



THE WEST COAST
REGIONAL COUNCIL

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

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

TUESDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER 2016

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, 13 September 2016**

P. EWEN
CHAIRPERSON

M. MEEHAN
Chief Executive Officer

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5.		REPORTS
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THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 9 AUGUST 2016, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL,
388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.30 A.M.****PRESENT:**

P. Ewen (Chairman), A. Robb, A. Birchfield, T. Archer, S. Challenger, P. McDonnell, N. Clementson, J. Douglas

IN ATTENDANCE:

M. Meehan (Chief Executive Officer), G. McCormack (Consents & Compliance Manager), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), R. Beal (Operations Manager), N. Costley (Communications Manager), S. Jones (Planning Team Leader), A. Melrose (Regional Planner), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

3. MINUTES

Moved (McDonnell / Clementson) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 12 July 2016, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cr Ewen reported that he attended the recent Regional Transport Committee meeting with the Chairman. He also took a telephone call from ratepayer regarding the Hokitika Seawall.

Moved (Ewen / Challenger)

Carried

5. REPORTS**5.1 PLANNING AND OPERATIONS GROUP****5.1.1 PLANNING REPORT**

S. Jones spoke to this report and stated that staff are in the process of reviewing submissions on the Proposed Regional Policy Statement. She advised that a recommending report will be compiled and pre hearing meetings will be held in September / October. S. Jones advised that a hearing panel will be appointed following the Local Body Elections in November.

S. Jones thanked Councillors for their comments on the Paparoa National Park Management Plan Review. She stated that comments were also received from Councillors from Buller District Council. S. Jones advised that changes were made and revised submission was lodged on Friday.

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

Carried

5.1.2 PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSIONER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT COMMENTARY ON STATE OF ENVIRONMENT REPORT

S. Jones reported that the PCE has examined the way the State of Environment Report was prepared and has made comments and recommendations to the Secretary for the Environment in respect of future reporting.

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

Carried

5.1.3 PROPOSED PLAN CHANGE 1 TO THE REGIONAL LAND AND WATER PLAN

S. Jones spoke to this report and advised that this report seeks Council's agreement to notify Plan Change 1 on the Land and Water Plan. S. Jones advised that A. Melrose would make a presentation on the background on the Proposed Plan Change. A. Melrose spoke to her presentation and gave the Committee a detailed history on the Proposed Land and Riverbed Management Plan and progress to date. She advised that the next step for this plan change is to notify the plan change for public consultation on 22 August. She advised that this will be open for 20 working days. A. Melrose advised that a further letter will be sent out to each wetland landowner who is affected by the proposed boundary adjustment advising them that the plan change has been notified and that Council would welcome their submissions. Further submissions, hearings and appeals will then follow. She and S. Jones answered questions from Councillors. Considerable discussion took place with staff and management contributing. M. Meehan spoke extensively about the work that the Wetland's Coordinator has done over the years with landowners and DoC to come up with boundary adjustments. M. Meehan advised that earlier this year A. Melrose phoned the wetland owners that had not responded to letters or previous phone calls at Cr Ewen's suggestion. M. Meehan explained the submission process and the process for wetland landowners to follow to get the best possible outcomes. Cr Robb commented that councillors wanting to sit on the hearing panel would need to be qualified Hearing Commissioners. Cr Ewen asked M. Meehan if he knew how many land purchases have taken place or is underway. M. Meehan stated that there not been many, but there have been a few land exchanges. Cr Ewen asked M. Meehan if he knows how much land is already in Schedule 2 that is on private land and how much land in all three districts that is on DoC which is in Schedule 2. M. Meehan advised that this information could be sent out to Councillors following today's meeting. Further discussion took place. M. Meehan stated that the plan change is a positive step in the right direction and it gives landowners the opportunity to be involved in the plan change and to make a submission, and to be heard at the hearing. Discussion took place on the opportunity to take further legal advice, historic legal advice, and prospects for landowners to get compensation. M. Meehan stated that a lot of work has been done and some landowners have been waiting a long time for progress to be made on the removal of some of these areas. Cr Robb stated that if Council doesn't go forward with the recommendation, and if changes are not made to the Land and Water Plan then the Plan just sits where it is now, and Council has achieved nothing. He stated the 70 or so affected landowners will still be acting under the rules that the Court ruled. He stated that Council did not rule on this matter, the Court did. M. Meehan confirmed that all affected landowners have been contacted by Council staff. M. Meehan advised that as part of the plan change, anyone can make a submission. Cr McDonnell stated that by agreeing to the plan change, Council is not agreeing that the decision initially was the correct one; Council is just fixing up what is not a wetland. Cr McDonnell stated that he prepared to support the changes, but this does not mean that he agrees with the original court decision that has locked up a whole lot of other areas from the landowner to use. Cr Robb agrees with Cr McDonnell. Further discussion took place and questions were answered by staff relating to rules in the Land and Water Plan.

Moved (Archer / Robb)

That the Council approve Proposed Plan Change 1 to the Regional Land and Water Plan for public notification, and the accompanying Section 32 Evaluation Report, in accordance with Section 5 of the First Schedule of the Resource Management Act.

Carried

5.1.4 REEFTON AIR QUALITY SUMMARY

3

M. Meehan spoke to this report and advised that there have been four exceedances of the NES for air quality in Reefton this winter which is quite low compared to other years.

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

Carried

5.1.5 HYDROLOGY AND FLOOD WARNING REPORT

M. Meehan spoke to this report and stated that there were quite a few flood alarms during July affecting most of the rivers in the region. Cr Challenger drew attention to an error with a date in this report; the correct date for the Karamea River peak is 26 June. Cr Archer drew attention to the first flood warning activation for the Mokihinui River at Welcome Bay, he asked if worked well from a civil defence perspective. M. Meehan responded that this is the first activation and Civil Defence has a plan in place, with a contact list which filters down into the call tree.

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

Carried

5.2.1 CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT

G. McCormack spoke to this report and advised that 10 non-notified consents have granted during the past month, three variations to existing consents and two limited notified resource consents were granted. Cr McDonnell commented that it is pleasing to see the granting of the resource consents for the new Taramakau Bridge.

Moved (Archer / Robb) *That the August 2016 reports of the Compliance Group be received.*

Carried

5.2.2 COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT

G. McCormack spoke to this report. He advised that 44 site visits were carried out, 37 were compliant and seven were non-compliant. G. McCormack reported that 10 complaints were dealt with, five of these were non-compliant and are being dealt with. G. McCormack reported that one formal warning was issued and one abatement notice was issued.

G. McCormack advised that big improvements were observed with regard to the annual aerial inspections especially in the farming sector. He stated that new technology using a tablet is currently being tested for use on dairy site visits. G. McCormack advised that this will then become the prototype for all other site visits including mining and gravel extraction as this new system will assist with data collection. Cr Robb stated that it is pleasing to hear of the good results from the aerial inspections as it has been an extremely wet winter. G. McCormack advised that all farmers will be written to let them know where they are at with compliance and to highlight any areas of concern in order to be able to improve the long term environment. G. McCormack discussed farm visits and spoke of improvements he is making in this area.

M. Meehan advised that consents and compliance staff are currently working with Westland District Council to provide additional assistance at the moment.

G. McCormack answered various questions from Councillors.

Moved (Archer / Challenger)

- 1. That the August 2016 reports of the Compliance Group be received.*
- 2. The Council release the bonds for RC2015-0043 Granville Mining Ltd, RC2014-0114 Griffiths Mining Ltd and RC12122 Infants Creek Resources Ltd.*

Carried

6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Ewen drew attention to page 4 of the agenda, regarding the hearing to be held for the Proposed Regional Policy Statement; he spoke of the requirement for Councillors wishing to sit on hearing panels to be certified Hearing Commissioners.

The meeting closed at 11.38 a.m.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee – 13 September 2016
Prepared by: Sarah Jones – Planning Team Leader
Date: 2 September 2016
Subject: **PLANNING REPORT**

Proposed Regional Policy Statement (pRPS)

Staff are in the process of reviewing the submissions and further submissions received in response to the notification of the pRPS, and are compiling the staff recommending report (under s42A of the RMA). Staff have contacted a number of the submitters to arrange pre hearing meetings in September/October, with a view to holding hearings in December. Following the local elections, the hearings panel will be appointed in November.

Land and Water Plan – Plan Change 1

The Plan Change was notified on 22 August 2016 and submissions close on 16 September 2016. Letters were sent to all wetland landowners and other relevant statutory consultees. Staff have been dealing with a number of inquiries from landowners that have arisen in response to the consultation, primarily clarifying process related points.

Paparoa National Park Management Plan Review

A submission (on behalf of WCRC, Grey and Buller District Councils) was lodged with the Department of Conservation on 5 August 2016. The final version of the submission is attached. Buller District Council made a verbal submission to the hearings panel on 18 August 2016, on behalf of the Councils. The Department are currently in the process of making revisions to the draft Plan and intend to complete this for consideration by the Conservation Board in mid-September. Once approved, the Conservation Board pass the document on to the New Zealand Conservation Authority for final approval.

Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Bill no. 2, 2016

A joint submission (on behalf of WCRC, and Grey, Buller and Westland District Councils) was submitted to the Local Government and Environment Select Committee on 28 July 2016, a copy of the submission was attached to the August Council agenda. At the time of writing this report, Council was awaiting a time and date to make a verbal submission on the submission.

Productivity Commission draft report on Better Urban Planning

A draft report on a review of New Zealand's planning system was published for consultation by the Productivity Commission on 19 August 2016. The report seeks to identify the most appropriate system for allocating land use in cities and includes the processes that are currently undertaken through the Resource Management Act, the Local Government Act and the Land Transport Management Act. Whilst the report focuses on urban development and cities, the findings and recommendations are broad in scope and will have implications for the all planning processes. Staff are currently reviewing the report and will prepare a draft submission, possibly a joint submission with the District Councils, for circulation to Councillors in advance of the consultation closing date on 3 October 2016.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report is received.

Sarah Jones
Planning Team Leader

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee – 13 September 2016
Prepared by: Sarah Jones
Date: 2 September 2016
Subject: **Update on Proposed Plan Change Wording**

Background

At the August Council meeting, staff sought approval from Council to notify Proposed Plan Change 1 to the Land and Water Plan. At that meeting Councillors queried the proposed wording of Rules 10 and 79, requested the new rule relating to Whitebait Stands be renumbered, and questioned the explanation for the proposed deletion of reference to policy 9.2 of the operative Regional Policy Statement (oRPS) (described in the draft s32 report as miscellaneous change 'B').

This report seeks to provide an update on how those matters have been progressed by staff.

Rules 10 and 79

Queries were raised by Councillors about the use of "and" or "or" in the respective rules. To resolve concerns, legal advice has been sought to confirm the correct application of terms.

Given the concerns raised by Councillors were not fully addressed at the previous Council meeting, but in order to ensure the plan change was notified on the agreed date, the wording changes initially proposed by staff (and reflected in the draft s32 report) were omitted from the Plan Change.

However, given changes to Rules 10 and 79 also apply to many other rules within the Plan, staff have decided that in the interests of consistency, it is best to retain the existing wording until a more comprehensive review of the Plan can be carried out and the wording of all rules can be addressed in together.

Omission of Policy 9.2 of the oRPS

Staff reviewed the point made at the August Council meeting concerning the proposed removal of references to Policy 9.2 of the oRPS from the Land and Water Plan. Following further discussion, Staff recommend leaving the reference in the Land and Water Plan until the proposed RPS is made operative and allow any comments on its removal to be considered through the RPS review process. As such, this change no longer forms part of Plan Change 1.

New rule relating to Whitebait Stands

Councillors requested the new rule relating to Whitebait Stands be renumbered '34a' rather than '39' to avoid renumbering existing subsequent rules in the Plan. This request has been actioned and is reflected in the notified version of Proposed Plan Change 1.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report is received.

Sarah Jones
Planning Team Leader

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee – 13 September 2016
 Prepared by: Cameron Doake – Biosecurity Officer
 Date: 2 September 2016
 Subject: **PROPOSED REGIONAL PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Purpose

This report presents the Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan 2016 (RPMP) and the accompanying Cost Benefit Analysis Report (CBA), and recommends public notification of the Proposed RPMP.

Proposed RPMP

Staff have completed a full review of the Regional Pest Plant Management Strategy 2010. The RPMP has been developed to meet the requirements of the National Policy Direction for Pest Management, which was released in September 2015. Pre-consultation was undertaken by way of a pest plant forum held on 26 November 2015, and completed by providing the Draft Plan for comment amongst stakeholders prior to seeking this notification. Parties involved in pre-consultation included; Iwi, the Department of Conservation, Dairy NZ, District Councils, Federated Farmers, Kiwirail and various contractors. Feedback provided a number of changes to the Draft Proposed RPMP.

The purpose of the Proposed RPMP 2016 is to provide the regulatory framework to efficiently and effectively manage or eradicate specified organisms throughout the West Coast region. Many organisms on the West Coast are considered undesirable or a nuisance, yet only where individual action, or inaction, in managing pests imposes undue effects on others is regional management needed. Once operative, the RPMP will empower the Council to exercise the relevant advisory, service delivery, regulatory and funding provisions available under the Biosecurity Act to deliver the desired outcomes for pest management on the West Coast.

The Proposed RPMP takes a pragmatic approach to pest management on the West Coast. It appropriately reflects the risks posed to the West Coast environment by pest plants. It builds on the successes of the current Regional Pest Plant Management Strategy, and takes into account new pests and those becoming more of a threat within the region. The Proposed RPMP will provide the Council with the tools required to assist the community in protecting the regions conservation, production and recreational values.

Cost Benefit Analysis Report

As per clause 2 (c) (vii) of the Biosecurity Act, the Council must prepare a cost benefit analysis (CBA) Report to justify the decision making behind the Proposed RPMP. This Report must be made available to the public at the time of notification of the Plan.

The CBA is intended to help readers understand how the Proposed RPMP was developed, and the rationale behind the pests and rules chosen. The CBA identifies each pest in the Proposed RPMP, the values threatened by the pest, and analyses the likely outcomes of the pest being managed verses a 'do nothing' approach. It also identifies the risks associated with managing, or not managing, each pest.

Notifying the Proposed Regional Policy Statement

Council can now publicly notify the Proposed RPMP. With Council approval, a public notice inviting submissions will be placed in the three main West Coast newspapers and the Christchurch Press. A copy of the public notice, the Proposed RPMP and the CBA Report will be made available at the main public libraries of the region. Copies of the documents will also be available on the Council website.

RECOMMENDATION

1. *That Council receives this report.*
2. *That the Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan 2016 and accompanying Cost Benefit Analysis Report, are approved for public notification.*

Randal Beal
Operations Manager

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee Meeting – 13 September 2016
 Prepared by: Emma Perrin-Smith, Senior Resource Science Technician
 Date: 02 September 2016
Subject: REEFTON AIR QUALITY SUMMARY

There have been four exceedances of the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Air Quality) Regulations 2004 for PM₁₀ in Reefton so far this year (Figure 1). This has been the lowest number of exceedances recorded since 2006 (Table 1).

