson Street end.
- Earthworks to remove the gravel bund on DoC marginal strip.
- Beach profiling.

Coastal Erosion

A Compliance Officer undertook an inspection of the Robinson Street area and Westroads was requested to undertake and submit new beach profiles by 1 June 2010.

The Council has also advised Westroads that no further extraction will be authorised after this date until the beach profiles show a build up beyond the trigger levels.

Earthworks to Remove Gravel Bund:

A Compliance Officer inspected the site and found that Westroads was working within the conditions of its resource consent. Westroads has advised the Council that it is removing any concrete and reinforcing and taking to McLean's Pit landfill as per its consent application.

Globe Progress Mine - Oceana Gold: The Company notified the Council of a minor tailings spill that occurred at the Globe Progress Mine and advised that the spill was contained by the mine's contingency systems and that there was no environmental impact from this incident.

Solid Energy (SENZ) Consent and Licence Monitoring:

Stockton Coal Mine

Stockton Alliance notified the Council of its intention to "flash-dose" the Mangatini Sump with approximately 200 tonnes of fine limestone. The process was then delayed. The Alliance will keep the Council updated on progress towards dosing the low pH (acid) water in the Mangatini Sump. A progress report is due 7 May.

Water quality reporting for March showed that the mine discharges were within compliance limits.

Pike River Coal Mine - Pike River Coal: An Infringement Notice was issued to the Company for the discharge of coal fines to Big River that occurred at or about 26 January 2010.

There has been no discharge from the CPP plant to the Big River since the coal fines were discovered. By early May, the Company plans to have completed the corrective actions identified in a detailed risk assessment of the CPP plant. There have been no other non-compliances to date.

Railway Works – OnTrack: Site inspections were undertaken of the replacement works for Bridge 55 in the Otira Valley and Bridges 66 and 68 in Inchbonnie. A site visit was made to the “day-lighting” work for Tunnel 19 at Kiwi Point. Some changes to the original construction plans had occurred due to several faults in the geology of the terrain above the tunnel. No significant problems were identified during the inspections.

Road Bridge Replacements - NZTA: A site inspection was made to the Goat Creek bridge replacement works at Otira. No non compliance issues were identified during the inspection.

An inspection was also undertaken of the 10 Mile Bridge replacement works. Council staff have some concerns over the stability of the creek bank in several places and plan to undertake a further site inspection in the next month.

Education - Tai Poutini Polytechnic: Compliance staff conducted a presentation to the Digger School at Reefton detailing the role of the Council and covering issues pertinent to civil construction works and the RMA.

Complaints/Incidents between 30 March to 29 April 2010

The following 12 complaints/incidents were received during the reporting period:

Activity	Description	Location	Action/Outcome
Rubbish dumping	Rubbish dumped on neighbouring property	Cobden	Person told to cease this activity
Riverworks	Alleged removal of bank of river	Seddonville	Found to be caused by natural erosion
Earthworks in CMA	Alleged illegal take of sand from Coastal Marine Area	Birchfield	Person told to cease this activity
Riverworks	Rock work to reinstate bank after flooding	Kokatahi	Found to be in compliance with rule
Land disturbance	Earthworks allegedly non compliant with relevant rules	Lake Kaniere	Found to be in compliance with rule
Riverworks	Digger working in wet bed without resource consent	Whataroa	Non compliant. Further action to follow.
Subdivision	Stormwater runoff allegedly causing erosion	Franz Josef	Still under investigation
Paint spill	Paint spill causing paint to discharge to stormwater system	Greymouth	Found to be water-based; stormwater drain discharges to Greymouth sewage treatment system.
Gold mining	Gold mining operation allegedly causing dirty water	Hou Hou Creek	Slight discolouration found but within consent limits
Stock grazing	Complaint regarding stock grazing in Coastal Marine Area	Karamea	Still under investigation
Coastal gravel take	Complaint regarding burying concrete at Blaketown Beach	Blaketown Beach	Westroads taking any concrete found to McLeans Pit Landfill
Coastal gravel take	Complaint regarding erosion at Blaketown Beach	Blaketown Beach	Westroads to undertake further beach profiles by 1 June 2010

Formal Enforcement Action

The following infringement notice was issued during the reporting period:

15

Notice	Activity	Location
Infringement	Discharge of coal fines to water (coal mining)	Big River

The outcome of the Council's prosecutions against Potae & van der Poel Limited for unlawful discharges of diary effluent attracted a lot of local and national media attention, as did the Council's prosecution against OceanaGold.

