



THE WEST COAST
REGIONAL COUNCIL

388 Main South Road, Paroa
P.O. Box 66, Greymouth 7840
The West Coast, New Zealand
Telephone (03) 768 0466
Toll Free 0508 800 118
Facsimile (03) 768 7133
Email info@wrc.govt.nz
www.wrc.govt.nz

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

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

TUESDAY, 11 JULY 2017

The programme for the day is:

10.30 a.m:

Resource Management Committee Meeting

On completion of RMC Meeting:

Council Meeting

Councillor Workshops:

**Communications Strategy
Staff Matters**

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the **RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** will be held in the Offices of the West Coast Regional Council, 388 Main South Road, Paroa, Greymouth on **Tuesday, 11 July 2017**

N. CLEMENTSON
CHAIRPERSON

M. MEEHAN
Chief Executive Officer

<u>AGENDA</u> <u>NUMBERS</u>	<u>PAGE</u> <u>NUMBERS</u>	<u>BUSINESS</u>
1.		APOLOGIES
2.	1 – 3	MINUTES 2.1 Confirmation of Minutes of Resource Management Committee Meeting – 13 June 2017
3.		PRESENTATION
4.		CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
5.		REPORTS
		5.1 Planning and Operations Group
	4 – 8	5.1.1 Draft Proposal to Achieve One District Plan for the West Coast Region
	9 – 18	5.1.2 Draft Submission on National Planning Standards
	19 – 24	5.1.3 MARRS / Shingle Beach and Sawyers Creek Water Quality Projects
	25	5.1.4 Reefton Air Quality Summary
		5.2 Consents and Compliance Group
	26	5.2.1 Consents Monthly Report
	27 – 29	5.2.2 Compliance & Enforcement Monthly Report
		6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 13 JUNE 2017, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL,
388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.30 A.M.****PRESENT:**

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

3. MINUTES

Moved (Robb / Archer) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 9 May 2017, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

DEPUTATION - MR & MRS ROGERS

Cr Clementson handed the meeting over to Cr Robb. Cr Robb welcomed Mr & Mrs Rogers to the meeting. Cr Robb explained the procedure and advised Mr & Mrs Rogers that Councillors will have a discussion at the end of the Council meeting and a letter will be sent to them. Mr Rogers addressed the meeting; he introduced his wife Ellen. He stated that he is a Director of Rockies Mining Ltd and has a coal mine known as Rockies Mine which is located on the Stockton Plateau. Mr Rogers outlined his concerns with matters relating to his application to vary his some of his resource consent conditions. He also expressed concerns about the Council's compliance staff in relation to his annual work programmes not being signed off and also when and how site visits were conducted. Mr Rogers confirmed that the Council offered mediation in an attempt to improve the relationship between parties. However after speaking with the independent mediator he declined to continue with this process. Mr Rogers provided Councillors with a copy of a report from Dr Phil Lindsay and recent letter from his planning agent to the Consents & Compliance Manager. Mr Rogers spoke at length and outlined the history referring to the original consent application, being prosecuted for discharges into Rudolph Stream, mediation he had undertaken with the Council previously and interactions with Council staff over the last five years. He answered questions from Councillors. Cr Robb thanked Mr & Mrs Rogers for their attendance and stated that they would receive a letter from Council in due course. Cr Robb handed the meeting back over to Cr Clementson.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cr Clementson reported that it has been a quiet month and he has nothing to report.

5. REPORTS

5.1 PLANNING AND OPERATIONS GROUP

5.1.1 PLANNING REPORT

S. Jones spoke to her report and took it as read. She advised that submissions close tomorrow seeking feedback on the Councils Charging to Monitor Permitted Activities in the National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry. She requested that any comments on the submission need to be to her by tomorrow.

S. Jones advised that staff are currently considering the content of the discussion papers and will prepare a formal response for Council's consideration on the National Planning Standards Discussion Documents. S. Jones advised that the findings on the inquiry into Havelock North's Drinking Water inquiry have been released and recommendations are now being put together. S. Jones stated that once the recommendations are to hand she will bring them to Council as there may be matters that are relevant to Council into the future.

S. Jones advised that MfE are holding an online webinar on 29 June for Elected Members to discuss changes to the Resource Management Amendment Act. S. Jones offered to forward the details on to those interested.

Cr Birchfield asked what caused the water contamination in Havelock North. S. Jones confirmed that this was an E Coli contamination which resulted in around 5000 people getting sick. Cr Robb stated that there are huge implications for all Councils across the country as a result of this inquiry.

S. Jones answered questions from Cr Archer regarding the changes with the National Planning Standards and advised that it is unknown how far the Minister will take the new power but at the moment the only changes will be to structure. She advised that this any other changes are still unknown at this stage as it is almost pre-consultation, and once the route to take has been decided there will then be a formal consultation period. S. Jones advised that this is going to be a long process as the first changes are not due to be gazetted until 2019.

Moved (Challenger / Birchfield) *that the report is received.*

Carried

5.2.1 CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT

G. McCormack spoke to this report. He reported that the Te Kuha Mine application was jointly notified with Buller District Council, with the hearing scheduled for September in Westport.

Cr Ewen asked what the term is for the Westroads Ltd resource consent. G. McCormack advised Cr Ewen that he would respond to his query via email as these consents relate to the consolidation of consents relating to gravel charges.

Moved (Robb / Archer) *That the June 2017 report of the Consents Group be received.*

Carried

5.2.2 COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT

G. McCormack spoke to this report and advised that two formal warnings and two infringement notices were issued during the reporting period. G. McCormack spoke of the bonds that are to be released and answered questions from councillors.

Cr Challenger asked if 14% of dairy farms noted to be uncompliant is a reasonable number in view of this now being the end of the dairy season. G. McCormack responded that most of the non-compliances are minor maintenance issues and are easily addressed; he stated that abatement notices and formal warnings are being issued this week in some cases. G. McCormack stated that mostly it is general maintenance that is lacking and this may be due to financial reasons.

G. McCormack answered various questions from councillors relating to compliance and mining bonds. He offered to supply further information via email following today's meeting.

Discussion took place on enforcement matters and it was noted that the Enforcement Policy will be coming to the council meeting in the coming month or two.