Table 1. Exceedances and maximum daily PM10 since 2006.

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Number of exceedances (over whole year)	16	25	18	16	22	7	27	15	17	14	4
Maximum recorded 24hr average (µg/m ³)	86	129	78	91	99	68	115	87	82	91	70

An exceedance occurs when there has been an average of more than 50 micrograms/m³ of PM₁₀ recorded over a 24 hour period. The National Environmental Standard (NES) allows one permissible exceedance per year.

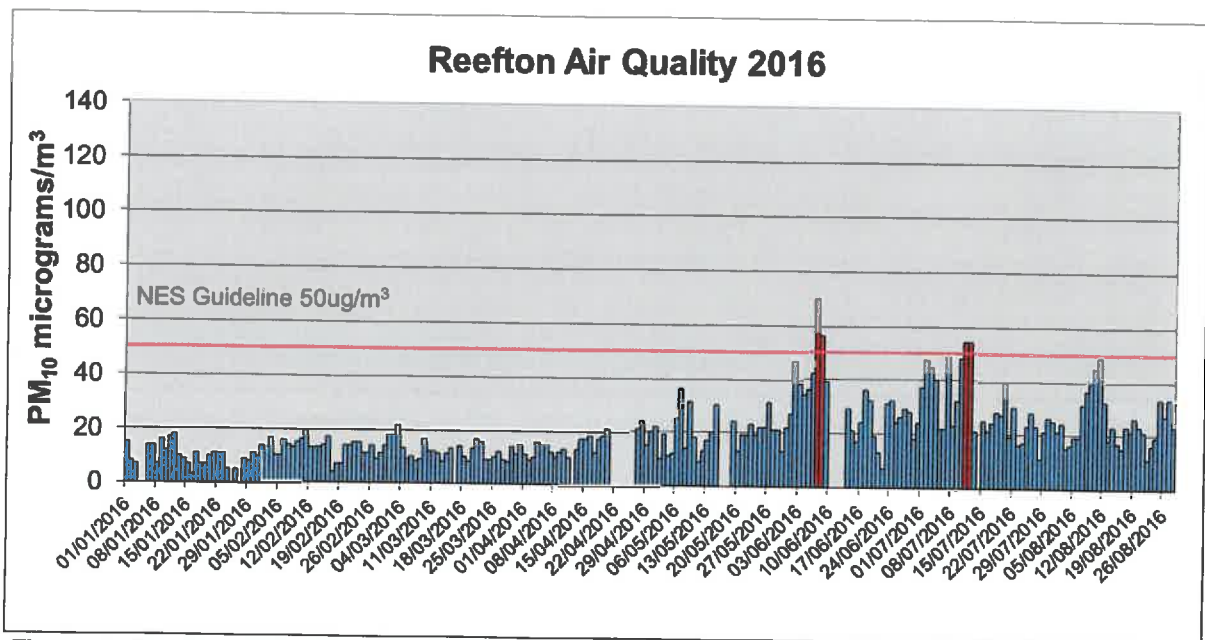


Figure 1. Reefton daily PM₁₀ for 2016 showing exceedances of the NES in red. Gaps in the data are due to power cuts.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report is received

Michael Meehan
Chief Executive Officer

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee 13 September 2016
 Prepared by: Karen Glover - Consents & Compliance Administration Officer
 Date: 1 September 2016
 Subject: **CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT**

CONSENTS

3 Consents Site Visits were undertaken between 28 July – 31 August 2016

Non-Notified Resource Consents Granted 28 July – 31 August 2016

CONSENT NO. & HOLDER	PURPOSE OF CONSENT
RC09171 Weststone 2012 Ltd	To disturb the dry bed of the Grey River for the purpose of removing gravel.
RC13198 MT & BM Havill	To disturb the bed of Orwell Creek to install an infiltration gallery and construct and maintain a diversion channel. To take and use surface water from Orwell Creek for the purpose of irrigation. To take and use groundwater for the purpose of irrigation, Ahaura. To divert water to an infiltration gallery for the purposes of irrigation, Orwell Creek.
RC-2015-0144 Road Metals Company Ltd	To disturb the dry bed of the Moeraki River for the purpose of removing gravel.
RC-2015-0170 JK Carpenter & AA Thomson	To undertake exploratory gold mining activities within a Schedule 2 Wetland adjacent to the Totara Lagoon, Ross.
RC-2016-0010 Greid Mining Ltd	To undertake earthworks associated with alluvial gold mining within MP 52774, German Gully, Waimea Forest. To take and use water for alluvial gold mining activities within MP 52774 at German Gully, Waimea Forest. To discharge sediment-laden water to land in circumstances where it may enter water, namely German Gully and its tributaries associated with alluvial gold mining within MP 52774 at German Gully, Waimea Forest.
RC-2016-0036 JM Rogers	To disturb the bed of the Blind River to install a weir and undertake channel clearance works. To take surface water from the Blind River for the purpose of irrigation and dairy shed management. To take groundwater for the purpose of irrigation and dairy shed management, Okari.
RC-2016-0047 Mattridge Ltd	To undertake earthworks and vegetation clearance within and outside a Schedule 2 Wetland, Harihari.
RC-2016-0051 Pearson Contracting Ltd	To disturb the foreshore of the Coastal Marine Area to extract sand and shingle, North Beach, Westport.
RC-2016-0072 PD Reedy	To disturb the dry bed of the Fox River within the Coastal Marine Area for the purpose of extracting gravel.

RC-2016-0073 GN & SR Thompson Family Trust	To undertake earthworks associated with alluvial gold mining activities within MP 52365, at Stafford. To take and use water for the purposes of alluvial gold mining activities within MP 52365, at Stafford. To discharge water containing sediment to land within MP 52365 in circumstances where it may enter water, namely Waimea Creek and its tributaries associated with alluvial gold mining at Stafford.
RC-2016-0081 TBfree New Zealand Ltd	To authorise the aerial discharge of 1080 (sodium monofluoroacetate) possum control cereal pellets (at a sowing rate of up to 5 kg per hectare) containing up to 0.15% weight/weight of 1080 to the Radiant Range Discharge Area.
RC-2016-0082 TBfree New Zealand Ltd	To authorise the aerial discharge of 1080 (sodium monofluoroacetate) possum control cereal pellets (at a sowing rate of up to 5 kg per hectare) containing up to 0.15% weight/weight of 1080 to the New Creek – Mokihinui Discharge Area.
RC-2016-0085 MA Buckingham	To discharge sewage wastewater to land Paringa 3 Blk XV Paringa SD.
RC-2016-0087 AP Smith	To discharge sewage waste water from a domestic dwelling to land at 1601 Kumara Junction Highway, RD 2, Hokitika.
RC-2016-0089 Francis Mining Co Ltd	To disturb the dry bed of the Buller River downstream of the Iron Bridge for the purpose of removing gravel.
RC-2016-0090 Department of Conservation	To disturb the dry bed of Macdonalds Creek for the purpose of removing gravel.
RC-2016-0091 Truline Civil Ltd	To disturb the dry bed of Barrack Creek for the purpose of removing gravel.
RC-2016-0092 WD Morris & SJ Allan	To discharge treated sewage wastewater to land from a domestic dwelling at Lot 1 DP 403811, 3456 Coast Road, Barrytown.

Changes to and Reviews of Consent Conditions granted 28 July – 31 August 2016

CONSENT NO. & HOLDER	PURPOSE OF CHANGE/REVIEW
RC04213-V1 JC Douglas	To allow black sand gold mining activities to be undertaken in Mining Permit 60151 at Charleston.
RC08058-V2 Department of Conservation	To amend condition 14 of an aerial 1080 operation regarding notification in newspapers.
RC11113-V5 Department of Conservation	To amend condition 15 of an aerial 1080 operation regarding notification in newspapers.
RC-2015-0167-V1 Greid Mining Ltd	To increase maximum unrehabilitated gold mining area and increase bond for operation at Stafford.

No Limited Notified or Notified Resource Consents were granted in the period 28 July to 31 August 2016.

Public Enquiries

47 written public enquiries were responded to during the reporting period. 38 (81%) were answered on the same day, and the remaining 9 (19%) within the next ten days. Five LGOIMA requests were responded to.

RECOMMENDATION

That the September 2016 report of the Consents Group be received.

Gerard McCormack
Consents & Compliance Manager

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee – 13 September 2016
 Prepared by: Gerard McCormack – Consents and Compliance Manager
 Date: 1 September 2016
 Subject: **COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT**

Site Visits

A total of 45 site visits were undertaken during the reporting period, which consisted of:

Activity	Number of Visits
Resource consent monitoring	19
Mining compliance & bond release	12
Complaint Related	14
Dairy Farm	0

Out of the 45 total site visits for the reporting period, 31 visits were compliant, 14 visits were non-compliant.

Complaints/Incidents between 28 July 2016 & 1 September 2016

The following 18 complaints/incidents were received during the reporting period:

Activity	Description	Location	Action/Outcome	INC/Comp
Storm water discharge	Complaint received that storm water runoff was causing issues to a neighbouring property.	Ikamatua	The site was investigated and the complaint was unsubstantiated.	Complaint
Dairy effluent discharge	Complaint received that dairy effluent was discharging off a farm race.	Maruia	The site was investigated and the complaint was unsubstantiated.	Complaint
Stand off pad	Complaint regarding a standoff pad located on or near a river bed.	Kokatahi	The farmer was directed to cease using the area.	Complaint
Crop paddock	Compliance staff carrying out an aerial survey of farms observed that cows being break fed in a crop paddock did not have a buffer against a water body.	Hauptiri	The farmer was contacted and advised to maintain a larger buffer with the waterbody.	Incident
Crop paddock	Compliance staff carrying out an aerial survey of farms observed that cows being break fed in a crop paddock did not have a buffer against a water body.	Waitaha	The farmer was contacted and advised to maintain a larger buffer with the waterbody.	Incident
Stock access to riparian margin	Complaint received that an area of river bank had been pugged by dairy animals.	Whataroa	The farmer was required to remove the animals from the area.	Complaint

Activity	Description	Location	Action/Outcome	INC/Comp
Sand Extraction	Complaint received that sand was being extracted from the beach.	Fairdown	Enquiries are ongoing.	Complaint
Discharge to water	Complaint received that the discharge from a gold mining operation was significantly discolouring a river.	Kaniere	The site was investigated and the miner was required to undertake remedial work to cease the discharge. Enforcement action was undertaken.	Complaint
Discharge to water	Westland Milk Products reported that they had a discharge of milk to the Hokitika River.	Hokitika	The operator carried out remedial work to mitigate any adverse effects. Enforcement action was undertaken.	Incident
Stormwater discharge	Complaint regarding the discharge of storm water causing issues to a neighbouring property.	Kumara	Enquiries are ongoing.	Complaint
Discharge to water	Complaint received that a creek was discoloured with sediment.	Arahura	The site was investigated and the complaint was unsubstantiated.	Complaint
Discharge to water	Complaint received that tyres had been dumped in Sawyers Creek.	Greymouth	The site was investigated and the tyres were not located. They may have already been recovered by other persons.	Complaint
Black Sand Mining	Complaint received that a black sand gold miner was working outside of their consent conditions.	Fairdown	The operator was contacted and advised of their consent conditions.	Complaint
Discharge to water	Complaint received that the discharge from a gold mining operation was significantly discolouring a river.	Taramakau	The site was investigated and samples of the discharge were obtained. The Council is awaiting the results of the sampling. Enquiries are ongoing.	Complaint
Black sand mining	Complaint received that a black sand miner has done unconsented works within a creek bed.	Barrytown	The site was investigated and the miner was required to remediate the creek. Enforcement action is pending.	Complaint
Discharge to water	Complaint received that a creek was discoloured with sediment.	Fairdown	Enquiries are ongoing	Complaint
Earthworks within the CMA	Complaint received that a white baiter has carried out unconsented earthworks and modified the river bank.	Little Wanganui	The person responsible has been required to undertake remedial work. Enforcement action is pending.	Complaint
Whitebait Stand	Complaint received that a whitebait stand has been constructed in the wrong location.	Hokitika	Enquiries are ongoing.	Complaint

Formal Enforcement Action

Two infringement notices were issued during the reporting period

Activity	Location
Gold Mining: Sediment discharge	Kaniere
Milk Factory: Milk discharge	Hokitika

One Abatement Notice was issued during the reporting period.

Activity	Location
Gold Mining: Cease discharge of sediment	Kaniere

Mining Work Programmes and Bonds

The Council received the following 3 work programmes during the last reporting period. Two work programmes have been approved. The remaining work programme has been recently received.

Date	Mining Authorisation	Holder	Location
17/08/2016	RC13092	Blues Mining limited	Notown
29/08/2016	RC09059	P & R Mining Limited	Waiuta
25/08/2016	RC12109	H & N Mining Partnership (Paramount Mining)	Rimu

The following bonds were received during the reporting period:

Mining Authorisation	Holder	Location	Amount
RC-2015-0167	Greid Minning Ltd	German Gully	\$10,000
RC-2016-0037	Blakely Mining Ltd	Callaghans	\$40,000
RC12109	H & N Partnership (Paramount Mining)	Rimu	\$12,000

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received.

Gerard McCormack
Consents and 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, 13 September 2016** commencing on completion of the Resource Management Committee Meeting

A.J. ROBB
CHAIRPERSON

M. MEEHAN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

<u>AGENDA NUMBERS</u>	<u>PAGE NUMBERS</u>	<u>BUSINESS</u>
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THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 9 AUGUST 2016,
AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD,
GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11.39 A.M.****PRESENT:**

A. Robb (Chairman), P. Ewen, P. McDonnell, A. Birchfield, N. Clementson, T. Archer, S. Challenger

IN ATTENDANCE:

M. Meehan (Chief Executive Officer) G. McCormack (Consents & Compliance Manager), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), R. Beal (Operations Manager), N. Costley (Communications Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

3.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved (Clementson / Ewen) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 12 July 2016, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

REPORTS:**4.1 ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT**

The Chairman welcomed R. Beal to his first meeting. R. Beal advised that tenders for the works in the Franz Josef rating district would be opened today. He stated that following the two day workshop in Franz Josef on 27 and 28 July, all experts present were in agreement that the Waiho River will continue to aggrade and the continued raising of the rock walls is unsustainable. R. Beal advised that annual inspections of Council's rating districts will be completed prior to the annual meetings in November. R. Beal requested that following consultation with the Chief Executive, the recommendation in this report that Council holds a special meeting on 30 August for the purpose of making decisions relating to Neils Beach and Punakaiki matters, be removed.

Cr Archer asked for clarification as to whether the items included in this report would remain on the report until they are either completed or until Council decides they need to be removed. Cr Archer asked if Carters Beach should be included in the report. M. Meehan advised that staff have been on site at Carters Beach and the threat to private property is minimal, from the erosion line to private property the distance is 100 metres or more. Cr Archer spoke of a meeting he attended with Buller District Council some time ago regarding Carters Beach but Buller District Council was not in a position to do anything about this and the matter has now languished. M. Meehan advised that he has not received phone calls about this matter and it does not seem to be a pressing issue. He stated that in the past there has been concern around the domain area and the domain board were dealing with this. Cr Archer stated that he would make some enquiries and come back to M. Meehan if he has concerns.