MINING

Work Programmes

The Council received the following 5 work programmes during the reporting period, 2 of which were processed within the 20-day target (shown in italics):

Date	Mining Authorisation	Holder	Location
26/3/10	MP50125, MP41702, MP41776, MP51769 & MP51686 RC07195, RC05290 & RC01150	H B F Chinn, Birchfield Ross Mining, John Dunbier	Ross
<i>1/4/10</i>	<i>MP41882, RC05232</i>	<i>Gold Mining Rimu Ltd</i>	<i>Rimu</i>
<i>7/4/10</i>	<i>MP41476, RC98005</i>	<i>Titan Resources Bell Hill</i>	<i>Bell Hill</i>
7/4/10	MP41885, RC05078	Shamroc Minerals - Dempster Ltd	Callaghans
12/4/10	MP41169, RC98024	Alluvial Mining (No.2) Ltd	Woods Creek

The remaining work programmes require further information before they can be accepted:

Bonds Received

No bonds were received during the reporting period.

Bond Releases

No bonds are recommended for release.

OIL SPILL RESPONSE

An oil spill exercise was held at Greymouth on 21 April. This exercise provided an opportunity for staff trained in oil spill response to familiarise themselves with protocols and gear deployment.

The exercise was attended by a representative from Maritime New Zealand who audited the exercise.

RECOMMENDATION

That the May 2010 report of the Compliance Group be received.

Colin Dall
Consents & Compliance Manager

COUNCIL MEETING

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that an **ORDINARY MEETING** of the West Coast Regional Council will be held in the Offices of the West Coast Regional Council, 388 Main South Road, Greymouth on **Tuesday, 11 May 2010** commencing on completion of the Resource Management Committee Meeting.

A.R. SCARLETT
CHAIRPERSON

C. INGLE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

<u>AGENDA NUMBER S</u>	<u>PAGE NUMBERS</u>	<u>BUSINESS</u>
1.		APOLOGIES
2.		PUBLIC FORUM
3.		MINUTES
	1 – 5	3.1 Minutes of Council Meeting 13 April 2010
4.		REPORTS
	6	4.1 Planning and Environmental Manager's Report on Engineering Operations
	7 - 9	4.2 Corporate Services Manager's Report
5.		CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (VERBAL)
6.0	10	CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT
7.		GENERAL BUSINESS

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 13 APRIL 2010,
AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD,
GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11.36 A.M.****PRESENT:**

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), S. Moran (Planning and Environmental Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk), The Media

1. APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no presentation.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved (Ewen / Archer) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 9 March 2010, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

REPORTS:**4.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER'S REPORT ON ENGINEERING OPERATIONS**

S. Moran took his report as read and offered to answer questions.

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

Carried

5.1 CORPORATE SERVICE MANAGER'S REPORT

R. Mallinson spoke to his report advising that \$800,000 has been withdrawn from the investment portfolio to part fund the Greymouth Floodwall upgrade. R. Mallinson reported that this financial year there have not been any withdrawals from the investment portfolio for general council purposes. R. Mallinson reported that this is the eight month financial report. The operating surplus for the reporting period was \$728,000. He advised that this would change during March – June when the full costs of the Greymouth Floodwall upgrade come to charge as this is operating expenditure and not capital expenditure.

R. Mallinson reported that the investment portfolio returned over \$800,000 for the eight month period. R. Mallinson drew attention to the table in his report demonstrating the costs of capital works that have been undertaken in various rating districts during the eight month period. R. Mallinson reported that due to the demand for rock, the quarries are trading quite profitably. Cr Scarlett asked if there is an accrual in the operating surplus that could have an offsetting effect on these figures as we get this money back in through rates. R. Mallinson advised that council has built up the credit

balance which is paying for the upgrade from the rates over previous years therefore we are funding the upgrade with accumulated credit balances that the Greymouth Rating District has saved up and loan borrowing.