Moved (Robb / Archer)

1. *That the report be received.*
2. *That the Solid Energy bonds for CML-37-161, RC03175, RC11088, RC-2016-0063, RC10217 and RC01285 be released.*

*Against Cr Ewen
Carried*

5.2.3 FISHING VESSEL KUTERE

G. McCormack spoke to this report. He stated that all fish and diesel on board the stricken vessel were taken off on the day of the grounding.

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

Carried

5.2.4 DISCHARGE OF AMMONIA CONTAMINATED WATER – JOHNSON BROS TRANSPORT PROSECUTION - ALTERNATIVE JUSTICE PATHWAY

G. McCormack spoke to this report and advised that as a result of the work carried out all charges against Johnston Bros Transport Ltd have been dropped. Cr Robb stated that this is a good use of the Alternative Justice Pathway and this is an example of a very good outcome for the community. Cr Clementson stated that people using this area have commented on the work done, and this part of the beach has now been opened up for use by the elderly and people who would not normally be able to physically access this area.

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

Carried

6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

M. Meehan advised that there is no air quality report this month as there is yet to be an exceedance of the NES.

J. Douglas thanked Planning staff on behalf of the runanga for the RPS Collaboration Workshop. She stated that this was excellent and was money well spent.

The meeting closed at 11.28 a.m.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee 11 July 2017
Prepared by: Michael Meehan – Chief Executive
Date: 5 July 2017
Subject: **Draft Proposal to Achieve One District Plan for the West Coast Region**

Background

The Buller, Grey and Westland District Councils all have operative District Plans giving effect to their Resource Management Act 1991 functions. The plans are in various states of review, with the most recent review undertaken by Buller District Council. Various changes have been made to the plans to give effect to National direction via National Policy Statement, National Environment Standards etc. Rolling reviews have been a common way of providing an overview of the plans without going through a full review.

Local Government Commission

The Local Government Commission is in an active process of assessing options for the structure of Local Government in the West Coast region. As part of this work the Commission met with the Mayors and Chairs group to find ways they could assist drive shared services and efficiency. Following on from this the Commission funded two pieces of work looking at what efficiency gains could be made in Resource Management Planning and Roading across the region. These reports are both available and provide useful background and options moving forward.

The report produced for Resource Management Planning looked at potential options for the consenting, compliance and plan making work across the region. The report did not recommend a certain way forward, but essentially undertook a stocktake of what is happening and provided options to consider undertaking further analysis work on.

Proposal for One District Plan

It is proposed that a project is initiated to combine the 3 District Plans into one plan for the region. To achieve this it is proposed to employ a Project Manager with a Resource Management planning background on a 2 year fixed term contract to complete this work.

To ensure that the project achieves successful outcomes for the region sound governance and technical advice is key to the process. To achieve this it is proposed to include 3 layers of reporting to the project:

Legislation and Governance

A joint committee comprising 2 Councillors from each of the 4 Councils along with iwi representatives from Te Runanga o Makaawhio and Te Runanga o Ngati Waewae is proposed to be formed to provide governance over the project. It is vital that this committee work alongside the 4 Council CEO's to provide governance over the project. This group would meet quarterly (or at a suitable agreed interval) and need delegated authority from their Councils to inform this process. To achieve the outcomes sought by the project it is envisioned that a hearing panel which would eventually hear the plan would comprise independent commissioners.

Section 80 (6) (c) (ii) of the Resource Management Act 1991 (attached as an appendix) allows for the Regional Council and all the territorial authorities within the region to prepare, implement, and administer a document that meets the requirements of a combined district plan for their combined districts.

Steering Group

It is proposed that a steering group comprising the Planning Group Managers from the 4 Councils provide direction to the project. This group will meet regularly to ensure that the project is on track and achieving the outcomes set.

Technical Advisory Group

It is proposed that a technical advisory group including senior planners from the 4 Councils is appointed to provide technical support and advice to the project manager. This group will meet regularly (monthly) and

ensure that technical aspects of the plan such as definitions, rules and objectives are consistent and do not reduce the efficiency and effectiveness of the current planning framework. This group would also provide expertise and local knowledge on certain aspects of the current framework.

Funding

It is proposed to fund this project through contributions from the 4 Councils and the Local Government Commission. The Local Government Commission has indicated that subject to the project plan they would fund this work dollar for dollar.

It is suggested that \$200,000 be allowed each year for 2 years to undertake this project.

\$25,000 each from Buller District, Grey District, Westland District and West Coast Regional Councils matched dollar for dollar by the Local Government Commission.

The \$200,000 per year would be used to fund the position, overheads and any necessary reports and legal advice.

Timeframe

It is proposed to undertake the work over 2 years. This allows for a 12 month period for drafting the plan in consultation with the various stakeholders and technical advisory group. Some work has been undertaken in this space looking at consistency of definitions etc. in addition to this the Ministry for the Environment is developing a planning template which should be incorporated into the process to ensure longevity of the planning work. The second year of the project would involve a collaborative process, which aims to meet the new requirements of the Resource Management Act, which would negate appeals to the plan except on points of law.

Advantages in following the above process

Combining resources and working with the Local Government Commission to achieve this outcome has huge benefits to the region. It allows the region to progress issues in the planning framework as one to avoid duplication in process, achieve consistency and avoid significant costs in defending decisions.

One of the major drivers for the Auckland Council merge unitary plan was the disjointed way planning was undertaken between the districts. This led to transportation issues and other issues. It is not suggested that by any means the West Coast region has similar issues, however consistency in the District planning framework ensures that one piece of the puzzle for investors looking in, is seen in a good light.

The process does not remove the local flavour of the District Plans as in the existing regional planning framework special rules etc. can be enacted for areas that require it like Lake Brunner and Reefton.

Consents, Compliance and by law development

It is proposed to progress the above project alongside looking at the work that the planning teams across the 4 Councils have discussed in sharing resources more. The CEO's forum should encourage the teams to discuss sharing resources more and use the work that has been undertaken as a launching pad for this discussion.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. *The report is received and discussed.*
2. *That the Resource Management Committee support the proposal in principle.*
3. *That further information and reports are prepared to finalise the proposal, which may include the formation of a joint committee of the four Councils and iwi.*

Michael Meehan

Chief Executive Officer

80 Combined regional and district documents

(1) Local authorities may prepare, implement, and administer the combined regional and district documents as set out in subsections (2) to (6).