Cr McDonnell asked if there had been an approach from Westland District Council with regard to extending the Hokitika Seawall as this had been mentioned recently in the Hokitika Guardian. M. Meehan stated that there has not heard anything about this but this could come up at the annual meeting in November. M. Meehan advised that he is going to be working on a natural hazards strategy for the region, working in with the district councils. He stated that quite often there is confusion over roles in this area. The Chairman agreed and stated that quite often there is duplication. M. Meehan and R. Beal answered various questions from Councillors.

Moved (Clementson / Birchfield) *that this report is received.*

Carried

4.1.1 GRAVEL EXTRACTION COMPLIANCE MONITORING CHARGE

G. McCormack spoke to this report advising that this report was brought to last month's meeting and he has now added additional information to this report. G. McCormack stated that \$90,000 was needed to be raised from the gravel extraction compliance monitoring charge that was previously set out in the 2015 / 25 Long Term Plan. G. McCormack advised that close to \$300,000 would have been raised if the charges previously agreed were put in place. G. McCormack advised that the new figures are still over \$90,000 as he is expecting quite a few gravel consents to be surrendered as some companies have merged and no longer need the consents. He stated that the figure is then likely to be closer to \$100,000 but this can be reviewed again next year. Cr Archer stated that this is a very good outcome.

Moved (Archer / Clementson)

That Council reduce the gravel consent monitoring charge established in the Long Term Plan as follows;

Cubic volume	Current charge	Proposed charge
< 2,000 m3	\$300	\$150
2,000 – 3,999 m3	\$600	\$300
4,000 – 7,999 m3	\$1,200	\$500
8,000 – 15,000 m3	\$2,200	\$750
> 15,000 m3	\$3,000	\$1,000

Carried

(LATE ITEM)

RESOURCE CONSENT ANNUAL ADMINISTRATION CHARGE

G. McCormack spoke to this report and advised that this charge was part of the Long Term Plan with the charges seeking to raise \$110,000 which was based on 2000 consent files. He advised this number of files was incorrect as it was close to 4000. G. McCormack advised that around 400 consents have since been surrendered. He advised that at the time of writing this report the number of consents was around 3,600 which were generating revenue of close to \$200,000. G. McCormack is now suggesting the consents for domestic septic tanks are removed from this year's charge. He explained in detail how this would work and advised that a further review could be done next year if required. Discussion took place and it was agreed that it is important that consent holders engage and take some responsibility with consents that they hold. M. Meehan commented that there have been some positives come out of this as some property owners that didn't transfer the septic tank consent over to the new owner have complained as this should have been dealt with as part of the property sale. M. Meehan stated that this process has cleared a lot of consents that were no longer required.

MOVED (Archer / Ewen)

That Council waive the annual resource consent file administration charge for holders of resource consent files relating to domestic septic tanks, from 2016 / 17 onwards.

Carried

4.1.2 REGIONAL TRANSPORT UPDATE

N. Costley spoke to this report. She stated that tourism is now having a greater emphasis on transport with linkages to economic development. N. Costley stated that the Regional Economic Development Manager has now been seconded onto the Regional Transport Committee. N. Costley reported that there are five new passing opportunities to be constructed this coming summer and will all be completed by June 2018. She advised that the construction of the Ahaura Bridge is being brought forward. N. Costley reported that construction is well advanced on the Mingha Bluff to Rough Creek project. N. Costley stated that the Local Government Commission work looking at transport efficiencies is progressing well. N. Costley answered various questions from Councillors.

MOVED (Ewen / Challenger) *That Council receives this report.*

Carried

4.2 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT

R. Mallinson spoke to his report and stated that this is the financial report for the twelve months to the end of June. He stated that the situation improved during June. He advised that the deficit for the twelve month period is \$454,000. R. Mallinson reported that the Westpac portfolio declined in value by \$125,000 during June but these losses were recouped in July and the portfolio has now bounced back in excess of \$225,000, making up the June losses in July. R. Mallinson stated that he is now working on the Annual Report. He stated that the first financial report to Council for 2016 / 17 will be for the two months to the 31st of August. R. Mallinson answered various questions from Councillors.

October Council Meeting

Discussion took place on the date for the October Council meeting. It was noted that Local Body Elections will be held on 8 October, and the date of 11 October had been previously set for the October Council meeting. Discussion took place and it was agreed that October meeting would be held on 4 October.

Moved (Clementson / Challenger)

1. *That this report be received.*
2. *That the October Council meeting is held on 4 October 2016.*

Carried

4.2.1 SETTING OF RATES FOR 2016 / 17

R. Mallinson spoke to this report. He explained various aspects of his report relating to the Punakaiki rating district to the meeting. He stated that the maintenance rate of \$95,000 + GST does need to continue with the existing classification system for 2016 / 17 as the community is working through how the new capital works can be funded. R. Mallinson advised that there is an overdraft of over \$100,000 in the Punakaiki maintenance rating district account as at the end of June 2016. R. Mallinson explained how Council can set a rate outside the annual plan process. He stated that this could be used to fund the new capital works but he feels it would not be appropriate to reset the maintenance rate using this provision. M. Meehan advised that if the community proceed with the norther extension to the Punakaiki seawall then they will be maintaining a bigger structure. Cr Archer stated that the existing seawall is still going to need to be maintained, and if the outcome of the decision that is currently being consulted may change things. Cr Archer stated that an extension to the current seawall is unlikely to need a lot of additional maintenance work after it has just been built.

Moved (Archer / Challenger)

That Council adopt the attached proposed rates strike and penalty setting resolutions numbered:

1. *Setting of various rates as per 1 (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), (m), (n), (o), (p), (q), (r), (s), (t), (u), (v), (w), (x), (y), (z), (aa), (bb), (cc), (dd), (ee).*
2. *Adopting due dates for payment.*

4.2.1 **TWELVE MONTH REVIEW – 1 JULY 2015 – 30 JUNE 2016**

M. Meehan spoke to this report. He stated that some of the highlights of the work completed this year are the new flood warning sites and the new low flow gauging equipment in the Mawheraiti River. M. Meehan stated that he feels it has been a good year. It was noted that some targets that were not achieved were very close to being achieved. Cr Archer stated that this is a very good report. M. Meehan answered questions from Councillors.

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

Carried

5.0 **CHAIRMANS REPORT**

The Chairman spoke to his report. He stated that a report is now awaited on the work that has been carried out by the Governance Group. The Chairman advised that the big opportunities for the West Coast are in the tourism area. He stated that the Economic Development Manager is doing a lot of work in this area.

The Chairman stated that Council received a highly commended award for work in the Lake Brunner catchment at the recent Local Government Excellence Awards which was part of the Local Government Conference. The Chairman reported that one of the main remits at the annual meeting, which was part of the conference, was the submission to the Government above the Local Government Amendment Act. The Chairman stated that the Prime Minister also spoke at the conference.

The Chairman advised that a report is imminent from the Local Government Commission regarding the work that they have done in the region recently.

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

Carried

6.0 **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**

M. Meehan spoke to his report and advised that the meeting with staff from MfE on 7 July had a large focus on the national policy statement for freshwater management. He stated that swim ability is now becoming a big issue around the country and the state of waterways in our region was discussed. M. Meehan stated that stock access to water was discussed at this meeting. He stated some follow up work on this is required before a new rule is put into the national policy statement.

M. Meehan reported that his recent meeting with the South Island Chief Executive's was very good with general alignment on quite a few matters. He stated that there is a lot of collaboration around the South Island with the roading network.

M. Meehan reported that the visit by the Deputy CEO from MBIE and his staff was a good opportunity to talk about matters involving New Zealand Petroleum Minerals and Gas and the potential alignment with projects.

M. Meehan stated that Jason Krupp from the New Zealand Initiative gave a presentation on local government in Switzerland and Manchester at the Local Government Conference. M. Meehan advised that he has invited Mr Krupp to visit the West Coast in a few weeks' time. M. Meehan advised that the New Zealand Initiative is funded by around 40 of New Zealand's biggest businesses and they will fund the visit.

M. Meehan reported that the recent workshop held in Franz Josef was very good. He stated that the next step is to present the findings of this to the community, in layman's terms as this is a very complex situation which will require central and local government and the community to work together. M. Meehan advised that New Zealand Petroleum Minerals and Gas are increasing their fees for permits; he stated that he will be writing to them to express his concerns on this, including the timeframes for permits.

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

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 12.47 p.m.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting – 13 September 2016
 Prepared by: Randal Beal – Operations Manager
 Date: 6 September 2016
 Subject: **ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT**

WORKS COMPLETED AND WORKS TENDERED FOR

Recruitment

Brendon Russ has commenced work as the engineer for the southern rating districts. Brendon has in excess of 20 years experience in engineering and surveying in contractor and regulatory roles.

Franz Josef Rating District

This work involving the raising of the Franz Josef Rating District stopbanks has been tendered out. The successful contractor was MBD Contracting at a price of \$114,510 (GST exclusive).

Punakaiki Rating District

Emergency works were undertaken to construct a temporary bund to protect the northern part of the Punakaiki Rating District. If the northern extension to the Rating District proceeds this will form part of that works, if this does not proceed Council will recover costs for the work from the Buller District Council owned campground. The work was completed by MBD at a cost of \$45,320.

Granity/Ngakawau/Hector erosion

Following the NIWA report and interaction with the community Council have sent out a letter (attached) to all residents in Granity, Ngakawau and Hector. The letter highlights the work that has been completed to date and advises residents who wish to proceed with coastal protection works to contact Council.

Buller River Flood consultation

Staff are collating information into a package for public consultation in October.

Franz Josef – Waiho River

At the request of the Franz Josef Working Group Council applied for Envirolink funding to undertake a multi hazard assessment of Franz Josef. The work undertaken by GNS will be used by the working group to look at the impacts of those hazards when discussing growth in the town. Alongside this work Council held a 2 day workshop with leading experts from New Zealand working alongside locals to examine the aggradation issues in the Waiho River with a view of developing a long term strategy. The Franz Josef Working Group is meeting on 8 September 2016 to discuss these matters, in attendance will be officials from the Ministry for the Environment and the Ministry for Business Innovation and Employment.

Carters Beach

Envirolink funding has been applied for to commission a report from NIWA looking at the coastal erosion issue. Once the report is complete a public meeting will be arranged.

Annual Inspections of Rating District Assets

As part of managing the Rating District assets, staff are undertaking the annual inspections of the Council owned Rating District assets. These inspections will be completed in September and collated into reports for the annual meetings in October/November.

Quarries

Council quarries are registered with Worksafe NZ as is required under Health and Safety at Work (Mining Operations and Quarrying Operations) Regulations 2016. Council's Quarry Manager has begun inspections with a focus on compliance with new regulations.

Council is seeking professional advice regarding the future management of Kiwi Quarry to ensure that the resource is used efficiently and safely.

Quarry	Rock Available
Blackball	1,650
Camelback	17,124
Inchbonnie	12,481
Kiwi	979
Whataroa	8,838
Okuru	0

RECOMMENDATION

That the report is received

Randal Beal
Operations Manager



THE WEST COAST
REGIONAL COUNCIL
23 August 2016

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8

Address

X

X

City

Dear Sir/Madam

Ngakawau Granity Hector Sea Erosion

As you would be aware, the effects of sea erosion are impacting on a number of properties in Ngakawau, Hector and Granity. This issue is not new, and was investigated in detail in 2006 through a NIWA report outlining potential ways forward for the community. In addition to the NIWA report, Council published guidance information which is available on the Council website at:

<http://www.wrc.govt.nz/our-services/environmental-management/Pages/coastal-advice.aspx>, alternatively search "coastal advice" in the search bar at the top of the main page.

Following a public meeting in October 2015, Council commissioned NIWA to examine the issue and provide further recommendations. The NIWA report can be downloaded on the Council website or alternatively hard copies of the report will be made available at the Ngakawau community centre.

<http://www.wrc.govt.nz/our-council/news/Pages/Coastal-Erosion-Reports.aspx>

The report details potential works that could assist in reducing the impacts of coastal erosion on private properties. It divides the long coastline into segments and discusses the current state of play and any recommended actions, which are mostly softer engineering solutions. The report makes it clear that there is no long term solution to this issue other than eventually retreating from the area.

It is clear that New Zealand's coastline is very dynamic, particularly with the predicted climate changes in the future. The government is currently examining this issue with a view of providing consistent advice to local authorities as to how to manage this issue in the future.

Due to the very complex combinations of the various options recommended for different sections of the beach frontage, it would be extremely difficult to set up, and manage, a 'special rating district' for each of these totally different solutions. On this basis, Council encourages residents to work together to achieve the recommendations of the report. Council is more than happy to work with groups of proactive neighbouring property owners who would like to discuss how Council can assist them to work together to achieve these outcomes.

If you would like to discuss potential ways forward with one of our engineering officers please contact Paulette Birchfield on 03 768 0466.

Yours faithfully

Michael Meehan
Chief Executive Officer

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting – 13 September 2016
 Prepared by: Randal Beal, Operations Manager
 Date: 7 September 2016
 Subject: **Proposed Neil's Beach Replenishment**

Background

Council is aware of the ongoing beach erosion at Neil's Beach. NIWA were commissioned by Council to undertake a report looking at the erosion issue and provide recommendations as to short and long term trends along with potential mitigation works.

Opinion Survey results

Following two public meetings and the NIWA advice Council undertook a postal survey (attached) of residents potentially affected by the erosion.

In total, 35 of the 53 surveys were received by 6 September 2016, this represents a 66% response rate.

Of the responses received:

40% (14) chose Option 1 (agree in principle to the proposed classifications to fund the works)
 48% (17) chose Option 2 (disagree in principle to the proposed classifications to fund the works)
 12% (4) no votes (these forms were incomplete for various reasons including the person who needs to make the decision was overseas or they felt there was insufficient information to answer the question)

57% (20) chose Option 1 (proceed with the proposed works as outlined)
 29% (10) chose Option 2 (do not proceed with the works)
 14% (5) no votes

Sample of additional comments made:

- *Rough seas and large tides cause waves to wash in the paddock.*
- *Where is the proposed material to be deposited?*
- *Council should look at a rock groyne at east end of beach.*
- *I feel it is important to proceed ASAP.*
- *I don't believe this has any hope of working.*

Where to from Here?

Council responded to reports from residents at Neil's Beach that recent rough seas have deposited driftwood 4-5m from dwellings. Council staff inspected the site on 6 September and found that the erosion has worsened and is impacting on private property. The Arawhata River mouth has changed and is flowing out to the north.

A key recommendation in the NIWA report was to ensure that the mouth was aligned to ensure maximum transfer of material to the affected area.