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

Carried

5.1.2 EIGHT MONTH REVIEW 1 JULY 2009 – 28 FEBRUARY 2010

R. Mallinson spoke to this report advising that this is the non-financial performance of our organisation. R. Mallinson drew attention to the figure of 98.2% of non-notified resource consents being processed within the statutory timeframe. He also spoke of the technical reason behind performance targets not being achieved in the flood monitoring area. Cr Scarlett asked R. Mallinson for his personal opinion regarding the Christmas letter from the Auditor General regarding the AG – 4 performance measures and targets and asked if this council is complaint? R. Mallinson responded that he feels that the existing performance framework we have in place is suitable and quite satisfactory for this size council. Cr Archer stated this is a very focused and targeted report.

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

Carried

5.1.3 NEW AUDITING STANDARD ON AUDITING SERVICE PERFORMANCE

R. Mallinson spoke to this report. He introduced Council's Auditor Director, Mr John Mackey to the meeting. R. Mallinson stated that Mr Mackey would be providing information on the new auditing standard AG -4.

Moved (Archer / Ewen)

That Audit Director John Mackey from Audit New Zealand be granted speaking rights so that he may speak to these discussion notes.

Carried

Cr Scarlett welcomed Mr Mackey to the meeting. Mr Mackey advised that under the previous auditing standard which Audit NZ worked, they were required to express a view whether the Statement of Service Performance reported against the measures that Council had in its LTCCP or Annual Plan. Audit NZ were not required to say whether or not this meaningfully reflects the performance of the Council therefore the point at which Audit NZ would qualify was if the service performance framework was "fundamentally misleading or senseless". Mr Mackey stated that the bar has now been raised in terms of what auditors are looking at. Mr Mackey stated that because this is the first time that Local Government has been audited against this revised standard, the Office of the Auditor General is running consistency panels to make sure that what Audit NZ does with this council is consistent with what other auditors do with other councils. Cr Scarlett asked Mr Mackey if the performance targets in today's report to council fits the bill. Mr Mackey responded that Council's performance management framework was appropriate if there hasn't been any significant change in the Council's circumstances between last year and now which, he noted from receiving council's agenda papers, there have not been any significant changes. Mr Mackey stated the next stage is to ensure that Council is reporting accurately against the performance management framework to make sure the correct systems and controls are in place. Mr Mackey advised that it can be difficult to measure performance in some areas and to ascertain what is good as the impact of work that is being done now may not be seen for 10, 20 or 50 years from now. Mr Mackey stated that part of purpose of performance targets is to undertake a certain level of monitoring so that compliance can be tracked and this supplementary information assists with the gaining a better understanding of council's performance. Cr Scarlett queried as to whether the test would be that if the decisions made 20 or so year's turns out to be good or bad, would a better test be the reasonable test? Mr Mackey agreed with this. Cr Archer stated that he was heartened to see in Audit NZ letter that the changes were going to be cost neutral to Council. Cr Archer asked Mr Mackey that if the bar is being raised, does Mr Mackey have an overview as to the implications of that on this council and in view of some of the AG -4 outcomes being subjective rather than objective targets. Cr Archer wondered if councils are better placed to make subjective decisions and outcomes than auditors are; Cr Archer

wonders what skills the auditors have on making subjective assessments based on the expectations of communities. Mr Mackey responded that auditors have skills in terms of judgments and look at the processes that are being followed and if the judgments are reasonable. He stated that there would be a consistency panel so that if there are issues they will be looked at on a national basis. Mr Mackey there should not be extra work for councils if the systems under which the reporting is currently being made is reliable. Mr Mackey stated that Audit NZ is yet to go through the consistency process so they are still trying to work out how best to go about this but it is likely that Audit NZ will make suggestions on how performance management framework can be enhanced. Cr Archer suggested to Mr Mackey that the Office of the Auditor General's expectations and reporting standards will be substantially different to the expectations of the community and that we need to respond to the community needs. Cr Archer is concerned that the level of reporting is now at such a high degree to satisfy auditors, that we are missing out on the community and it is now too complex for the general Joe Public to really understand what we are actually doing. Mr Mackey stated that other organisations are reviewing the reporting by councils and by other public entities as members of the public aren't normally going to take time to study this type of information. Mr Mackey confirmed that part of the lifting of the bar has been driven by central government. Cr Scarlett agreed with Cr Archer in that the level of reporting is difficult for the general public to understand. Cr Scarlett remains concerned that changes do remain cost neutral.