(2) A local authority may prepare, implement, and administer a document that meets the requirements of 2 or more of the following:

(a) a regional policy statement:

(b) a regional plan, including a regional coastal plan:

(c) a district plan.

(3) Two or more territorial authorities may prepare, implement, and administer a combined district plan for the whole or any part of their combined districts.

(4) Two or more regional councils may prepare, implement, and administer a document that meets the requirements of the following:

(a) a regional plan, including a regional coastal plan, for the whole or any part of their combined regions:

(b) a regional policy statement, for the whole or any part of their combined regions:

(c) a regional plan, including a regional coastal plan, and a regional policy statement, for the whole or any part of their combined regions.

(5) One or more regional councils or territorial authorities may prepare, implement, and administer a combined regional and district plan for the whole or any part of their respective regions or districts.

(6) A regional council and all the territorial authorities within the region may prepare, implement, and administer a document that meets the requirements of the following:

(a) a regional policy statement for the region; and

(b) a regional plan, including a regional coastal plan, for the region; and

(c) either—

(i) a district plan for each of the territorial authorities; or

(ii) a combined district plan for their combined districts.

(6A) In preparing or amending a combined document, the relevant local authorities must apply the requirements of this Part, as relevant for the documents comprising the combined document.

(6B) The relevant local authorities may also, in preparing the provisions of a regional plan or a district plan, as the case may be, for a combined document that includes a regional policy statement,—

(a) give effect to a proposed regional policy statement; and

(b) have regard to an operative regional policy statement.

(7) Without limiting subsections (1) to (6B), local authorities must consider the preparation of the appropriate combined document under this section whenever significant cross-boundary issues relating to the use, development, or protection of natural and physical resources arise or are likely to arise.

(8) A combined document prepared under this section must clearly identify—

(a) the provisions of the document that are the regional policy statement, the regional plan, the regional coastal plan, or the district plan, as the case may be; and

(b) the objectives, policies, and methods set out or described in the document that have the effect of being provisions of the regional policy statement; and

(c) which local authority is responsible for observing, and enforcing the observance of, each provision of the document.

(9) A combined document prepared under this section—

(a) must be prepared in accordance with [Schedule 1](#); and

(b) when approved by a local authority is deemed, for the purposes of this Act, to be a plan or regional policy statement separately prepared and approved by that authority for its region or district, as the case may be.

(10) Subsection (9)(b) applies whether or not the combined document is approved by any of the other local authorities concerned.

(11) [Clauses 30](#) and [30A](#) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 apply to the appointment and conduct of any joint committee set up for the purposes of preparing, implementing, or administering a combined document under this section.

Section 80: replaced, on 1 October 2009, by [section 66](#) of the Resource Management (Simplifying and Streamlining) Amendment Act 2009 (2009 No 31).

Section 80(6A): inserted, on 19 April 2017, by [section 65\(1\)](#) of the Resource Legislation Amendment Act 2017 (2017 No 15).

Section 80(6B): inserted, on 19 April 2017, by [section 65\(1\)](#) of the Resource Legislation Amendment Act 2017 (2017 No 15).

Section 80(7): amended, on 19 April 2017, by [section 65\(2\)](#) of the Resource Legislation Amendment Act 2017 (2017 No 15).

Section 80(11): amended, on 8 August 2014, by [section 78](#) of the Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Act 2014 (2014 No 55).

Subpart 4—Collaborative planning process

Subpart 4: inserted, on 19 April 2017, by [section 66](#) of the Resource Legislation Amendment Act 2017 (2017 No 15).

80A Use of collaborative planning process

(1) This subpart, [subpart 7](#), and [Part 4](#) of Schedule 1 apply if a local authority gives public notice in accordance with [clause 38](#) of Schedule 1 of its intention to use the collaborative planning process—

- (a) to prepare or change a proposed policy statement or plan;
- (b) to prepare or change a combined regional and district document under section 80.

(2) If this subpart applies,—

- (a) [clauses 1](#), [1A\(1\)](#), [1B](#), [20](#), and [20A](#) of Schedule 1 apply; but
- (b) the rest of [Part 1](#) of Schedule 1 does not apply, except to the extent that it is expressly applied by this subpart or [Part 4](#) of Schedule 1.

Section 80A: inserted, on 19 April 2017, by [section 66](#) of the Resource Legislation Amendment Act 2017 (2017 No 15).

Subpart 5—Streamlined planning process

Subpart 5: inserted, on 19 April 2017, by [section 66](#) of the Resource Legislation Amendment Act 2017 (2017 No 15).

80B Purpose, scope, application of Schedule 1, and definitions

(1) This subpart and [Part 5](#) of Schedule 1 provide a process, through a direction of the responsible Minister, for the preparation of a planning instrument in order to achieve an expeditious planning process that is proportionate to the complexity and significance of the planning issues being considered.

(2) Under this subpart, [Schedule 1](#) applies as follows:

- (a) [clauses 1A to 3C](#), [6](#), [6A](#), [16](#), and [20A](#) apply; and
- (b) [clauses 4](#), [9](#), [13](#), [21 to 27](#) (other than [clauses 25\(2\)\(a\)\(i\) and \(ii\)](#) and [26\(b\)](#)), and [28\(2\) to \(6\)](#) apply; but
- (c) the rest of [Part 1](#) does not apply unless it is expressly applied by—
 - (i) this subpart; or
 - (ii) [Part 5](#) of Schedule 1; or
 - (iii) a direction given under [clause 78](#) of Schedule 1.

(3) In this subpart and [Part 5](#) of Schedule 1,—

national direction means a direction made by—

- (a) a national planning standard; or
- (b) a national environmental standard; or
- (c) regulations made under [section 360](#); or
- (d) a national policy statement

planning instrument—

- (a) means a policy statement or plan; and
- (b) includes a change or variation to a policy statement or plan

responsible Minister means the Minister or Ministers who give a direction in accordance with this subpart and [Part 5](#) of Schedule 1, namely,—

- (a) the Minister of Conservation, in the case of a regional coastal plan;
- (b) both the Minister and the Minister of Conservation, in the case of a proposed planning instrument that is to encompass matters within the jurisdiction of both those Ministers;
- (c) the Minister, in every other case.