At the time of compiling this report staff was investigating low cost temporary measures in the interim. These will be discussed at the Council meeting.

Long Term Approach

Long term the most sensible option to investigate is a form of managed retreat from the hazard area. Guidance is trickling through from central government as to how this can be undertaken.

Coastal erosion is a hazard which is impacting on a number of communities throughout the country. Practical guidance is required to deal with this issue to allow good decisions to be made in this

space. In making decisions we need to take a longer term view on the issues to allow the best decision to be made for the community.

In regard to Neil's Beach any proposed hard engineering works allows time for the longer term discussion regarding managed retreat.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. *That Council undertake small scale (<\$5,000) engineering works to provide temporary protection to properties at immediate risk of inundation.*
2. *Council provide more detail regarding the proposed mitigation works and resurvey the community, including facilitating a public meeting.*
3. *Staff provide a report to the October Council meeting, recommending a way forward.*

Randal Beal
Operations Manager



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12 August 2016

Our Reference: Neil's Beach RD

Dear Sir/Madam

Proposed Neil's Beach Rating District

Following on from two public meetings, and the NIWA report into coastal erosion at Neil's Beach, Council is now consulting on a proposed rating district. The purpose of the proposed rating district is to fund erosion mitigation options suggested by the NIWA report.

The NIWA report focussed on undertaking works that will enable the beach to build up, through beach nourishment and ensuring the mouth of the river is positioned to allow the transfer of sediment and gravel from the river to the area currently affected by erosion.

West Coast Regional Council administers 24 special rating districts throughout the region, which fund various erosion control, coastal and flood protection works. Levels of service are agreed with the community which form the basis of an Asset Management Plan that Council administer. All the rating districts fund 100% of the works undertaken through a special rate based on the benefit to the properties within the rating district.

The proposed differential rates are assessed by an independent engineer who examines the situation and provides recommendations back to Council.

Attached to this letter are the:

- NIWA report relating to Neil's Beach (also available on the West Coast Regional Council website www.wcrc.govt.nz).
- Proposed Neil's Beach Rating District area.
- Proposed cost implications for the Proposed Neil's Beach Rating District per \$100,000 of capital value.
- Mitigation option opinion survey.

It is important that Council hears from you in relation to this proposed special rate. The returned survey forms will be collated into a detailed report and submitted to the 13 September 2016 Council meeting for a decision. If a decision is made to proceed with the

rating district a rate would be struck in accordance with the Local Government Rating Act 2002 to fund the proposed works.

In order for the report to be submitted to the September Council meeting, please either post your survey forms in the stamped self-addressed envelope enclosed back to Council, or email them directly to me at rb@wrcrc.govt.nz. You will note there is space for comments on the form. Completed survey forms are required by **2 September 2016**.

If you have any questions in the meantime please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randal Beal". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

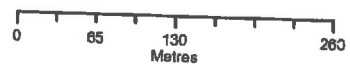
Randal Beal
Operations Manager



	Neils Beach Class A
	Neils Beach Class B
	Neils Beach Class C
	Land Parcels



Scale: 6,000
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: NZGD 2000
Created: 27/07/2016
Printed: 10/08/2016



Neils Beach Rating Categories

Please note that pages 8-13
have been removed as they relate
to the Hokitika River mouth. If
you wish to view these pages
they can be found on Council's website:
www.wcrc.govt.nz.

Rivermouth-related shore erosion at Hokitika and Neils Beach, Westland

Prepared for West Coast Regional Council

February 2016



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Prepared by:
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NIWA CLIENT REPORT No: CHC2016-002
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	Approved for release by:	Jo Hoyle

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Executive summary

This report provides advice on two hazard situations relating to rivermouth processes: one at Hokitika, the other at Neils Beach in South Westland. At Hokitika, the main issue relates to the southward deflection of the Hokitika River outflow channel behind a bar rooted to Sunset Point on the north bank. This mouth configuration has raised concerns about potential effects on flooding in the Hokitika River estuary and on erosion of the Hokitika foreshore. At Neils Beach, a phase of shore erosion over the past five years or so is consuming the single foredune that protects the Neils Beach settlement and airstrip. Advice was sought on the cause of this erosion and potential mitigation options.

At Hokitika, the river mouth bar is unlikely to significantly affect flood levels in the estuary because the additional river path to the south side of the river mouth is not substantial compared to the direct outlet path, while a large flood could be expected to quickly enlarge the outlet channel. The present mouth configuration is, if anything, facilitating the northward wave-driven transfer of sand and gravel from the river mouth area to the Hokitika foreshore. The eroding span of shore on the north side of the Sunset Point carpark is eroding primarily because it is indented back from the line of the two robust seawalls, which causes end-effects.

The recommendations at Hokitika are to:

- do nothing about the river mouth bar immediately, but monitor its form and if it grows substantially from its present state consider an artificial cut past Sunset Point
- link the robust seawalls at Sunset Point and fronting Hokitika town centre together into a continuous wall along a smooth line, with the linking section built to the same standard as the two existing end segments.

At Neils Beach, aerial photograph evidence over the past 40 years indicates a history of erosion and accretion cycles. The beach fronts the western side of the Arawhata River delta, which has a form determined by the interplay of coastal and river processes. When the delta 'bulges' seaward following Arawhata floods, the shoreline configuration is such that beach-grade river sediment is spread west by waves from the northerly quarter, stocking up Neils Beach, while the bulge also acts as a 'soft groyne' that hinders the eastward transfer of sediment off Neils Beach when waves arrive from the prevailing westerly quarter. At other times, though, coinciding with periods of relative dominance by coastal processes, the river mouth bulge is 'planed-off' and the river outlet is forced eastward, causing Neils Beach to erode. The recent erosion phase is such a case, and was likely triggered by a combination of a very large wave and longshore transport event followed by two years of benign river flows and low sediment delivery. Field evidence suggests that the Arawhata River has now returned to its more normal position closer to Neils Beach, with some renourishment occurring from river sand and gravel and less sediment "leaking" eastward. However, it will likely require some years or even decades for the beach sediment stocks to rebuild again. In the meantime, the shore remains vulnerable to further erosion from storm waves. In the long-term, the shore will continue to experience erosion/accretion cycles, with erosion exacerbated by rising sea levels.

The recommendations at Neils Beach are for a staged response by:

- importing sandy gravel from the Arawhata River channel to build a protective bund (and at the same time building up beach stocks)

- monitoring the position of the shoreline fronting Neils Beach and the configuration of the Arawhata River outlet, and, if the outlet migrates east, cutting a new western outlet
- developing long-term plans for relocating assets beyond the zone at hazard from the erosion/accretion cycles, allowing also for the effects of future sea-level rise.

1 Introduction

This report responds to a request from West Coast Regional Council (WCRC) to provide brief advice on two hazard situations, one at Hokitika, the other at Neils Beach in South Westland (Figure 1-1). At Hokitika, the main issue related to the southward deflection of the Hokitika River outflow channel behind a bar rooted to Sunset Point on the north bank. WCRC were concerned about the potential effects of this situation on flooding and on erosion of the Hokitika foreshore. At Neils Beach, a phase of shore erosion over the past 5 years or so is consuming the single foredune that protects the Neils Beach settlement and airstrip. WCRC sought advice on the cause of this erosion and potential mitigation options.

Both sites were inspected in October 2015.

The work was funded by an Envirolink Small Advice Grant (Contract 1625-WCRC147).

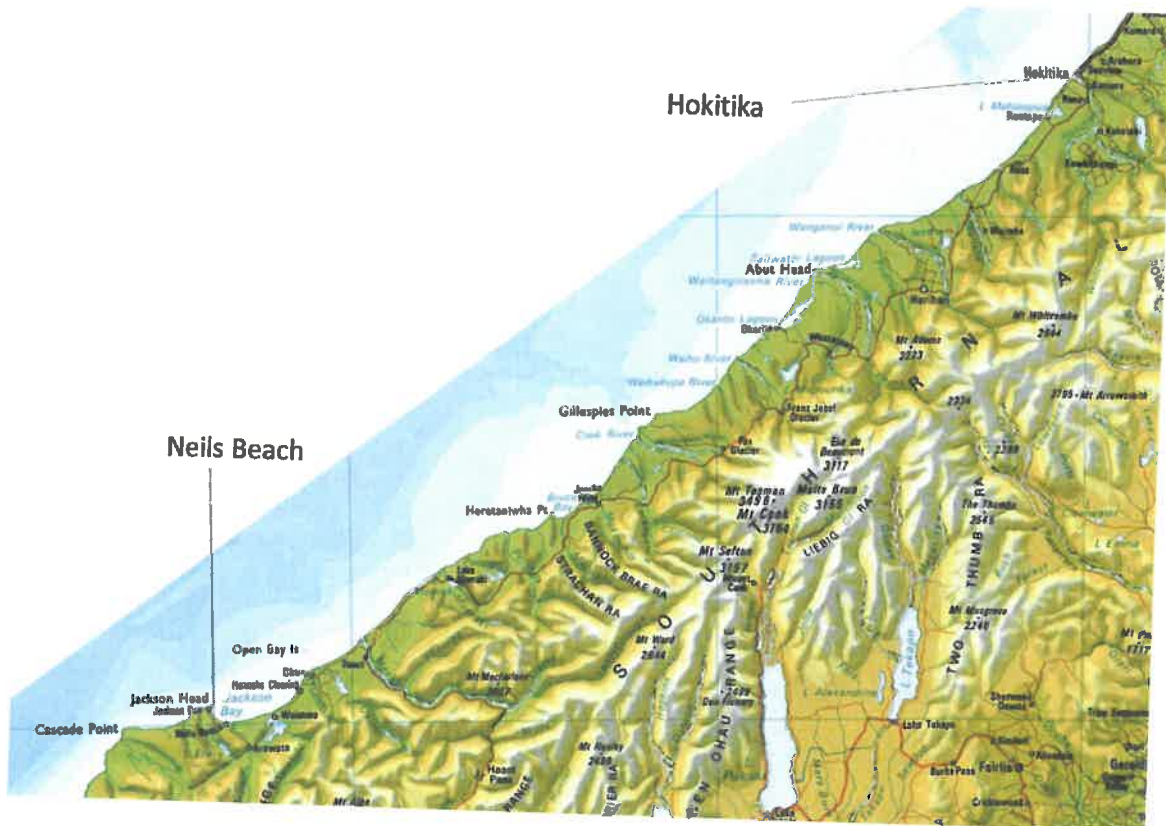


Figure 1-1: Map of Westland locating Hokitika and Neils Beach. Map sourced from MapToaster.

3 Neils Beach

3.1 Background

Neils Beach, between Haast and Jackson Bay, is a small community consisting of roughly 15 homes and an airstrip. The settlement is located just west of the Arawhata River mouth, and over the last 5 years has experienced severe erosion of 3-4m/yr. This erosion has consumed some 20 m of foreshore and protective dune, and has advanced to the state where continued shore retreat may expose dwellings, roads, and the SW end of the airstrip to damage or loss by erosion or by increased risk of coastal flooding. Options such as protective structures (e.g. a sea-wall) have been considered, but WCRC first sought a better understanding of the underlying cause of the recent spate of erosion, and then some advice on an appropriate mitigation response.

3.2 Geomorphic setting

From a geomorphic perspective, Neils Beach spans the western side of the Arawhata River delta in Jackson Bay (Figure 3-1). Waves arriving dominantly from the West refract around Jackson Head and break at an angle to the shore, driving a net north-eastward longshore drift of beach sediment that appears to be sourced mainly from the Arawhata River. Most of the Arawhata sediment is moved north-east, but occasional wave events from the northerly quarter will drive a reverse drift from the river mouth back onto Neils Beach.

To the north-east of the river, a series of backshore beach ridges (Figure 3-1) indicate how the wave-distributed river sediment has built out the Jackson Bay shoreline over the past 8000 years or so (i.e., since sea-level stabilised after its last major post-glacial rise). Most likely, this shoreline advance has occurred on an episodic basis, associated with high sediment discharges from the Arawhata River following Alpine Fault ruptures.



Figure 3-1: Photomap locating Neils Beach on the western flank of the Arawhata River delta. Satellite image from 9 April 2013. West is to the left.

3.3 Field inspection

The author visited Neils Beach on 29 October 2015, walking the shore between the Arawhata River mouth and the Jackson Bay road and inspecting the shore along the road to Jackson Bay wharf. The weather was fine, with a light westerly swell.

3.3.1 Observations

My main observations were:

- Active foreshore erosion was occurring from north-east of the airstrip to the Jackson Bay Road (e.g. Figure 3-2). The single sandy foredune fronting the grassy swale in front of the settlement (Figure 3-3) was severely eroded, with the eroding edge part way down the back slope of the foredune. Total loss of this dune would potentially expose the road and some dwellings to sea-flooding.
- Further west, the erosion was progressing into bush (but not threatening assets), exposing backshore features such as peat layers and swamp/swale deposits (Figure 3-4). This western shore is naturally partly armoured by a ramp of locally-sourced cobbles, with some of these having been washed by waves into the backshore bush (Figure 3-5). This shore also receives some protection against wave erosion at high tide from exposed tree roots and fallen trees.
- In contrast, within a few 100 m of the river mouth there appeared to be a relative abundance of river-sourced beach sediment, with accreting bars of fine gravel (Figure 3-6) and wind-blown sand patches.
- On the day, the longshore transport in front of the settlement was north-east (as indicated by the angle waves broke against the shore), but this reversed close to the river mouth due to the presence of the large gravel bar building from the river mouth (Figure 3-7). This was trapping sand eroded from further west along Neils Beach.
- The Arawhata River's outflow channel to the sea was located towards the western (Neils Beach) side of its delta area (Figure 3-6).

3.3.2 Assessment of beach sediment sources

Neils Beach was stocked with two types of sediment: platy, grey-brown pebbles and cobbles of meta-sandstone lithology, and finer, more well-rounded gravel of schist origin (Figure 3-8). The former became dominant, coarser, and more angular towards the west and was clearly sourced from the local gullies incised in the steep moraine slopes on the landward side of the Jackson Bay Road. The latter became dominant closer to the river and was identical to the bed-material of the river itself. We do not expect any beach sediment supply from sediment passing around Jackson Head, since the seabed deepens quickly to over 100 m by some 2.5 km offshore (Rattenbury et al. 2010). Thus the Neils Beach stock appears to be derived from very local stream/gully sources from the west and from the Arawhata River to the north-east.



Figure 3-2: Eroding foreshore of Neils Beach east of settlement. View east towards Arawhata River mouth.



Figure 3-3: Eroding grassed-over sand-dune, Neils Beach settlement. View east towards Arawhata River mouth.



Figure 3-4: Eroded, forested shore west of Neils Beach settlement. Note exposed older dune sand with soil and forest cover. View is west towards Jackson Bay.



Figure 3-5: Platy shingle wave-washed into bush, west of Neils Beach settlement. Note exposed silt beds from ancient backshore swale. View is west into Jackson Bay.



Figure 3-6: Accreting fine-gravel bar, west side of Arawhata River mouth. View is to north-east. Surf in distance marks river mouth.