Cr Scarlett asked for further clarification from Mr Mackey as to what "*to ensure council tells a compelling story,*" means. Mr Mackey responded that council might need to supplement performance measures with some narrative. Councils are dealing with performance measures on a monthly basis but the public doesn't stop to think about these until they perhaps apply for a resource consent or need to deal with council. Cr Archer stated this is exactly his point about the level of reporting and who we are trying to report to as Cr Archer feels we should be reporting to our community which is who councilors represent. Cr Archer asked Mr Mackey if he and auditors are satisfied that the new level of required reporting is going to make significant positive benefits to the communities. Mr Mackey stated that this would depend on whether councils treat this as a compliance exercise or whether councils are actually measuring their performance and better achieve outcomes for the community. Cr Scarlett asked if the letter from the Auditor General is politically motivated, is this the wish of the government as the Minister of Local Government is very keen to see transparency and performance measures. Mr Mackey stated that the current government is very keen on improved performance reporting in the public sector. He stated that the former Auditor General had pushed strongly for this, the new Auditor General is also very keen on improvement in this area as she feels there has not been a significant improvement in 20 years. Mr Mackey acknowledged that councils are the leading performers in performance reporting in the public sector in New Zealand and this is why councils are the first to go under the revised AG -4 with other public sectors being phased in over the next 3 - 4 years. Cr Scarlett asked Mr Mackey if he feels this is a request from the government for more transparency and accountability and the Auditor General has responded to this. Mr Mackey stated that this is not a new initiative but the current government is very strong on wanting greater performance reporting so that they can work out where they can make cuts on expenditure.

Cr Archer stated that the AG -4 document is really focusing on bringing the rest of the public sector into line with the current work standards of local government, with some minor tweaking. Mr Mackey responded that there are quite a few other areas of the public sector that have a significant catch up on councils but this is not to say that councils have not got room for improvement. Cr Davidson stated that councils do what they need to do as the main focus is to keep rates as low as possible. He feels that this extra reporting will cost more. Cr Scarlett stated that this council would be very grumpy there is a cost increase. He would like an undertaking to be cost neutral and he would like this confirmed. Cr Archer asked if there specific areas of our performance management framework that require specific emphasis as a result of the AG-4 outcomes. Mr Mackey responded that the difficulty is providing objective, reliable information versus providing information that is relevant. Mr Mackey stated that with regard to the outcomes that council is trying to achieve, other parties have impact into what happens with these. Mr Mackey stated that this is an area where this council has very few outcome measures included within its framework but he expects improvements in this area over time. Cr Scarlett feels that firmer criteria are required so that Council has some certainty of what is required by the Auditor General. Mr Mackey advised that R. Mallinson met with the Executive Director of Audit NZ and himself seeking clearer guidance and as a result of this meeting, the Office of the Auditor General is now working on best practice examples. Mr Mackey stated that the best practice examples would be distributed once they are to hand. R. Mallinson stated that he is hopeful they will be relevant to regional councils. Cr Chinn asked if the reference in the Auditor General's Christmas letter stating "*our aim is to make these changes cost neutral to the Council*" would be changed. Mr Mackey advised that the audit arrangement letter has been signed

4
off with the audit fee for the 2009 / 10 audit therefore a recovery would not be sought unless Council fails to meet the audit requirements. Cr Scarlett suggested that the wording is changed to "these changes will be cost neutral to council subject to the above conditions being met".