Section 80B: inserted, on 19 April 2017, by [section 66](#) of the Resource Legislation Amendment Act 2017 (2017 No 15).

80C Application to responsible Minister for direction

(1) If a local authority determines that, in the circumstances, it would be appropriate to use the streamlined planning process to prepare a planning instrument, it may apply in writing to the responsible Minister in accordance with [clause 75](#) of Schedule 1 for a direction to proceed under this subpart.

(2) However, a local authority may apply for a direction only if the local authority is satisfied that the application satisfies at least 1 of the following criteria:

(a) the proposed planning instrument will implement a national direction:

(b) as a matter of public policy, the preparation of a planning instrument is urgent:

(c) the proposed planning instrument is required to meet a significant community need:

(d) a plan or policy statement raises an issue that has resulted in unintended consequences:

(e) the proposed planning instrument will combine several policy statements or plans to develop a combined document prepared under [section 80](#):

(f) the expeditious preparation of a planning instrument is required in any circumstance comparable to, or relevant to, those set out in paragraphs (a) to (e).

(3) In relation to a private plan change accepted under [clause 25\(2\)\(b\)](#) of Schedule 1, a local authority must obtain the agreement of the person requesting the change before the local authority applies for a direction under this section.

(4) If an application is made under this section, it must be submitted to the responsible Minister before the local authority gives notice—

(a) under [clause 5](#) or [5A](#) of Schedule 1, in relation to a proposed planning instrument; or

(b) under [clause 38](#) of Schedule 1, if it intends to use the collaborative planning process; or

(c) under [clauses 25\(2\)\(a\)\(i\)](#) and [26\(b\)](#) of Schedule 1, in relation to a request for a private plan change.

Section 80C: inserted, on 19 April 2017, by [section 66](#) of the Resource Legislation Amendment Act 2017 (2017 No 15).

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received.

Michael Meehan
Chief Executive

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee – 11 July 2017
Prepared by: Lillie Sadler, Senior Resource Planner
Date: 28 June 2017
Subject: Draft submission on National Planning Standards

Purpose

This report outlines the draft submission on the Ministry for the Environment's (MFE) proposed options for the first round of National Planning Standards (Standards).

Background

As reported at the June Council meeting, MFE has prepared a series of Discussion Documents on the main elements of the first set of Standards. In each of the Discussion Documents there is a series of questions seeking feedback on the options put forward.

MFE's proposed options for national standards

While the first set of Standards will focus on district plans, several of the Discussion Documents suggest standardising aspects of plans that are relevant to regional planning documents, as follows:

- One combined RPS and regional plan document, with two possible structures proposed;
- A layout format for plan objectives, policies, and rules, with a set numbering system and font size and style - two possible structures proposed;
- Prescribed names for spatial overlays and maps in plans, including parameters for scale and colour;
- Prescribed location of general provisions chapters in plans, including removing some general sections that can be provided through other means, for example, chapters on how to apply for a resource consent, and plan monitoring;
- Progression from paper plans to fully interactive and linked electronic plans.

The following is a link to MFE's Discussion Documents:

<http://www.mfe.govt.nz/rma/legislative-tools/national-planning-standards/developing-first-set-of-national-planning-1>

Draft submission

Attached to this report is the draft submission on the relevant options put forward in the Discussion Documents. Staff are generally supportive of standardising plan elements that are straightforward to implement, and where changes can be made to our regional policy statement and plans without significant time or cost involved. Some of the proposals are not supported as they are considered unnecessary, impractical, or of little benefit to plan users in our Region.

The three West Coast District Councils are interested in making a joint submission with the Regional Council. When we have received the District Councils' comments the submission will be amended to incorporate them, and the final version will be circulated to Councillors.

The closing date for submissions is 31 July.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report is received.

Sarah Jones
Planning Team Leader

X June 2017

Ministry for the Environment
3 The Terrace
Wellington Central
Wellington 6011

Dear Sir/Madam

Submission on National Planning Standards Discussion Documents

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the National Planning Standards Discussion Documents. Attached is our submission which is structured around the questions asked in the Discussion Documents. We have considered all of the Discussion Documents but have only responded to the questions that are relevant to our Council.

We generally support a number of the suggestions put forward in the Discussion Documents that are reasonably straightforward to implement. One of the main factors behind our responses is the likely time and cost for the Council of making the changes outlined. There are other options that we do not support because they could be expensive and time-consuming, as well as being impractical, unnecessary, or for little benefit to plan users in the West Coast Region.

The first round of Discussion Documents appears to focus on district plans and urban matters. This is made clear in some Discussion papers such as the Definitions, Metrics and District Plan Structure papers, but it is not so explicit in other papers. We assume that the second round of planning standards will give greater consideration to possible areas of standardisation in regional plans, however, this is not wholly clear in the Discussion Documents and should be clarified.

In the Discussion papers that are relevant to regional councils, the fact that most of the examples and content relate to city or district plans makes it hard to clearly identify the implications of the proposals for regional planning documents. Given this uncertainty, we suggest that flexibility is needed if any of the first set of National Planning Standards are to apply to regional planning documents.

Our contact for service is:
Lillie Sadler
Senior Resource Planner
Ph: -03 768 0466 x242
Email: ls@wcrc.govt.nz

Yours faithfully

Sarah Jones
Planning Team Leader

Structure of Regional Plans and Policy Statements – Discussion Paper D

General comments

It is unclear here what the Ministry is trying to achieve and who the target audience is. Many of the comments within Discussion Paper D are written from the perspective of a national organisation – an organisation that is tasked with operating across all regions. However, the majority of the people who use our plans on a day to day basis are within our organisation, or within our region. Additionally, we do not feel that our plans are so complex, or so different from our neighbours, that any planning professional would struggle to come to grips with them. As detailed below, our plans have evolved to respond to the needs of our users.