Figure 3-7: Longshore transport convergence-point west of fine-gravel bars at eastern end of Neils Beach. Left photograph looks west into Jackson Bay from gravel bar; note breaker approaching from west. Right photograph looks back east to same gravel bar; note breaker approaching from east.

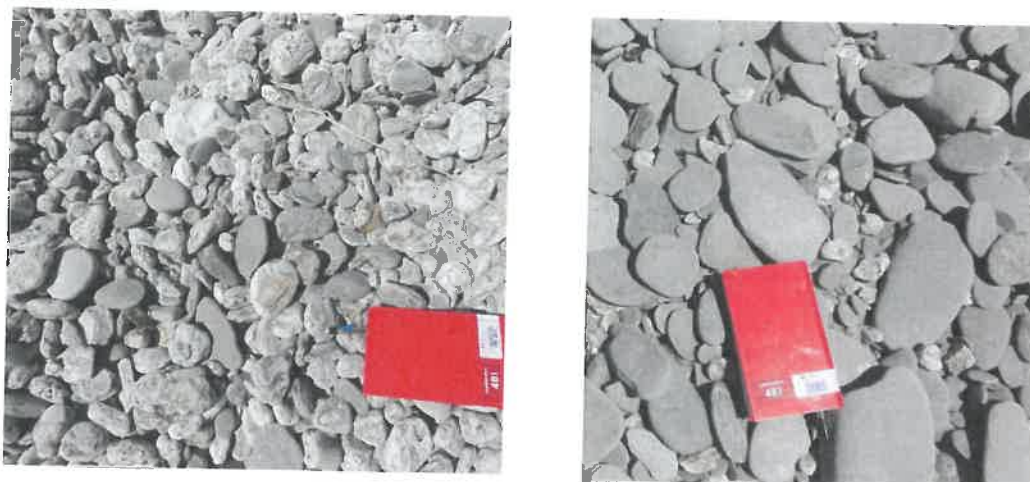


Figure 3-8: River and locally-sourced beach gravel on Neils Beach. Left shows mainly finer, rounded schist pebbles sourced from the Arawhata River. Right shows platy meta-sandstone pebbles and cobbles sourced from hillside gullies immediately west of Neils Beach.

3.4 Further analysis

A brief office-based analysis was undertaken to clarify the recent history of shoreline position off aerial and satellite imagery and to search for any signal in the dominating natural processes: waves (and their potential to transport beach sediment alongshore) and flows from the Arawhata River (and their delivery of beach-grade river sediment).

3.4.1 Shoreline change captured on aerial and satellite imagery

Satellite imagery of Neils Beach and the Arawhata River mouth were sourced from Google Earth, while scanned vertical aerial photographs were supplied by WCRC. Collectively, these provided a sequence from 1977 through 2013 (although some coverage of the area was only partial). The older images were georeferenced and rectified to overlie the 2013 imagery using the ArcGIS software¹. Shorelines, defined by the edge of foreshore vegetation, were digitised on each set of imagery. Figure 3-9 shows a sequence of selected imagery with the 2013 shoreline superimposed. Figure 3-10 shows the earlier shorelines overlaid on the 2013 imagery.

Features to note are:

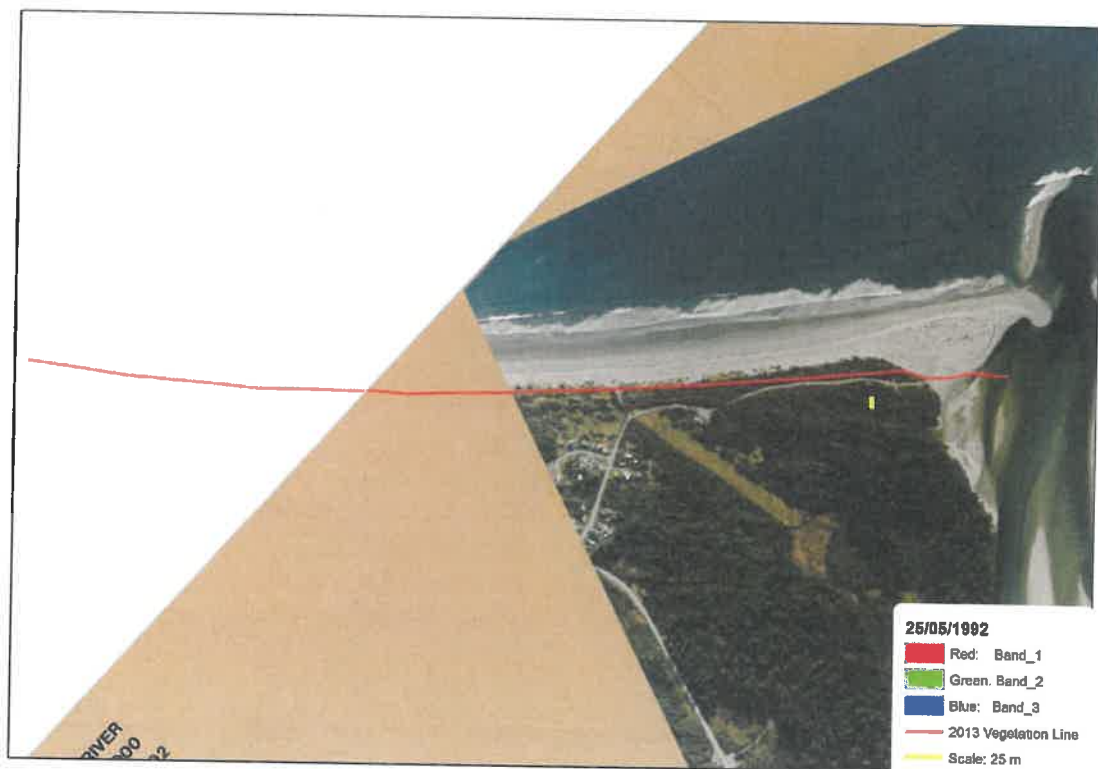
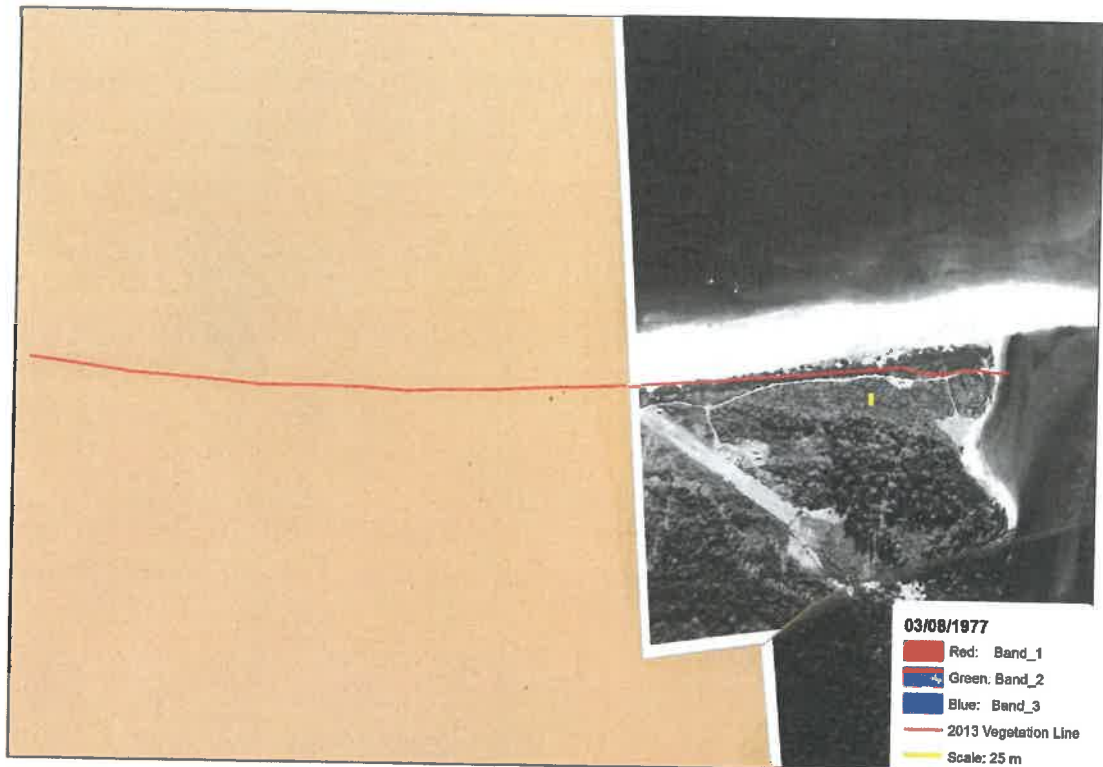
- Since 1977 (at least), the Neils Beach shoreline has experienced advance and retreat cycles. In 1977, the shore in front of the settlement was about where it is now. Between then and now it has built out by ~ 50 m and eroded away again.
- While the 1977 photo stops at the end of the airstrip, we suspect that the 1977 shore position further west may be indicated by a linear feature in the backshore vegetation on the 2013 image (marked with an "O" on Figure 3-10). Despite this erosion phase in front of the settlement in 1977, the 1977 shore was relatively accreted at the Arawhata River mouth.

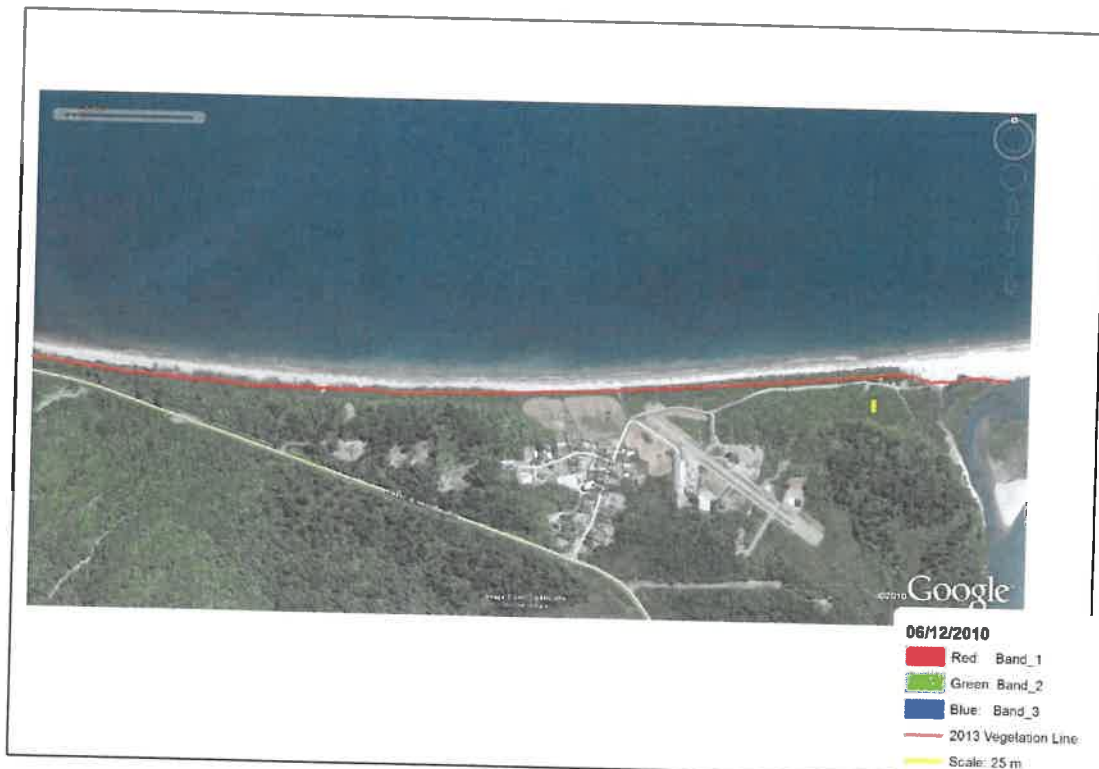
¹ Checks at reference points (e.g. building corners) indicated that this rectification was accurate to 1-2 m in the area of the settlement, where there was an abundance of 'sharp' features suitable for use as reference points. It will be less accurate towards the river mouth and towards the Jacksons Bay road.

- By 95, the river mouth corner had been cut back (most likely by the large flood that occurred in 1994 – see Section 3.4.3).
- By 2003-5, however, substantial accretion (~ 50 m) had occurred all along Neils Beach.
- By 2010-11, the shore had retreated again, with a further retreat of ~ 10-15 m in front of the settlement up to 2013.
- Considerable erosion has occurred since the 2013 imagery was acquired. For example, the strip of brush visible on the grassed foredune in front of the settlement in 2013 has now been lost (marked with an “E” on Figure 3-10).
- Through the current retreat period, the Neils Beach shoreline has pivoted clockwise, with the river mouth ‘bulge’ having been progressively trimmed back.

Thus, the present phase of erosion is part of a multi-decadal cycle. Such cycles are typical of shorelines adjacent to wave-dominated river mouths. The imagery record is too sparse to pin-down exactly when the erosion phase began, but it would appear to be sometime between 2005 and 2010.

At a wider-scale, changes have also occurred in the configuration of the Arawhata River mouth bar and the alignment of the main river channel. In particular, from 1977 through the mid-2000s (at least when captured on aerial photographs) the mouth bar tended to bulge seaward and the river outflow tended more central or west. In contrast, since 2010 (at least) the bar has tended to run straighter and the river outflow has deflected east behind the bar. This has coincided with river mouth bulge being ‘planed-off’, the clockwise pivoting of the Neils Beach shoreline, the accumulation of a drumstick-shaped sediment deposit on east side of river mouth, and eastward retreat of the right bank of river (compare 2003 and 2013 images in Figure 3-11). Essentially, in this river mouth state the river only feeds sediment to the shore north-east of the river mouth (where some of it becomes trapped on the ‘drumstick’), while the removal of the bulge and shore pivoting enables waves arriving from the west to sweep sediment eastward off Neils Beach.