Cr Ewen asked Mr Mackey if there is any likelihood of the LTCCP process becoming a five yearly process rather than the current three yearly process. Mr Mackey responded that part of the TAFM (Transparency, Accountability and Financial Management) Reform that the Minister of Local Government is driving has concluded that there will be no change to the frequency of the LTCCP at this stage and it will still be audited. R. Mallinson asked Mr Mackey to comment on what central government agencies he is referring to with regard to the "lifting of the bar" as he thought this would be the role of the Auditor General. Mr Mackey stated that the Office of the Auditor General reports to Parliament each year with the results of the audits it has undertaken and has a watchdog role over public finance.

Cr Scarlett thanked Mr Mackey for attending today's meeting.

5.1.4 WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2010

R. Mallinson spoke to this report advising that this is a request from the Returning Officer at Grey District Council.

Moved (Ewen / Robb)

- 1. That the West Coast Regional Council reconfirm the appointment of the Grey District Council Electoral Officer as the Electoral Officer for the West Coast Regional Council Electoral Officer for the 2010 Local elections pursuant to section 12 of the Local Electoral Act 2001.*
- 2. That the West Coast Regional Council agree that the returned voting documents for the 2010 elections be processed during the voting period, such early processing to be undertaken in accordance with section 79 of the Local Electoral Act 2001 and the Society of Local Government Managers' Code of Best Practice.*
- 3. That the West Coast Regional Council require the ordering of candidates names in alphabetical order pursuant to section 31(1) of the Local Electoral regulations 2001.*

Carried

5.1.5 ADOPTION OF 2010 / 2011 ANNUAL PLAN STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

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

Moved (Davidson / Birchfield)

- 1. That the 2010/11 Annual Plan Statement of Proposal be adopted for public consultation pursuant to section 83 of LGA 2002.*
- 2. That public hearings be held on Monday 31 May commencing at 10.30 a.m.*

Carried

6.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT

C. Ingle spoke to his report. He advised that he attended a number of meetings during the reporting period including a meeting with Westland Milk Products. He advised that there is a "Working Together" agreement between Westland Milk Products and Council which has now been in place for four years. C. Ingle reported a report is currently being prepared on the joint achievements that have been made during this time. He is hopeful of reporting on this at the next Council meeting.

C. Ingle drew attention to the letter he sent to The Auditor General, which is attached to his report. He advised that this letter relates to a matter discussed at a Councillor Workshop earlier this month

regarding the decision The Auditor General made relating to Ecan councillors. C. Ingle feels this has put a lot of uncertainty into whether the conflict of interest rules can now be interpreted in a different way. C. Ingle advised that for the avoidance of doubt he has asked for dispensation for all elected members to be able to make decisions at the meeting in June which is when it becomes legally important that this dispensation is in place.

Cr Birchfield asked C. Ingle if it is correct that he has spent a lot of time trying to resolve the wetlands issue with DoC to get a resolution. Cr Birchfield stated that it has been suggested to him that Council has not consulted enough with DoC on this and that is why it has gone to court. C. Ingle responded that he has spent a considerable amount of time on this and stated that the variation to the plan was first notified several years ago.

Cr Archer asked C. Ingle if development and participation with the IRIS software programme is going to result in longterm continuing expenditure or is it a one off. C. Ingle responded that there is a software development stage that goes for approximately 12 months. After this there will be a software maintenance phase but the cost goes down significantly once the development is done.

C. Ingle stated that this is mainly for the consents and compliance area as all regional councils have an outdated model and that is why it is being done collectively. C. Ingle stated this is being done within budget and there are no additional costs. He stated there are also no tax implications involved and to keep the costs down it has been suggested that that the Chief Executives of the regions are used as the governance board. C. Ingle advised that some very competent people at Environment Waikato are managing the entire IRIS project.

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

Carried

7.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT (VERBAL)

The Chairman reported that he attended the RAC meeting in Wellington with the Chief Executive. He stated that it has been a fairly light month.