Before any changes are agreed upon, we suggest the Ministry clearly articulate who it is we are seeking to make these changes for. Is it government, is it national organisations, is it planning professionals or is it the lay person in the community? Different groups will prefer different options. We respectfully suggest that in order to successfully decide on the most appropriate structure and form for regional planning documents, the Ministry needs to decide who it is they are trying to satisfy.

We make this submission on behalf of our communities, including the professionals inside and outside our organisation who use our plans on a day to day basis.

Given the intentions are not clearly articulated in the Discussion Document, we are unable to support what is proposed at present. We do not support change for the sake of change and do not feel that the benefits of the changes suggested are suitably justified within this Discussion paper. It is noted that this Discussion paper, unlike some of the others, is unsubstantiated. There are no references or footnotes provided in this document. It would be useful if the assumptions upon which this paper is based are underpinned by evidence.

D.1. Should the structure of regional planning facilitate the move towards broad 'coastal environment plans' to achieve better integrated management of resources?

For the West Coast Regional Council, this would potentially require a full rewrite of the Coastal Plan which is not a priority for us right now. Separate plans are simpler for us right now. We question what the cost and resourcing implications will be of a national standard requiring a 'coastal environment plan'. Will there be a sufficient phasing in time?

D.2. Do you agree that regional planning documents (regional policy statements, regional and coastal plans) should be combined into one document?

There is a question to be asked here about what is meant by "combined". If "combined" simply means putting all plans into one document (i.e. stapling them together) that is relatively straightforward. However, if "combined" means integrating them, then that is a much trickier task.

There is a comment on pg. 11 that "many councils are integrating their land, water, air and other plans into one document". It would be interesting to know which councils are doing this and what their reasons are. Are these the better resourced councils? There are positives and negatives associated with both approaches. The status quo allows individual councils to make a choice about what approach best suits them. We are concerned that, given our small team and limited resources, a requirement to integrate our regional land and water, coastal and air plans could be expensive, time-consuming and complex.

D.3. Do you agree that the regional policy statement should form a separate chapter within that combined document?

If RPS's are to be added into one regional planning document, our preference would be for it to be as a separate chapter rather than split up and spread throughout the document. Having it as a separate chapter would be much more straightforward for us to achieve. In our recent drafting of the proposed RPS (notified in 2015) we attempted to shorten and streamline our RPS, including only what needed to be included. This has resulted in a much shorter document (52 pages) that could sit at the front of a combined planning document relatively easily.

D.4.	<p><i>Does the regional policy statement structure need to be the same as the rest of the plan?</i></p> <p>No. The RPS serves a different purpose and is not used in the same way as a regional plan. It is not necessary for the RPS structure to be the same, and this may in some instances be difficult to achieve. For instance, our proposed RPS has chapters that deal with “Resilient and Sustainable Communities” and “Use and Development of Resources”. However, our Regional Land and Water Plan is primarily activity based. The principles relating to those particular chapters of the RPS filter into each and every chapter of the Land and Water Plan (rather than one or two specific chapters of the Regional Plan) and so the structure of our RPS could not be replicated in our Regional Plan.</p>
D.5.	<p><i>Which structural option is the most suitable for your region and why? [Options described on pg. 14-17 of the Discussion Document]</i></p> <p>Option 2 with Rule option (B) is the most suitable for our region because it most closely replicates the existing structure of our regional plans. Our plans have been drafted in the way they have, and amended over time, to respond to the needs of the users of our plans. When we review our plans, we look at what else is going on in the country, and speak to the users of our plans about what they might like to see. The structure we end up with reflects those conversations. The disadvantages of Option 2 described in the Document do not apply to us. Our plans are not large or complex (we write them with the opposite intention in mind) and it is the role of planning professionals to ensure that the other disadvantages are appropriately managed (to ensure integration across the plan, to provide cross references and links, and to ensure the relationships between domains are clear).</p>
D.6.	<p><i>Apart from the regional policy statement, should there be any mandatory chapters within an Option 2 structure?</i></p> <p>No. Flexibility allows a locationally appropriate approach to be taken. It also allows plans to be adapted to respond to future national change.</p>
D.7.	<p><i>Does the high-level structure outlined here strike the right balance between consistency and flexibility?</i></p> <p>Yes, any further prescription would result in an erosion of each local authority’s ability to apply flexibility in a locationally appropriate way.</p>
D.8.	<p><i>Should rules be located with associated objectives, policies and rules or in their own chapter?</i></p> <p>Our research indicates that users prefer rules to be separated from objectives and policies. This is how our plans are currently structured. This was supported by research conducted by MfE in respect of e-planning (email from Alastair Meehan, 30/08/2016). It is accepted that this was not the approach taken by the Hearings Panel on the Auckland Unitary Plan, but given the clear differences between the Auckland Council and the majority of other Councils around the country, it is not accepted that the approach deemed appropriate by the Auckland Hearings Panel is applicable or appropriate anywhere else.</p>
D.9.	<p><i>Should rules be organised by activity type (e.g., discharge, structure or water take), or by subject (e.g., land, air, water)? Why?</i></p> <p>Different councils deal with different issues and activities. What works for us may not work for others. For that reason, we feel it is better for Councils to decide how to best organise their rules. The planning professionals within each Council are best placed to decide on these types of details.</p>
D.10.	<p><i>Should the structure of the regional policy statement and plan objectives and policies flow through to the rules (i.e., if the objectives and policies are by topic then the rules should also be by topic)?</i></p> <p>We consider that the Planning Standards should not deal with this level of detail. See our response to question D.5.</p>
D.11.	<p><i>Do you see benefit in standardising the terminology used to refer to topics and themes within regional policy statements and plans?</i></p> <p>It is unclear in the Discussion paper what is meant by “terminology”. No examples are provided for consideration. Also refer to our response to question D.6. The implication of mandatory chapters could mean mandatory titles or names for topics, themes or chapters.</p>