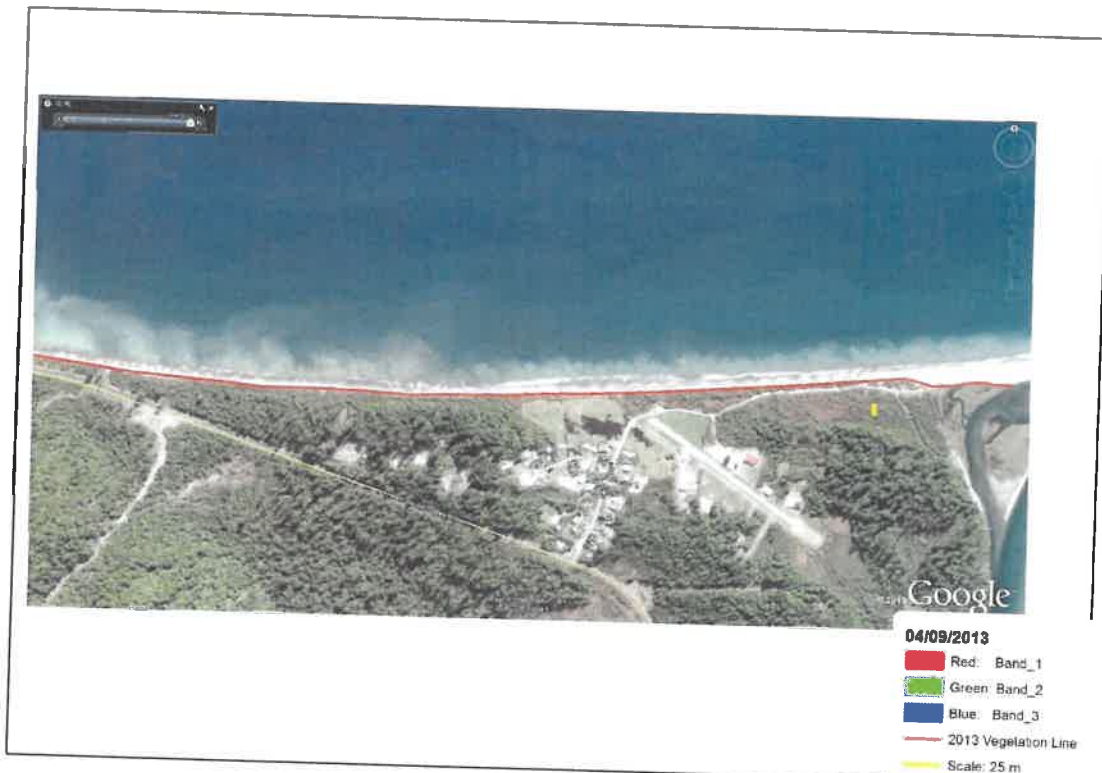


Figure 3-9: Satellite/aerial imagery sequence of Neils Beach, 1977 through 2013. 2013 vegetation-edge shoreline (red line) overlaid on each image.



Figure 3-10: Satellite image of Neils Beach acquired on 9 April 2013, with previous shorelines overlaid. Shorelines defined by the edge of vegetation. 'O' marks linear feature inferred to be old shoreline (possibly ~ 1977?); 'E' shows foredune scrub now lost to erosion. Where there is a date range (e.g. 2003-05) the shoreline changed little between two images and so only one line is plotted.



Figure 3-11: Neils Beach and Arawhata River mouth in 2003 and 2013. Note on 2013 image: flattened delta 'bulge', northward-displaced mouth, 'drumstick' growth on east side of river mouth, and right bank of river trimmed back.

3.4.2 Waves and longshore transport potential

Since January 2008, NIWA has forecast 'deep-water' wave conditions (height, period, direction) around the New Zealand coast based on wind fields predicted by a global-scale atmospheric circulation model. Archived data from this forecasting for a station 15 km seaward of Jackson Bay was supplied by Dr Richard Gorman (NIWA, Hamilton). This record was converted into an approximate record of wave-driven longshore transport potential at the shore using the formula provided by Ashton and Murray (2006), assuming a straight shore with a regional orientation of 237 degrees (i.e., approximately SW-NE) and adopting an "efficiency factor" appropriate for a beach of gravelly sand². The longshore transport potential is shown in Figure 3-12A, and the accumulated transport is shown in Figure 3-13.

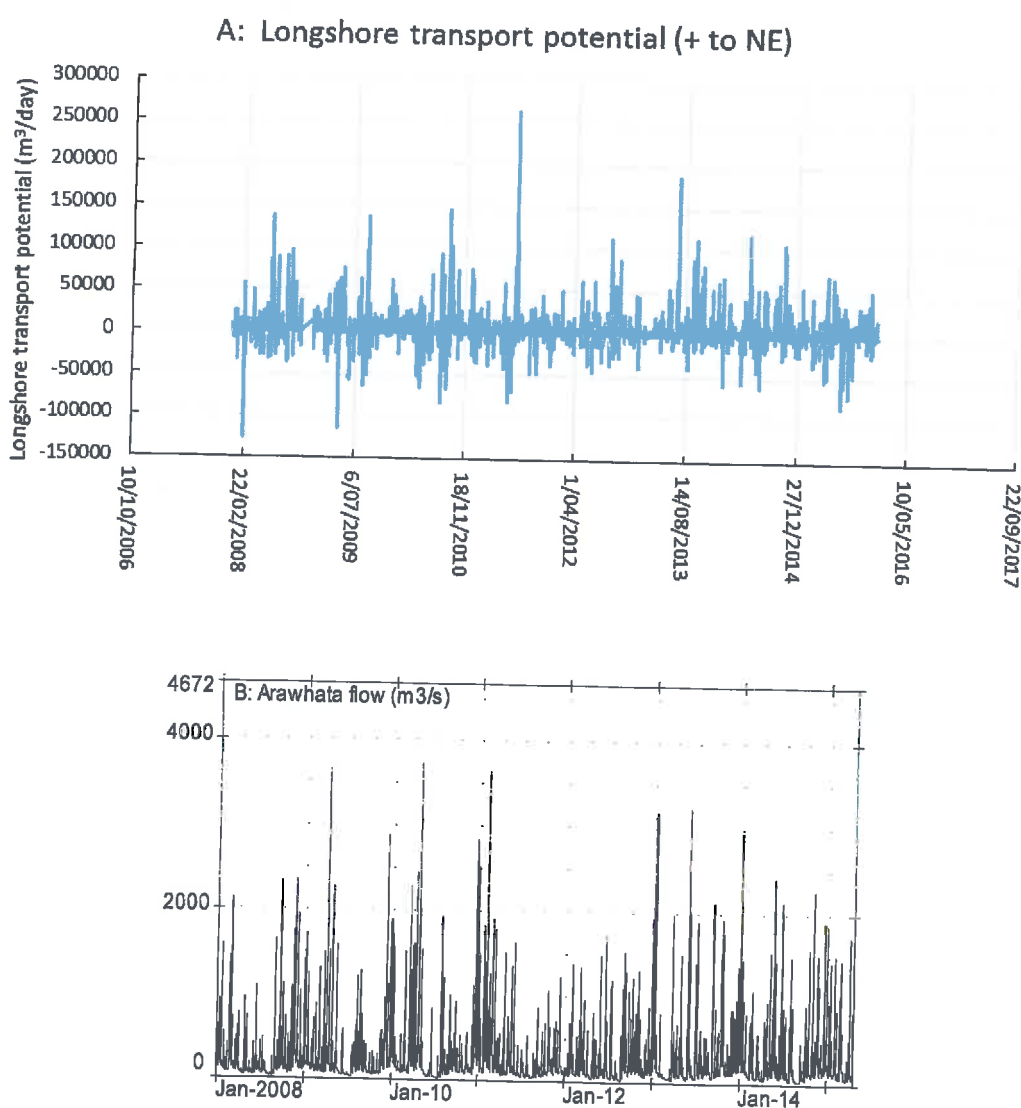


Figure 3-12: A: Longshore transport potential past Arawhata River mouth, 2008-2015; B: Flow in Arawhata River, 2008-2015.

² Refracting and shoaling the wave data from the deep-water station into Jackson Bay was beyond the scope of this study so the actual transport rates derived using the simplifying, straight-shore approximation should be regarded "with a grain of sand". Nonetheless, these should still provide an index of temporal patterns in the strength of the longshore transport potential.

North-eastward longshore transport dominates (80% of the gross transport is to the north-east), with a net north-east transport averaging ~ 1.6 million m^3/yr . This is reflected in the accumulating plot (Figure 3-13) which shows a steady 'climb' albeit with occasional small drops. Sudden 'jumps' in this plot indicate high wave events with large transport potential – the largest occurred in July 2011, when the deep-water significant wave height rose to 8.3 m for waves arriving from the west and the north-eastward longshore transport potential rose to $\sim 270,000$ m^3/day .

3.4.3 Arawhata River flows and sediment load

The Arawhata River flow record for the period coinciding with the wave record (2008-2015) is plotted in Figure 3-12B. This shows floods peaking at up to 3700 m^3/s but also an almost two-year period in 2011-12 lacking any large floods.

This flow record was combined with a regional suspended sediment rating (unpublished, developed by the author) to generate a record of beach-grade sediment yield from the Arawhata River. The rating is C (mg/l) = $39 (Q/Q_{\text{mean}})^2$, where C is the suspended sediment concentration, Q is flow, and Q_{mean} is mean flow (214 m^3/s for the Arawhata). This was derived using sediment gauging data from the Haast, Hokitika, Whataroa, Poerua and Taipo Rivers. Suspended sediment size-grading data from the Haast River showed that, on average, 31% was fine sand and coarser (i.e. the size grades found in beach sediment), thus it was assumed the same would apply to the Arawhata. Also, it was assumed that the Arawhata's sandy gravel bedload should equate to $\sim 20\%$ of its suspended load (based on experience with other rivers). Thus, it was estimated that the Arawhata's load of beach-grade sediment should equate to 51% of its suspended load.

Figure 3-13 also shows the accumulated delivery of Arawhata beach-grade sediment from 2008 through 2015. The average delivery is 1.07 million m^3/yr (assuming a bulk density of 1.7 t/m^3). Note how floods cause jumps in the accumulated sediment delivery while flat parts of the curve indicate periods of minimal delivery. 2011-2012 was such a period.

Figure 3-14 plots the annual beach-grade sediment delivery since 1989, when flow recording began in the Arawhata. This shows considerable variability from year to year (0.38 to 2.93 million m^3 , ranging over a factor of 7.7). The two highest annual yields (2.2 and 2.9 million m^3) occurred in 1994 and 1999 associated with the two largest floods on record (4770 m^3/s on 9 January 1994 and 4260 m^3/s on 17 November 1999). It is notable that these events immediately precede the 1995-2005 accretion phase along Neils Beach that was identified in Section 3.4.1. Note also a long span of relatively 'modest' annual loads from 2000 through 2008.

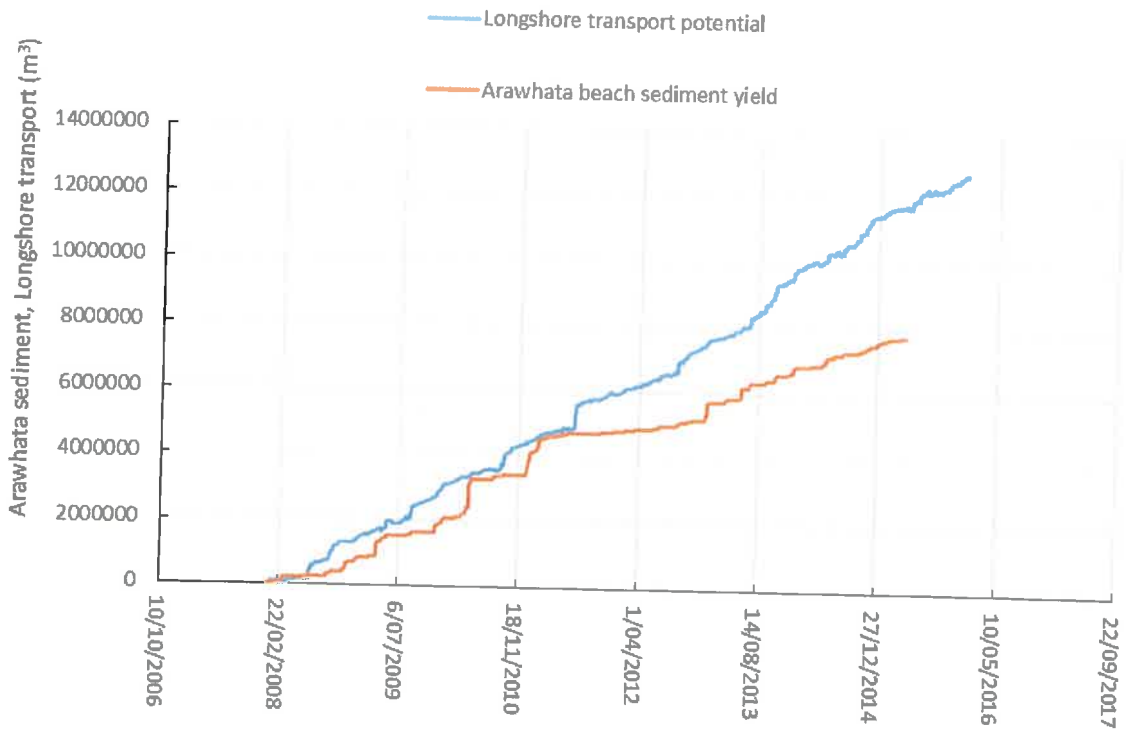


Figure 3-13: Longshore transport potential at Arawhata mouth and delivery of beach-grade sediment from Arawhata River accumulated since January 2008. Note divergence of the two trends after 2011.

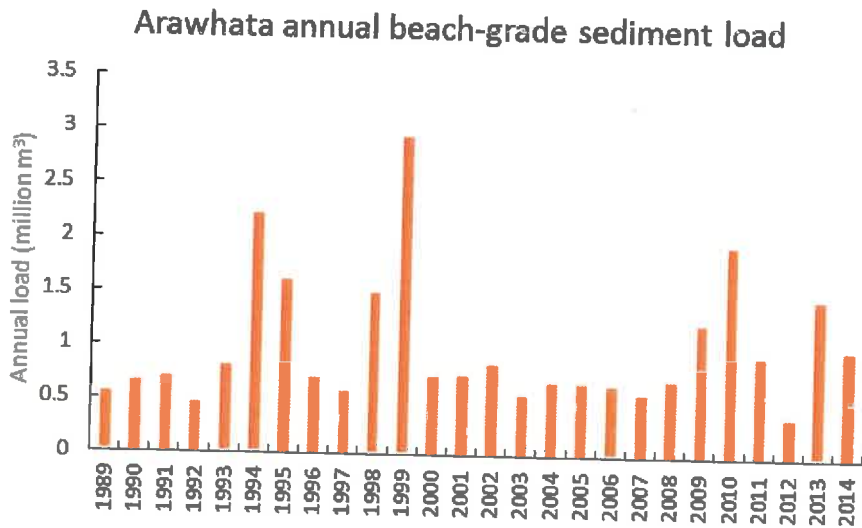


Figure 3-14: Annual load of beach-grade sediment delivered by Arawhata River, 1989-2014.

3.5 Synthesis and interpreted cause of erosion

In overview, Neils Beach fronts the western side of the Arawhata River delta, which has a form determined by the interplay of coastal and river processes. When the delta ‘bulges’ seaward, following Arawhata floods bearing sand and gravel, the shoreline configuration is such that beach-grade river sediment is spread west by waves arriving from the NW quarter, stocking up Neils Beach, while the bulge also acts as a ‘soft groyne’, hindering the eastward transfer of sediment off Neils Beach when waves arrive from the prevailing westerly quarter. At other times though, coinciding with periods of relative dominance by coastal processes, the river mouth bulge is ‘planed-off’ and the river outlet is forced eastward. This situation causes Neils Beach to erode; firstly because the ‘soft groyne’ is trimmed-off, allowing the prevailing westerly waves to sweep sand off Neils Beach; secondly because the diverted river no longer deposits its sandy gravel load where waves can sweep some of it westward onto Neils Beach. Such accretion and erosion cycles are typical of wave-dominated river mouth shores, and they explain the cycles observed on the imagery of Neils Beach over the past 40 years.