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

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 12.26 p.m.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date

Prepared for: Council Meeting – 11 May 2010
 Prepared by: S. Moran – Planning & Environmental Manager
 Date: 30 April 2010

Subject: **PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT ON ENGINEERING OPERATIONS**

1. WORKS

a) Vine Creek Rating District

This work involving 16 tonnes of rubble for a "washed out" culvert reinstatement has been completed at a cost of \$327.00 (G.S.T. Exclusive), by Henry Adams Contracting Ltd.

b) Greymouth Floodwall Upgrade

This work is continuing within the estimated timeframes.

c) Waitangitaona Rating District

This work involves placing 450 tonnes of rock and 800 tonnes of rubble as riprap. The successful tenderer was Arnold Contracting Ltd at a tendered price of \$19,750.00 (G.S.T. Exclusive).

d) Nelson Creek Rating District

This work involves placing 350 tonnes of rock as riprap was tendered. The successful tenderer was Paul Steegh Contracting Ltd at a tendered price of \$8,050.00 (G.S.T. Exclusive).

2. Quarry Rock Movements for the Period 1 March 2010 to 31 March 2010

Quarry	Rock In Quarry 01/03/10	Rock Used	Rock Quarried	Rock In Quarry 31/03/10
Blackball	3,936	0	0	3,936
Camelback	0	243	243	0
Inchbonnie	6,020	0	0	6,020
Kiwi	350	0	0	350
Miedema	0	0	0	0
Okuru	3,000	0	0	3,000
Taramakau	0	0	0	0
Wanganui	0	0	0	0
Whataroa	3,422	0	0	3,422
Totals	16,728	243	243	16,728

3. Quarry Work Permitted Since 31 March 2010

Quarry	Contractor	Tonnage Requested	Permit Start	Permit Finish
Wanganui	Jason Jones	100	12/4/10	16/4/10
Inchbonnie	Taylor's Contracting Ltd	50	14/4/10	28/4/10
Kiwi	MDB Contracting	3,250	19/4/10	31/5/10

RECOMMENDATION

That this report is received.

Simon Moran
 Planning and Environmental Manager

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting
 Prepared by: Robert Mallinson – Corporate Services Manager
 Date: 30 April 2010

1. Financial Report

FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2010	ACTUAL	YEAR TO DATE BUDGET	ACTUAL % ANNUAL BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET
REVENUES				
General Rates	1,444,246	1,434,750	75%	1,913,000
Rates Penalties	50,050	56,250	67%	75,000
Investment Income	1,117,959	581,250	144%	775,000
Regulatory	719,657	739,568	74%	976,191
Planning Processes	61,761	127,013	36%	169,350
Environmental Monitoring	0	0	0%	0
Emergency Management	33,550	37,500	67%	50,000
River, Drainage, Coastal Protection	1,198,631	819,464	110%	1,092,618
Regional % Share Controls	431,053	431,250	75%	575,000
VCS Business Unit	1,689,500	2,803,350	45%	3,737,800
	6,746,407	7,030,394	72%	9,363,959
EXPENDITURE				
Representation	267,766	288,002	70%	384,003
Regulatory Activities	1,321,371	1,274,897	78%	1,686,568
Planning Processes	410,293	442,466	70%	589,954
Environmental Monitoring	468,639	552,872	64%	737,163
Emergency Management	86,281	98,709	66%	131,612
River, Drainage, Coastal Protection	1,243,486	865,076	108%	1,153,434
Regional % Share Controls	634,876	566,147	84%	754,862
VCS Business Unit	918,654	2,494,077	28%	3,325,436
Portfolio Management	43,292	0	0%	0
	5,394,658	6,582,245	62%	8,763,032
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) Before Greymouth Floodwall Upgrade	1,351,749	448,149		600,927
Less Upgrade Costs treated as Opex.	1,185,035	3,000,000		4,000,000
Adjusted SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	166,714	-2,551,851		-3,399,073

BREAKDOWN OF SURPLUS (-DEFICIT)	Variance Actual V Budgeted YTD	ACTUAL	BUDGET Year to date	ANNUAL BUDGET
Rating Districts	1,671,661	-1,174,712	-2,846,373	-3,795,164
Quarries	65,686	54,161	-11,525	-15,366
Regional % Share of AHB Programmes	-68,927	-203,823	-134,897	-179,862
Investment Income	493,417	1,074,667	581,250	775,000
VCS Business Unit	461,573	770,846	309,273	412,364
General Rates Funded Activities	95,155	-354,425	-449,580	-596,045
TOTAL	2,718,565	166,714	-2,551,851	-3,399,073