D.12.	<p><i>Would you prefer to choose from several structures (with the choice implemented via an RMA Schedule 1 process) or be given one structure (to be implemented directly, without Schedule 1)?</i></p> <p>This depends on what the options are. We see significant risk of challenge from third parties in response to some of the options proposed in this Discussion Document. Our preferred option would be one that is achievable with our resources and does not result in third party appeals (either through the Environment Court or Judicial Review). See our response to question D.13.</p>
D.13.	<p><i>What challenges do you foresee with implementation, and how could the Ministry for the Environment help with these challenges?</i></p> <p>A key difficulty will be striking the right balance between streamlining the process to allow the Standards to be implemented in a quick and efficient way, whilst also ensuring that third parties do not feel like plans that they contributed to the development of, are being undermined. We know from experience that every single part of a plan, including the way it is arranged, has been drafted in that particular way for a reason. Restructuring, and in particular removing, words, background and/or provisions (which may be required to achieve integration, consistency and avoid repetition) is likely to be controversial.</p>
Formatting Plans and Policy Statements – Discussion Paper E	
E.1.	<p><i>Which option do you consider to more clearly link the objectives and policies? Why?</i></p> <p>If the National Planning Standards prescribe a layout format for plan objectives and policies, Option 2 is our preferred option as it gives the impression that the policies are linked to the objective, in a similar way to a flow chart format. Whereas Option 1 gives the impression that the policies are detached from the objective and other policies, as they are in separate boxes. Option 2 is also better as the objectives and policies will be easier to format when creating the planning document.</p>
E.3.	<p><i>Where do you think performance standards should be located? Why?</i></p> <p>The location of performance standards should not be stipulated in the National Planning Standards. The three options presented in this Discussion paper use district/city plan rules as examples. We understand that it is common practice in district plans to have performance standards/conditions in a table separate from the activity rules for each zone. However, our current regional plan rules and conditions are not structured this way, and we have structured our rules in a similar way to other region's plans. Councils should either have discretion over the location of performance standards to allow for the differences between district and regional plans, or any requirements for location of performance standards should only apply to city/district plans.</p>
E.7.	<p><i>Do you agree with the principles outlined above? Why or why not?</i></p> <p>We agree that the numbering of provisions in a plan should be easy to use, systematic, sequential and have a limit on the number of digits in each provision number. Such a national numbering system could be useful, however, we are unsure how it would work in practice. There may be some situations where a variation of the numbering system in a plan is needed to suit the circumstances, and any mandatory numbering system should provide flexibility for variations.</p>
E.9.	<p><i>Which option do you prefer?</i></p> <p>If the National Planning Standards prescribe font style and size, Option 2 is preferred as it provides a level of standardisation between all plans while also allowing each plan to be individual. However, we generally do not support prescribing font styles and sizes. See our response to question E.10.</p>
E.10.	<p><i>Do you think the National Planning Standards should prescribe font style? Why?</i></p> <p>No, we consider that the time it would take to change and check our regional plans to comply with prescribed National Planning Standards for font style is an unjustified use of ratepayer money. While this may seem like a straightforward change, we have found that making such formatting changes can trigger other unintended formatting changes in our plans due to glitches in the computer software. We do not believe that prescribing font styles will contribute substantially to making our regional plans easier to read and navigate.</p>

Zones and Overlays – Discussion Paper C

General comments

The Discussion Document suggests standardising overlays for RMA section 6 nationally important matters. We were advised at one of the National Planning Standards workshops that the Standards will **not** require section 6 overlays to be added in regional plans, but they will require a certain name and style of overlay if councils choose to have such overlays in their plan. The Discussion Document does not make this clear, however we have based our comments on the advice provided by MFE. We would be very concerned if, in the final set of National Planning Standards, there are any requirements to include these layers in planning documents as this has significant implications for councils with identifying section 6 areas.

C.2. | What terminology should be used?

Standardised names could work for some regional plan overlays such as “Airsheds”, as the name is already defined in the National Environmental Standard for Air Quality. The Term “Freshwater Management Unit” is also defined in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management so this could be used in the NPS’s. Although we are unfamiliar with overlay in other region’s plans, we would expect coastal hazard areas could have a standardised title.

It may be more difficult to standardise names for regional plan overlays showing section 6 (a), (b) and (c) natural value areas. The WCRC has identified significant wetlands as part of their water management functions to give effect to section 6(c), while the District Councils will identify section 6(c) areas on ‘dry’ land. This is efficient for small councils with low rating bases as it avoids duplicating the assessment and identification of the same type of areas. There may be other variations needed between these types of layers, for example, between terrestrial and coastal areas depending on whether the coastal environment is identified or not. Another example is with the WCRC’s identified Schedule 1 and 2 wetlands, the former are significant, the latter are potentially significant, and there are different levels of protection for them. As mentioned already, the National Planning Standards need to provide flexibility where it is appropriate for regions to have variations. It may be an option to have a standardised name and then allow for a sub-name specific to the overlay.

Also see our response to question F.3 for more reasons on why map/overlay names should not all be standardised.

C.3. | What modifications are necessary to the proposed framework to accommodate spatial layers commonly found in regional plans?

See our response to question C.4.

Having a standardised spatial layer for nationally important public access points to the coastal marine area, lakes and rivers is impractical for the West Coast region. It will be time-consuming and expensive to identify these access points in a layer as there are so many of them in our large coastal environment, and for our numerous rivers and lakes, especially on public conservation land. Not all of these access points are necessarily nationally important, and we are not aware of any criteria for identifying which ones are nationally, regionally, or locally important. We also do not have figures for how many people use each access, to determine the status of each access point. Public access points don’t need to be in a spatial layer as their importance can be identified on a case by case basis in the consent process.

C.17. | What are your thoughts on standardising district wide nationally significant matters in the National Planning Standards?

We support the idea in principle as it would give consistency with naming and style of spatial layers between regional and city/district plans in the same region, where the areas identified are the same at the regional and district level. Our response to questions C.2 and C.3 also apply to this question in terms of providing flexibility where variation is needed.