In regard to the current phase of erosion, Figure 3-13 shows a clear divergence between the longshore transport potential and the Arawhata’s delivery of beach-grade sediment from 2011 onwards³ - thus indicating an imbalance in the beach sediment budget. Moreover, the strong coastal wave event of July 2011 was followed by almost two years of relatively benign river flows with low sediment delivery. The dominance of wave-driven processes over this period can be expected to have pushed- and trimmed-back the shoreline at the river mouth and also extended-eastward the river mouth bar (as observed on the aerial and satellite imagery). In turn, this would have directed what river sediment was being delivered to the east side of the river mouth (and remote from Neils Beach), while the straightened, river-mouth shore would have allowed waves to transport sediment eastward off Neils Beach.

Thus, I conclude that the recent erosion phase was likely triggered by a combination of natural factors (a very large wave and longshore transport event followed by two years of benign river flows and low sediment delivery), creating a mouth configuration that allowed Neils Beach sediment to “leak” northward past the river mouth and not allowing it to be restocked by the river.

The field visit in October 2015 found evidence that the Arawhata River has now returned to its more normal position closer to Neils Beach, with some renourishment occurring from river sand and gravel and less sediment “leaking” eastward. However, it will likely require some years or even decades for the beach sediment stocks rebuild again – particularly towards the western end of Neils Beach – as the accretion will progress from east to west. In the meantime, the shore remains vulnerable to further erosion from storm waves.

In the long-term, the Neils Beach shore will always remain vulnerable to erosion/accretion cycles driven by river/coastal interactions.

³ The two curves in Figure 3-13 may be likened to the “run” curve shown in limited-over cricket match TV commentaries. Diverging curves show where one team is falling behind the target set by the other. In this case, the ‘Arawhata River team’ began losing to the ‘Longshore transport team’ in 2011.

3.6 Management options

Various management options have been suggested for Neils Beach. These are discussed briefly below in the context of the above understanding of the cause of the current erosion phase.

- **Do nothing:** Doing nothing means being optimistic that the beach has now moved into an accretionary phase, gradually naturally restocking itself with river sand. A difficulty with this is that the erosion will continue along the western and central parts of the beach even while the beach is building out from its eastern end. Thus, the current elevated hazard situation will prevail for some years yet.
- **Groyne:** A groyne at the east end of Neils Beach designed to limit eastward sediment transport would have mixed effects – while it might slow the sediment loss off Neils Beach it would also limit its occasional renourishment with river sediment. Moreover, if a groyne was built with Neils Beach in its currently depleted state, it would need to be restocked artificially (i.e., it would also require beach nourishment).
- **Sea wall:** Protecting the eroding shore with a structure would be expensive, would not rectify the current beach sediment deficit, and would run the risk of exacerbating the erosion. Construction of a sea wall is, therefore, unlikely to be an effective long term solution.
- **Gravel bund:** A bund formed of beach/river gravel would provide an expedient time-buying measure to afford some shore protection while/if the beach naturally restocks with sediment (assuming it is now moving into an accreting cycle). This would be much better built of imported material (e.g. sourced from the Arawhata bed) than scraped-up from the existing beach.
- **Beach nourishment:** Beach renourishment (with imported material, again most likely sourced from the river) would accelerate returning the shoreline to a safer condition.
- **Mechanical repositioning of Arawhata River Mouth:** The recent rapid erosion is likely linked to the river mouth moving to a more easterly position. The Arawhata River has now returned to a more westerly position but if the river mouth were to move east again it may well be beneficial to make an artificial cut.
- **Avoidance/setback:** In the long term it is likely that this stretch of shoreline will continue to be at risk of erosion due to the multi-decadal erosion/accretion cycles discussed above. Moreover, rising sea-levels associated with future global climate change will render the shore more vulnerable to retreat. Thus, an avoidance/setback option would be most sensible in the long term.

3.7 Recommendations

My recommendation for Neils Beach would be to combine several of the above options in a staged/as-needed approach:

- Importing sandy gravel from the Arawhata River channel to build a protective bund (and at the same time building up beach stocks)
- Monitoring the position of the shoreline fronting Neils beach and the configuration of the Arawhata River outlet, and, if the outlet migrates east, cutting a new western outlet.
- Develop long-term plans for relocating assets beyond the zone at risk from the erosion/accretion cycles, allowing also for the effects of future sea-level rise and possible changes in wave climate.

4 Conclusions

4.1 Hokitika River mouth

The Hokitika River mouth bar is unlikely to significantly affect flood levels in the estuary because the river path to the south side of the river mouth is not substantially longer compared to the direct outlet path, while a large flood could be expected to quickly enlarge the outlet channel. The present mouth configuration is, if anything, facilitating the northward wave-driven transfer of sand and gravel from the river mouth area to the Hokitika foreshore. The eroding span of shore on the north side of the Sunset Point carpark is eroding primarily because it is indented back from the line of the two robust seawalls, which causes end-effects.

The recommendations are to:

- do nothing about the river mouth bar immediately, but monitor its form and if it grows substantially from its present state consider an artificial cut past Sunset Point
- link the robust seawalls at Sunset Point and fronting Hokitika town centre together into a continuous wall along a smooth line, with the linking section built to the same standard as the two existing end segments.

4.2 Neils Beach

Neils Beach lies on the western flank of the wave-dominated Arawhata River delta. It is nourished largely by Arawhata River sediment but also by sediment from local hillslope sources along the rocky shore towards Jackson Bay. It experiences decadal-scale erosion/accretion cycles relating to the interplay of coastal waves and the delivery of sand and gravel from the river during floods: accreting after large river floods that deliver sediment to the western end of its delta, but eroding when the river is deflected eastward and waves trim off the apex of the delta - which enables Neils Beach sediment to be swept eastward and lost. The present erosion phase appears to be linked to an extended period in 2011-12 of benign river flows but strong eastward, wave-driven longshore transport that forced the river to deflect east. While the river outlet has now shifted west again and the eastern end of Neils Beach appears to be beginning a recovery phase, it may require years to decades to naturally re-stock and advance the shoreline along the rest of Neils Beach, including in front of the settlement and airstrip.

To mitigate the existing erosion and sea-flooding hazard, a combination approach is recommended:

- import gravel from the Arawhata River channel to build a protective bund (and at the same time building up beach stocks)
- monitor the position of the Arawhata River outlet, and, if the outlet migrates east, cut a new western outlet
- develop long-term plans for relocating assets beyond the zone at risk from the erosion/accretion cycles, allowing for the effects of future sea-level rise and possible changes in wave climate.

5 Acknowledgements

I thank: Jo Bind (NIWA) for the air-photo analysis; Richard Gorman (NIWA) for the wave data; Kathy Walter (NIWA) for supply of Arawhata flow data; Mike Meehan (WCRC) for supplying aerial and ground photographs and discussion; and Richard Measures (NIWA) for discussion.

6 References

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Rattenbury, M.S.; Jongens, R.; Cox, S.C. (compilers) (2010). *Geology of the Haast area. Institute of Geological & Nuclear Sciences 1:250 000 geological map 14. 1 sheet + 58 p. Lower Hutt, New Zealand. GNS Science.*

Cost Breakdown for proposed works

River mouth alignment

The NIWA report recommends the alignment of the river mouth in the future to ensure that sediment and gravel from the river is naturally deposited in the coastal area immediately adjacent to the proposed rating district properties.

It is proposed that \$5,000 per annum is allowed for this works.

Beach Nourishment

The NIWA report identifies beach nourishment as a means of building up the beach and reducing the effects of erosion. To achieve this it is proposed to transport approximately 5,000m³ of material from the river and place it in the coastal area immediately adjacent to the rating district properties.

It is proposed that a capital cost of \$60,000 is allowed for this work, which will be taken out as a loan repaid by the affected properties through an annual rate.

Other options investigated

During the process of investigating the effects of erosion at Neil's Beach, staff investigated the potential for hard protection structures. Staff investigated the costs of constructing a rock armoured seawall utilising rock from a nearby source at Lake Mary. The cost of constructing an engineered seawall is approximately \$1,500,000, if the nearby rock source was not able to be used this would increase to approximately \$2,400,000. It is important to note that constructing a seawall is not supported by the NIWA coastal experts as a long term solution. There would also be difficulties in gaining resource consent for a seawall in this location and maintenance costs would be high.

Staff also investigated other protection options utilising technology such as geotechnical material filled with sand. You may have seen these recently been utilised in areas around Dunedin, which have been subjected to the forces of the coastline and required significant remedial works.

It is clear that New Zealand's coastline is very dynamic, particularly with the predicted climate changes in the future. Long term the potential solution is a managed retreat from these areas. The government is examining this issue at the moment with a view of providing consistent advice to local authorities as to how to manage this issue in the future.

How much will this cost me?

The table below indicates the estimated annual rates, per \$100,000 of capital value of your property, for each option. Check which class your property is in on the map, then use the table below to find out how much your contribution would be. For example a property with a \$200,000 GV in classification A will pay $\$189.98 \times 2 = \379.96 per annum on top of existing rates.

Cost Implication to Properties

Classification	Annual Special Rate per \$100,000 Capital Value
Class A	\$189.98
Class B	\$94.99
Class C	\$56.99

Opinion Survey on the Proposed Neil's Beach Rating District

Please return this page in the envelope provided

«Name»

«RID ID», «Class A»

«Address 1», «Address 2», «Address 3»,

Options	Please tick one box only
1. Agree in principle to the proposed classifications to fund the works.	
2. Disagree in principle to the proposed classifications to fund the works.	

Options	Please tick one box only
1. Proceed with the beach nourishment and river mouth alignment works as detailed.	
2. Do not proceed with the proposed works.	

Please feel free to include any additional comments below:

Signature _____ Name _____
(Please Print Clearly)

Note: All replies must be returned to The West Coast Regional Council in the enclosed, postage paid envelope or emailed to rb@wrc.govt.nz by **2 September 2016**.

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting – 13 September 2016
 Prepared by: Randal Beal, Operations Manager
 Date: 7 September 2016
 Subject: **Proposed Northern Extension of Punakaiki Rating District Seawall**

Background

Council is aware of the serious and ongoing beach erosion to the north of the current Punakaiki Rating District seawall.

Opinion Survey results

Following an initial survey and public meeting in April/May 2016, Council revised costs for the northern extension to the seawall and resurveyed the Punakaiki Rating District.

In total, 22 of 31 survey responses were received by 6 September 2016, this represents a 71% response rate.

Of the responses received:

45% (10) chose Option 1 (agree in principle to the proposed classifications to fund the works)
 55% (12) chose Option 2 (disagree in principle to the proposed classifications to fund the works)

59% (13) chose Option 1 (proceed with the proposed works as outlined)
 41% (9) chose Option 2 (do not proceed with the works)

Sample of additional comments made:

- *Consider relocating the village to the north, seawall temporary solution only.*
- *Re-evaluate loan classes.*
- *Need a breakdown in greater detail of the maintenance costs.*
- *Enlarge the rating district.*
- *User pays-BDC and camp ground should fund entire works.*
- *Separate the Punakaiki campground managers house from the A classification.*

Where to from Here?

Clear themes that came through in the survey feedback was in regard to the fairness of the apportionment of costs, the desire to extend the rating district boundaries, information regarding the actual physical works and where the rating district stands in regard to the current maintenance rate.

To progress the matter and arrive at a final decision, staff recommend undertaking a public meeting to address these issues and then resurvey the rating district. This can be undertaken in a compressed timeframe to allow a decision to be made at the October 2016 Council meeting.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. *Council provide more detail regarding the proposed mitigation works, costs and feedback on extending the rating district boundary, and resurvey the community, including facilitating a public meeting.*
2. *Staff provide a report to the October 2016 Council meeting, recommending a way forward.*

Randal Beal
Operations Manager

16 August 2016

«Name»
 «Address_1»
 «Address_2»
 «Address_3»

Dear Sir/Madam

Revised Opinion Survey on Proposed Northern Extension of Punakaiki Rating District Seawall

Council received feedback on the previous proposal and apportionment of costs to extend the Punakaiki Rating District seawall to the north. The feedback focussed on three key themes:

- Fairer apportionment of costs, including widening the Rating District.
- Long term affordability.
- Engineering of the seawall and long term beautification of the area.

Council has considered this feedback and provided the comments made in the submissions to the independent rating analyst. That analyst has reviewed the apportionment of costs and redrafted their recommendations.

In addition to this, Council purchased a property to the north of Fox River, from which high grade armour rock was sourced for the maintenance of the current seawall. The purchase allows Council to access enough rock from this site to reduce the capital cost of the project significantly.

The main points you will note in the revised costs is the larger proposed capital contribution from the campground property (75%). The analyst has also revised the proposed maintenance rate to apply across the rating district.

As a result of the feedback, the rating analyst looked into applying the targeted rate across a greater area. The main issues they found with doing this were:

- Minor benefit to the properties outside of the immediate benefit area, which translated into a very minor contribution.
- Precedent setting if properties outside of the existing rating district encountered erosion or other issues, they in turn would seek assistance from the properties currently in the Punakaiki Rating District.
- Consultation that would be required with the proposed new properties, which would further delay any works.

As a result of this, Council is not proposing to extend the current boundary of the rating district.

From here we need your opinion on the proposal, including the apportionment of costs. Included with this letter is a survey form with options to select and room to provide comments.

Return of forms

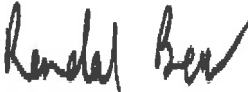
Please tick one of the options under each of the two questions on the survey form on the next page, and return that page in the postage paid envelope provided or email to rb@wrc.govt.nz by **2 September 2016**.

Background Information (attached)

- An outline of the proposed works and the estimated cost.
- Maps showing the existing Rating District boundaries and the proposed alterations (capital loan and maintenance rating).
- A table showing the estimated annual cost for each ratepayer, per \$100,000 of your property's capital value¹.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of the proposed Rating District, or require further information, please call me.

Yours faithfully



Randal Beal
Operations Manager

¹ Note that these costs are estimates only. Final costs will depend on the outcome of the competitive tender process. Best efforts have been made to estimate costs accurately; however the final costs may differ to those marked in the table.

Opinion Survey on Northern Punakaiki Seawall Extension Rating District - August 2016

Please return this page in the envelope provided

«Name»

«RID ID», «Class A»

«Address 1», «Address 2», «Address 3».

Options	Please tick one box only
1. Agree in principle to the proposed classifications to fund the works.	
2. Disagree in principle to the proposed classifications to fund the works.	

Options	Please tick one box only
1. Proceed with the proposed works as outlined.	
2. Do not proceed with the proposed works.	