Net Contributors to General Rates Funded Surplus (-Deficit)	Actual	Budget ytd	Annual Plan
<u>Net Variance Actual V YTD</u>			
Rates	9,496	1,444,246	1,913,000
Rates Penalties	-6,200	50,050	75,000
Representation	20,236	-267,766	-384,003
Regulatory Activities	-66,385	-601,714	-710,377
Planning Activities	-33,079	-348,532	-420,604
River, Drainage, Coastal Protection (excl.	78,376	-109,339	-250,286
Environmental Monitoring	84,233	-468,639	-737,163
Emergency Management	8,478	-52,731	-81,612
	95,155	-354,425	-596,045

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION @ 31 MARCH 2010

	@ 31/3/010	@ 30/06/2009
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
Cash	161,108	140,632
Short term Deposit - Westpac	944,092	1,303,942
Accounts Receivable - Rates	1,328,103	283,982
Accounts Receivable - General Debtors	336,697	728,118
Prepayments	139,466	103,062
Sundry Receivables	193,308	151,989
Stock - explosives	0	0
Stock - VCS	218,110	26,198
Stock - Rock	54,367	49,603
Stock - Office Supplies	14,625	14,625
Accrued Rates Revenue		0
Unbilled Revenue	<u>208,262</u>	<u>227,560</u>
	3,598,138	3,029,711
<u>Non Current Assets</u>		
Investments	10,534,302	10,513,944
Fixed Assets	4,109,382	3,780,746
Infrastructural Assets	<u>39,403,646</u>	<u>39,403,646</u>
	54,047,330	53,698,336
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>57,645,468</u>	<u>56,728,047</u>
<hr/>		
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
Bank OD		0
Accounts Payable	1,251,486	1,131,601
GST	90,410	83,965
Deposits and Bonds	448,478	403,400
Sundry Payables	170,313	537,318
Accrued Annual Leave, Payroll	217,990	241,840
Other Revenue in Advance	15,000	15,000
Rates Revenue in Advance	<u>842,905</u>	<u>0</u>
	3,036,582	2,413,124
<u>NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
Future Quarry restoration	85,800	85,800
Punakaiki Loan	257,121	283,436
Lower Waiho Loan	13,403	45,294
Office Equipment Leases	<u>97,620</u>	<u>103,878</u>
	453,944	518,408
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>3,490,526</u>	<u>2,931,532</u>
<u>EQUITY</u>		
Ratepayers Equity	20,472,883 }	20,472,883
Prior Year Adjustment	-51,287 }	
Surplus Tsfrd.	166,714 }	
Rating District Equity Mvmts	1,026,392 }	
Rating Districts Equity	1,381,475	2,407,867
Tb Special Rate Balance	-36,374	-36,374
Revaluation	22,957,725	22,714,725
Quarry Account	152,414	152,414
Investment Growth Reserve	<u>8,085,000</u>	<u>8,085,000</u>
TOTAL EQUITY	54,154,942	53,796,515
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>57,645,468</u>	<u>56,728,047</u>

2. Investment Portfolio

PORTFOLIO @ 31 March 2010 Summary & Reconciliation		Cash	Bonds	Australasian Equities	International Equities	Property Equities	Alternative Asset Classes	Total
Portfolio Value @ Start	01.07.09	2707972	3898343	1128754	1243964	583366	930570	10492968
Net Contributions		-550826	-1153000	668787	766731	-118341	-413350	-800000
Realised Gains/(Losses)		-30197	6066	-2264	34041	-1674	101329	107301
adj.					-32			-32
Unrealised Gains/(Losses)		28020	-1668	312868	251987	57200	7655	656063
Unrealised Hedging Gains/(Losses)				-30976	-34342	-3661	-22906	-91885
Mgmt Fee								0
Income		109052	171527	56580	11946	31761	36366	417233
Accrued Interest		3334	8612					11946
Current Hedges @ 31.03.10								0
Portfolio Value @ End Period	31.03.10	2267355	2929881	2133750	2274294	548651	639664	10793595
Portfolio performance year to date		4.29%	5.60%	20.30%	16.34%	14.33%	15.20%	10.67%

Asset Allocation %'s @ 31 March 2010	Benchmarks	Tactical asset allocation range	
Cash	21%	25%	10% - 50%
Bonds	27%	25%	10% - 50%
Australasian Equities	20%	15%	0% - 20%
International Equities	21%	15%	0% - 20%
Property Equities	5%	5%	0% - 10%
Alternative Asset Classes	6%	15%	0% - 20%
	100%	100%	

3. General Comment

Total operating expenditure excluding the Greymouth Floodwalls (GFW) upgrade for the nine month period to 31 March was \$5.394 million.