C.23.	<i>Are these the right matters to include in this layer? A. Are there any other matters that should be included?</i>
Earthworks should be left out as there can be confusion between district and regional councils' roles regarding managing effects of earthworks. Requiring a spatial layer for earthworks in district plans may just heighten the confusion for public users of plans.	
Definitions – Discussion paper G – focuses on District Plan definitions	
<i>General comments</i>	
G.6.	<i>Do you have any specific comments about the 'other considerations' outlined?</i>
G.10.	<i>If the National Planning Standards were to feature nesting tables, what degree of variation should be allowed by individual councils?</i>
Metrics – Discussion Paper I – focuses on District Plans	
<i>General comments</i>	
I.1.	<i>Have you experienced any difficulty dealing with different metrics across resource management plans?</i>
I.2.	<i>To what extent do you think the inconsistent use of metrics in plans is an issue?</i>
I.3.	<i>Do you agree with the criteria that have been used to identify the main metric themes?</i>
I.4.	<i>Do you think the four metric themes identified for inclusion will offer the most benefit?</i>
I.5.	<i>Are there other metric themes that you think would benefit from standardisation through the National Planning Standards? (See appendix 1 for commentary on metric themes not included.)</i>
I.6.	<i>Are there any specific difficulties you foresee with standardising certain metrics?</i>
I.7.	<i>Do you agree that the above metrics themes should not be included in the first set of National Planning Standards?</i>
I.8.	<i>Out of the three options identified for metric thresholds, which one do you think is the most appropriate and why?</i>
General Provisions – Discussion Paper J	
<i>General comments</i>	
J.1.	<i>What are your views on each of the issues identified?</i> We generally agree with standardising the location of general provision chapters in planning documents. This will save time searching for these chapters in plans that users are unfamiliar with. We are not aware of any major negative consequences of standardising these general chapters. It may be useful to ask a sample of expert planners their views on the best location in plans for the general provisions chapters. Standardised location of these chapters should also be based on the most common current practice, for example, the iwi chapter is often near the front of regional plans.
J.2.	<i>Do you agree or disagree that some information currently included in plans is better placed outside of a plan?</i> Agree, it is efficient and user-friendly to simplify plans. Most people who use our plans are consultants and council staff. We also agree with the examples given of information that could sit outside a plan, that is, guides to using plans, how to apply for a resource consent, and plan monitoring.

J.3.	<p><i>Do you agree or disagree that there is an opportunity for the National Planning Standards to provide standardised content for some of these provisions?</i></p> <p>Agree that commonly used descriptions in the general chapters could be standardised, while also allowing for councils to explain matters that are specific to their district or region. Standardised general text should be clear and brief.</p>
J.4.	<p><i>What are your views on the examples of general provisions set out in table 1?</i></p> <p>We agree with most of the suggested options. The advantage of having these sections outside the plan is that they can be amended or updated as needed without the time and cost of going through a RMA plan change process.</p> <p>Regarding the links to other regulatory documents, we are unsure if the suggested links are electronic links or text. We agree with electronic links to NPS's and NES's. Any additional text describing these national documents should be brief. Our first generation plans had a chapter on related legislation which we removed in our second generation plans as it was not used. We would oppose such a chapter being in the National Planning Standards as it is unnecessary.</p> <p>We disagree that cross-boundary provisions should be standardised for inclusion in regional and district plans. We have taken this section out of our Regional Land and Water, and Proposed Coastal, Plans as it repeats environmental issues that are already addressed in the plans, and it is not mandatory under the RMA. However, it is appropriate, and required, to be included in regional policy statements.</p>
Plan mapping standards – Discussion Paper F	
<p><i>General comments</i></p> <p>We generally support the concept of having standardised symbols in plan maps. Council staff would then not have to spend time deciding on these details. This should not be an extra significant cost as we understand that existing software and technology can be used.</p>	
F.2.	<p><i>Is the level of detail prescribed in the New South Wales requirements desirable? More? Less?</i></p> <p>The level of detail proposed may be useful in situations to show different levels of a feature, for example, different levels of hazard risk (low, medium, high), although in other situations it may be unnecessary. It may not be an issue if it does not incur a significant extra cost. Bear in mind that for a small council the level of investment that would be required to implement these standards needs to be justified by the number of people actually using our website.</p>
F.3.	<p><i>Are there any particular mapping challenges associated with the proposal to introduce a naming convention for spatial layers?</i></p> <p>Our response to question C.2 identified some types of maps/overlays where it may be difficult to standardise names. Another reason why it may not be appropriate to introduce conventions on all map naming is that often the names associated with certain things are important to local communities, and they may feel disenfranchised by this right being removed. Additionally, other names convey details about the specific processes that were followed and may reflect the legal status of that layer, for example, the WCRC's Schedule 1 and 2 wetlands. Not all section 6 matters have been mapped, nor can be mapped, for example, public access.</p>
Electronic functionality and accessibility of plans – Discussion Paper H	
<p><i>General comments</i></p> <p>While in some areas the WCRC is at the first 'online' stage of ePlanning progression, we have several projects that will move us quickly to the second 'interactive' stage, and we also tick one of the boxes at the third 'integrated' stage. Our IT staff have advised that we have the ability to add links into planning documents, and this is relatively easy to do to progress towards further ePlan accessibility. It does not require high tech software. However, we question whether we can, or should have to, achieve the full extent of the final fourth stage of ePlanning progression (the 'mature' stage) within the timeframes proposed. Given the rate of change with this sort of technology, its associated costs,</p>	

and the level of ePlan use in our region, if we do not go the full ePlan way, there needs to be flexibility to enable us to do what we can do within our constraints to meet the National Planning Standards.

H.4. | Would the mature options with a timeframe set out provide authorities with more certainty?
 Not sure what is meant by providing “authorities with more certainty”. Whether we can achieve the ‘mature’ option in the five-seven years proposed in the Discussion paper will depend on what, if any, assistance is available from central government, if needed. While we can, and have, budgeted for a certain level of costs associated with progressing ePlanning, other unexpected costs or circumstances that arise over this timeframe for our Council will need to be considered in terms of the benefits to West Coast ratepayers.

H.5. | What do you think of the transition costs and funding implications?
 See response to question H.4.

H.7. | Do you agree a staged approach that sets broad requirements and progresses over time is the best approach? Why/why not?
 Yes, this is necessary for us as it will take some time to progress further to the third and possibly fourth levels of full ePlanning delivery. We can do the minimum in the first year as proposed in the Discussion Document.