Please feel free to include any additional comments below:

Signature _____

Name _____
(Please Print Clearly)

Note: All replies must be returned to The West Coast Regional Council in the enclosed, postage paid envelope by **2 September 2016**, or email to rb@wrc.govt.nz with subject line "Punakaiki Rating District".

Information

Current Costs

The loan to fund the construction of the original seawall was paid off in November 2015. The annual repayment of this loan was moved to fund the maintenance rate, which is currently in deficit by \$100,000. For the 2016/17 year the maintenance rate is set at \$95,000. Changes in beach levels, and more aggressive storms, has resulted in significant maintenance costs in the last 5 years.

Estimated Costs

Council has estimated costs based on the design by OCEL Consultants which utilises:

- 8,500 tonne of rock won from Whitehorse Quarry
- 1,500m³ of compacted gravel
- 6,000m² of geofabric
- Costs associated with digging out the toe and other related costs.

The above estimated costs amount to approximately \$390,000 (including GST).

* Note that Council has secured a closer source of rock which reduces the estimated capital costs significantly. The competitive tender process may reduce these costs further.

To fund the northern extension works a loan is required as it was when the original wall was constructed in 2006. To fund the repayment of this loan, Council is proposing a new classification which is heavily weighted to the campground due to the benefit it receives.

Council also asked the independent rating analyst to arrive at a fair apportionment of costs for maintenance of the structure, including the northern extension. They have arrived at new proposed apportionments for both the loan and maintenance of the structure.

To clarify the proposals we have included maps and tables showing the existing rate, proposed loan rate and proposed maintenance rate. **Please refer to the maps and tables to work out the proposed implications for your property:**

Current Rate (based on current \$95,000 annual maintenance rate)

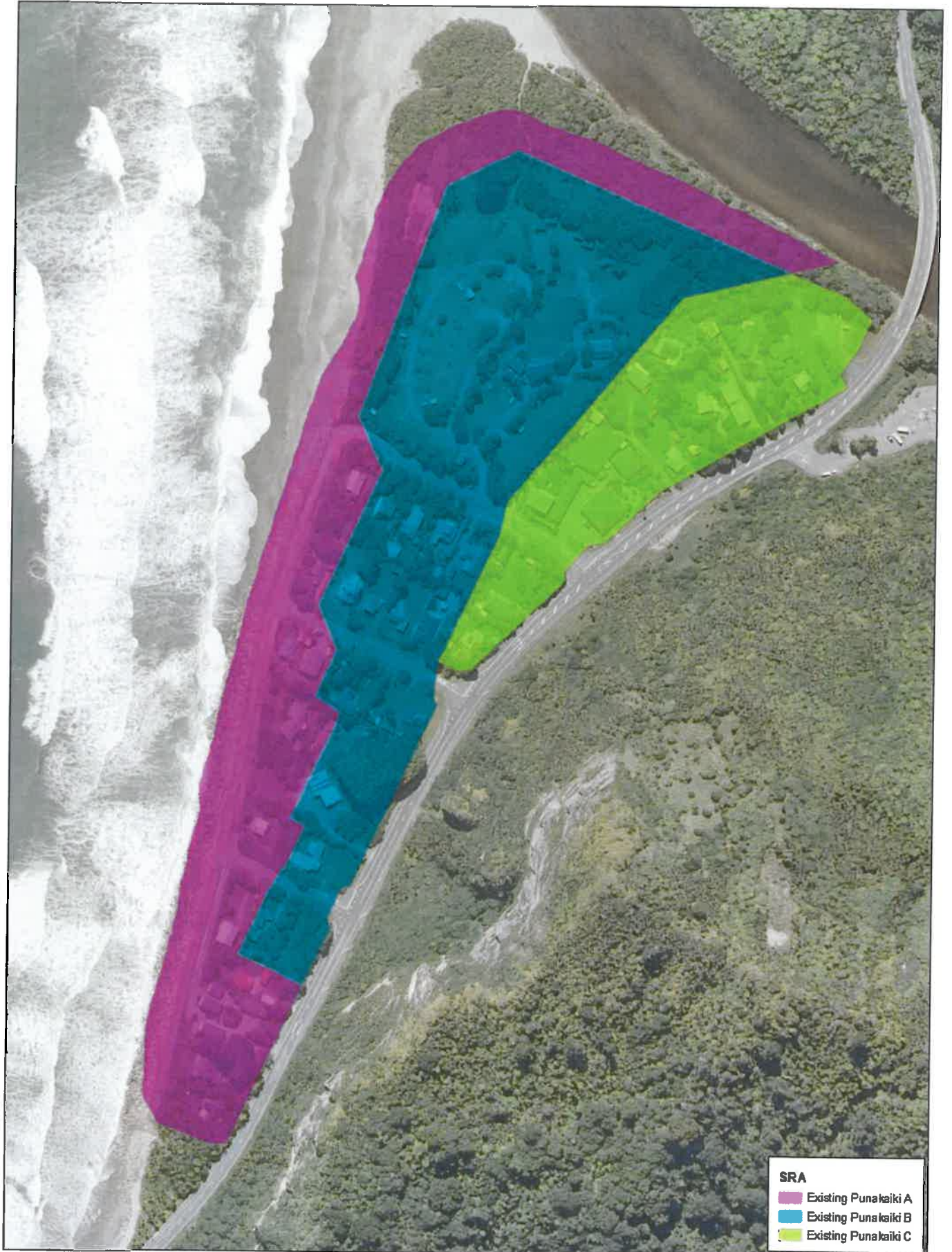
Classification	Cost per \$100,000 of CV
A	\$555
B	\$333
C	\$111

Proposed loan rate to pay \$390,000 over 10 years

Classification	Cost per \$100,000 of CV
A	\$4,085
B	\$135
C	\$108
D	\$81
E	\$27

Proposed rate to fund maintenance of the existing and northern extension (based on annual \$100,000 maintenance rate)

Classification	Cost per \$100,000 of CV
A	\$1,123
B	\$898
C	\$674
D	\$225



SRA

- Existing Punakaiki A
- Existing Punakaiki B
- Existing Punakaiki C

Scale: 2,000
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: NZGD 2000
Created: 16/08/2016
Printed: 17/08/2016

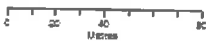
Existing Punakaiki Rating District Classifications










Scale: 2,000
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: NZGD 2000
Created: 16/08/2016
Printed: 16/08/2016

Proposed Punakaiki Rating District Classifications - Maintenance





Loan Class	
	Punakaiki Loan A
	Punakaiki Loan B
	Punakaiki Loan C
	Punakaiki Loan D
	Punakaiki Loan E



Scale: 2,000
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: NZGD 2000
Created: 16/08/2016
Printed: 16/08/2016

Proposed Punakaiki Rating District Classifications - Loan



4 The Options

Option 1 Agree in principle to the proposed classifications to fund the works.

The extra cost to the ratepayers would be \$ ____ at this stage.

Option 2 Disagree in principle to the proposed classifications to fund the works.

The extra cost to the ratepayers would be \$ 0 at this stage.

Option 1 Proceed with the proposed works as outlined.

The extra cost to the ratepayers would be \$ 0 at this stage.

Option 2 Do not proceed with the proposed works.

The extra cost to the ratepayers would be \$ 0 at this stage.

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting 13 September 2016
 Prepared by: Robert Mallinson – Corporate Services Manager
 Date: 5 September 2016
 Subject: **Corporate Services Manager's Monthly Report**

1. Financial Report

As discussed at the August meeting, my efforts have been directed to completing the Annual Report for the year to 30 June 2016, in anticipation of the Audit NZ team commencing the year-end audit on 5 September.

2. Annual Report

As of the time of writing of this report, the Annual Report is approximately 90% complete due to significant time I had had to take off during August due to illness.

Significant areas still to complete at 5 September include:

- Statement of Movements in Equity
- Asset notes (these will be completed when the revaluation of Council Rating District protection infrastructure is completed (imminent)).
- Statement of Cash Flows
- Funding Impact statements.
- Financial Prudence graphs.
- Variance commentary.

It is intended to complete these outstanding items as soon as possible.

Audit NZ is aware and will work to an audit sign off dated 4 October 2016, for the ordinary meeting to be held on that day to adopt.

I reported an interim deficit of \$454,885 to the August meeting.

The deficit shown in the attached Annual Report amounts to \$498,644. The difference is caused by the following:

- Lake Brunner project reserve funding \$69,250 treated as income in monthly management accounts but as a reserve fund movement in the Annual Report -\$69,250
- Adjustment to 1/7/2015 value of unbilled revenue -\$55,646
- Revaluation of Rolleston commercial property of +\$80,000
- Adjustment by Westpac to investment income for 15/16 +\$1,137

3. Investment Income

Westpac Portfolios

July 2016	Catastrophe Fund	Major Portfolio
Opening balance 1 July 2016	\$ 976,553	\$ 10,856,308
Income July 2016	\$ 18,092	\$ 218,115
Deposit		
Withdrawal		\$ -
Closing balance 31 July 2016	\$ 994,645	\$ 11,074,423
Total income year to date to 31 July 2016	\$ 18,092	\$ 218,115

TOTAL
\$ 11,832,861
\$ 236,207
\$ -
\$ 12,069,068
\$ 236,207

This is a pleasing recovery.

4. Insurance Renewals

In accordance with the Risk management policy, I can confirm that all risk covers were renewed on 30 June 2016.

Council Public Liability and Professional Indemnity cover was with NZ Mutual Liability Riskpool until 30 June 2016. However Riskpool is in the process of being wound up as it experienced a substantial membership loss during 2015/16 (including Auckland Council) and the Directors did not see it viable to continue in the long term and an orderly withdrawal by them from the marketplace is occurring. We were offered cover under the new "Civic Liability Pool"; however that didn't include minimum cover amounts in some areas that were essential to this Council (for instance minimum Rural Fire Cover of \$5 million). Public Liability & professional indemnity cover for 16/17 is now with NZI.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received.

Robert Mallinson
Corporate Services Manager

5.0

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting- 13 September 2016
Prepared by: Andrew Robb – Chairman
Date: 29 August 2016
Subject: **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Meetings Attended

- I attended the Governance Group meeting for the West Coast Growth Study on 12 August.
- I attended the South Island Regional Transport Committee meeting for Chairs and Officials in Christchurch on 22 August. Attached to my report is a media release prepared by N. Costley on behalf of this group.
- I attended the Visiting Drivers Project Governance Group meeting in Christchurch on 31 August.
- Myself and the Chief Executive attended the Regional Sector Group meeting in Wellington on 2 September.
- I will be attending a community meeting in Franz Josef on 8 September. Members of the Government official involved with the Growth Study will also be in attendance.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received.

Andrew Robb
Chairman



23 August 2016

Collaboration set to improve South Island transport

The South Island's transport network is set to improve after the chairs of the Regional Transport Committees all agreed on what was important this week.

The formation of the South Island Regional Transport Committee Chairs Group will allow for a more strategic approach to planning the transport network right across the South Island.

With a clear purpose of significantly improving transport outcomes in the South Island through collaboration and integration, the Group is now taking steps to influence central government policy and drive change across the network.

"Collaborative planning initiatives are not new to the transport sector in the South Island, with several regions undertaking joint planning when developing their latest Regional Land Transport Plans," said Councillor Terry Sloan, Chair of the Marlborough Regional Transport Committee.

"The success of these initiatives, and the recognition that journeys do not stop at regional boundaries, has led to a desire to look at new ways to plan and invest for the collective benefit of the South Island transport network. This teamwork will create greater efficiencies and aligned transport programmes to progress improvements on those critical transport journeys and routes across the South Island."

The immediate objective for the Group is to assist the Government to develop the next Government Policy Statement on Transport.

Chair of the West Coast Regional Transport Committee councillor Andrew Robb said, "This statement will set the priorities for investment in the transport network, so it is important that it allows us to respond to the issues that are affecting the network now and into the future."

"In particular, the Government's funding approach needs to be sufficiently flexible to allow us to implement the right modal solution, whether it be road, rail, sea and air, to ensure we remain globally competitive."

This initiative recognises that while roads connect our towns and districts, freight and tourism journeys do not stop at the borders of our districts and regions.

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment predicts the New Zealand tourism industry will boom from \$9.6B to \$16.1B by 2022¹. The South Island plays a critical role in attracting, and catering, to the international visitor market. The transport network, and particularly its roads, provide the means for tourists to experience the very best towns, rivers, mountains, and landscapes the country has to offer.

Coupled with this, the South Island is a powerhouse in the primary production sector, generating goods for the export market. As a result, the NZ Transport Agency forecasts freight movement to increase by an extra 47.7 million tonnes in 2042 compared with 2012. The greatest growth is anticipated to occur between 2012 and 2027².

“Tourism and freight opportunities are at the forefront of our minds as we set out to achieve better outcomes for all transport users,” Sloan said.

“In-depth research to understand the critical tourism and freight journeys and what changes are coming, will help ensure that regional transport committees across the South Island make the right investment decisions to maximise economic growth into the future. We will also be in a better position to respond to future changes in technology.”

ENDS

Media contact

Nichola Costley | Manager Strategy & Communications | West Coast Regional Council | 021 168 6987

¹ West Coast Tourism Fact Book p.3 - International Visitor Survey – MBIE
<http://www.westcoast.co.nz/about/statistics/>

² Draft South Island Freight Plan, p.3 (2015) <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/resources/draft-south-island-freight-plan/docs/draft-south-island-freight-plan.pdf>

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting 13 September 2016
Prepared by: Michael Meehan – Chief Executive
Date: 6 September 2016
Subject: **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**

Meetings Attended

- I attended the Mayors and Chairs forum on 8 August.
- I attended a meeting with the Westport Waste to Energy group on 8 August.
- I attended a meeting with Treasury in Westport on 11 August to discuss matters relating to Solid Energy Ltd. G. McCormack also attended this meeting.
- I attended the Governance Group meeting for the West Coast Growth Study on 12 August.
- I participated in a meeting with the Regional Harbourmaster which was hosted by Grey District Council on 18 August.
- I was Group Controller for National Civil Defence Exercise Tangaroa on 31 August.
- I met with staff from New Zealand Petroleum and Minerals in Wellington on 1 September.
- Myself and the Chairman attended the Regional Sector Group meeting in Wellington on 2 September.

I took three days sick leave during the reporting period.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received.

Michael Meehan
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.

- | | | |
|---------|-----|----------------------------------------------------|
| 59 – 61 | 8.1 | Confirmation of Confidential Minutes 9 August 2016 |
| | 8.2 | Overdue Debtors Report (to be tabled) |
| 62 – 64 | 8.3 | Potential Liability Notification |
| | 8.4 | Response to Presentation (if any) |
| | 8.5 | 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 9 August 2016		Item 1 & 2 protecting privacy of natural persons Section 7 (3) (a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.
8.2	Overdue Debtors Report		
8.3	Potential Liability Notification		
8.4	Response to Presentation (if any)		
8.5	In Committee Items to be Released to Media		

I also move that:

- Michael Meehan
- Robert Mallinson
- Gerard McCormack
- Randal Beal
- Nichola Costley
- Sarah Jones

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.