Total operating revenues for the same period amounted to \$6.746 million.

The operating surplus before GFW upgrade costs for the period amounted to \$1.352 million.

The total costs of the Greymouth Floodwalls upgrade to 31 March amounted to \$1.185 million.

This includes \$903,872 payments to the main contractor from the total contract sum of \$2.768 million.

The total project costs of approximately \$3.3 million are being funded from:

- Existing credit balances \$1.2 million.
- Loan funds (to be repaid by GFW SRA) \$2.1 million.

The Investment portfolio has shown an excellent return of \$1.1 million or 10.67% for the nine months to 31 March 2010. This was due to strong returns on International Equities during March. This can be expected to ease back somewhat during April onwards due to market unease regarding the Greek debt crisis.

In the general rate funded area, there were net positive budget variances amounting to \$95,000 for the nine month period, despite cost pressures resulting from the wetlands variation Environment Court hearing, accumulated prosecution costs and the cost of defending consent appeals.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received.

Robert Mallinson
Corporate Services Manager

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting 12 May 2010
Prepared by: Chris Ingle – Chief Executive
Date: 30 April 2010
Subject: **CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT**

Meetings Attended

The meetings I have attended since the 13 April Council meeting include:

- Attended the Greymouth Floodwall Committee workshop on 14th of April.
- Attended an Institute of Directors seminar on the 14th of April.
- Met with Steve Urlich from FRST on 23rd of April in Christchurch.
- Attended the meeting with Hon Kate Wilkinson, Minister of Conservation on 23rd of April.
- Attended the Regional Chief Executives Group meeting in Wellington on 27th of April and the Chief Executives Environmental Forum on 28th of April also in Wellington.
- Met with Cristin Dyer of Audit NZ on 29th of April to discuss the Council's LTCCP Performance Management framework.

Pest Plant Strategy Review

Councillors Ewen, Archer and Robb are the subcommittee who are reviewing the Pest Plant Strategy and recommending amendments. I have prepared for the subcommittee a short paper that assesses possible changes to the existing strategy. This paper expanded on the RMC paper I prepared last month. After the subcommittee has met and discussed the direction of the new strategy, a Draft Strategy will be brought back to Council to consider.

Resource Management Discount Regulations

The Resource Consent Discounting Regulations are expected to come into force by the end of July 2010. The regulations provide a sliding scale of discount at 1% per working day to a maximum of 50% discount, for consents that are not processed within the statutory timeframe. There are various circumstances where it will not apply and the Environment Ministry is preparing guidance material to assist Councils with interpretation of the details.

Given our current statistics have over 98% of resource consents being processed in time, the risk of these regulations having significant financial implications for Council is considered to be very low. The higher risk consents are the notified consents. We will be looking at options of how to manage the risks associated with these applications.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received.

Chris Ingle
Chief Executive

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

To: Chairperson
West Coast Regional Council

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

Agenda Item No. 8.

- | | | |
|---------|-----|--|
| 11 - 12 | 8.1 | Confirmation of Confidential Minutes 13 April 2010 |
| | 8.2 | Overdue Debtors Report (to be tabled) |
| 13 – 32 | 8.3 | WCRC Public Liability Cover |

Item No.	General Subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution.
8.			
8.1	Confirmation of Confidential Minutes 13 April 2010		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	WCRC Public Liability Cover		

I also move that:

- Chris Ingle
- Robert Mallinson
- Simon Moran
- Colin Dall

be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded, because of their knowledge on the subject. This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matter to be discussed.

The Minutes Clerk also be permitted to remain at the meeting.