H.9. | Councils appear to be moving independently and more quickly to ePlans than initially expected. Is a minimum standard relating to improving the quality of PDFs ambitious enough?
 We think that the minimum standard for the first stage of progression is acceptable, and it does not set the bar too low. It gives councils flexibility to move forward in a way that suits their circumstances, and it does not matter if councils achieve above the minimum standard in the first 12 months, this at least indicates that good progress is being made.

H.10. | How can we work collaboratively with you and other agencies to manage this transition period?
 Funding from central government would be the most helpful form of assistance, as work on plan formatting and linking is likely to need some local knowledge.

H.13. | Data transfer standards may need to form part of the National Planning Standards in the future. Do you have any views on the need for data transfer standards and how these should work in practice?
 The National Planning Standards may not be the best place for data transfer standards. From our experience with the National Monitoring System, there seems to be issues with a lack of consistency of MFE staff who deal with the data, and MFE staff being unable to understand the data. Councils are also having no involvement in decisions on what data should be required. Additionally, our consents administration and planning staff have to manually transfer the required NMS information into the Excel spreadsheets, and this is taking an increasing amount of our time due to the extra information requirements added each year by MFE. It effectively means the data is inputted twice, firstly into the Council’s database, and then into the NMS spreadsheet. We would be concerned if the same system for data reporting was required in the National Planning Standards.

It would be better to have an open interface between councils and MFE so that MFE can take what information they need from Council’s database. We understand that a new system is being looked into for this. It may be more appropriate to keep data transfer requirements outside the National Planning Standards to enable improvements and changes to be made without having to potentially frequently amend the Standards to reflect changes, as with some other NPS’s and NES’s.

District Plan Structure – to be completed by District Councils	
<i>General comments</i>	
B.1	<i>Do you agree with the framework and matters addressed for plan structure identified in Table 1?</i>
B.2	<i>Do you agree with the terminology used to describe each category?</i>
B.3	<i>Are there other elements that strongly influence district plan structure?</i>
B.4	<i>Do you prefer a topic, zone or combination approach? Why?</i>
B.5	<i>Do you agree or disagree that the combination plan approach provides the best balance of certainty and flexibility?</i>
B.6	<i>Should plan provisions be organised by provision type, or by topic or zone? Why?</i>
B.7	<i>Do you think occasional and professional plan users have different structure preferences?</i>
B.8	<i>How should these needs be reconciled?</i>
B.9	<i>Which option do you prefer, and why?</i>
B.10	<i>What level of plan element and plan structure detail should the National Planning Standards specify?</i>
<i>Questions specifically for local government</i>	
B.11	<i>Which option would be easiest for your plan to convert to?</i>
B.12	<i>Is 12 months an achievable timeframe within which to change your plan into a different structure? If not what would be required (e.g. 2 years, 5years, when you undertake a full review?)</i>
B.13	<i>If not how long do you estimate it would take? Can this be achieved with existing staff resources?</i>
B.14	<i>What percentage of your plan would need to go through a separate plan change process?</i>

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee– 11 July 2017
Prepared by: Sarah Jones
Date: 13 June 2017
Subject: **Marrs/Shingle Beach and Sawyers Creek water quality projects**

Background

Marrs Beach and Shingle Beach, located near the mouth of the Buller River, are used for recreational purposes. Consequently, the WCRC, and BDC (via their resource consent), monitor E. coli at these sites as part of the contact recreation monitoring programme to evaluate potential health risks. Sawyers Creek runs through urban Greymouth and is sampled by the WCRC as part of its long term State of the Environment water quality monitoring program. Maps of both sites, identifying the project area, are attached to this report.

All three of these sites have been monitored over the last twenty years and have consistently displayed elevated E. coli levels that exceed relevant guidelines. These guidelines relate to health risks for humans caused by organisms like campylobacter and salmonella, which come from the gut of warm blooded animals. These sites represent the worst performers for E.coli in both the State of Environment and Contact Recreation monitoring programmes.

Given the history of poor performance, some limited additional sampling has been undertaken at these sites in the past, along with a closer evaluation of potential sources and other environmental factors that may influence E. coli levels. These results demonstrate that there are potentially several sources of E. coli, such as: water birds, sewerage/septage, and faeces from domestic animals. It is likely that there are multiple sources contributing to E. coli simultaneously, but not necessarily in a consistent way. Additionally, there are potentially environmental factors at play, including tidal cycles, rainfall and river level regimes, time of day and year. Based on the information we have, we know that these are complex problems, particularly at the Buller River sites, and the solutions are unlikely to be simple.

To address these complex problems and come up with workable solutions, we need to work with our communities and stakeholders. These two projects target our worst performing waterways and will seek to deliver tangible improvements in water quality for our communities.

Purpose and function

The project seeks to establish a working group for each location who will consult with the local community and then work together to identify the issues associated with water quality and ways of addressing the water quality issues in each project area. Each working group will be tasked with making recommendations to Council for future plan provisions and work programmes for the integrated management of land and water resources within the project area. The recommendations may contain both regulatory and non-regulatory measures.

The project will also work toward improving swimmability performance within the Region and implementing the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.

Project Plan and timeframes

The key steps are:

1. Identify working group.
2. Meet with the working group to understand the issue from all sides. Understand what could be contributing to the decline in water quality and how the water body is used and valued. Identify any gaps in our knowledge.
3. Carry out any additional investigative work to close the gaps in our knowledge, and feed this information back to the working group.
4. Using the information gathered in steps 2 and 3, the working group will identify what they wish to achieve in the waterway (set targets and objectives).

5. The working group develop a range of regulatory and non-regulatory approaches for achieving those objectives.
6. Working group makes recommendations back to Council for consideration.

Each working group will meet at least four times per annum (quarterly), holding additional workshops and meetings as required. It is expected that the recommendations will be made back to Council within 24 months of establishment of each working group.

Working group composition

The project will work closely with stakeholders, including the wider community, enable people to have their say, listen to their views, and act to balance the interest of everyone in the area. Stakeholders are key to a workable solution and the project will look to local farmers, adjacent land users, and associated industries for involvement in the working group.

In addition, each working group will include a Regional Councillor, a District Councillor, a member appointed by the relevant iwi authority and a member nominated by Community and Public Health. The Working Group will be supported by the staff at the Regional Council, with District Council staff involved where appropriate.

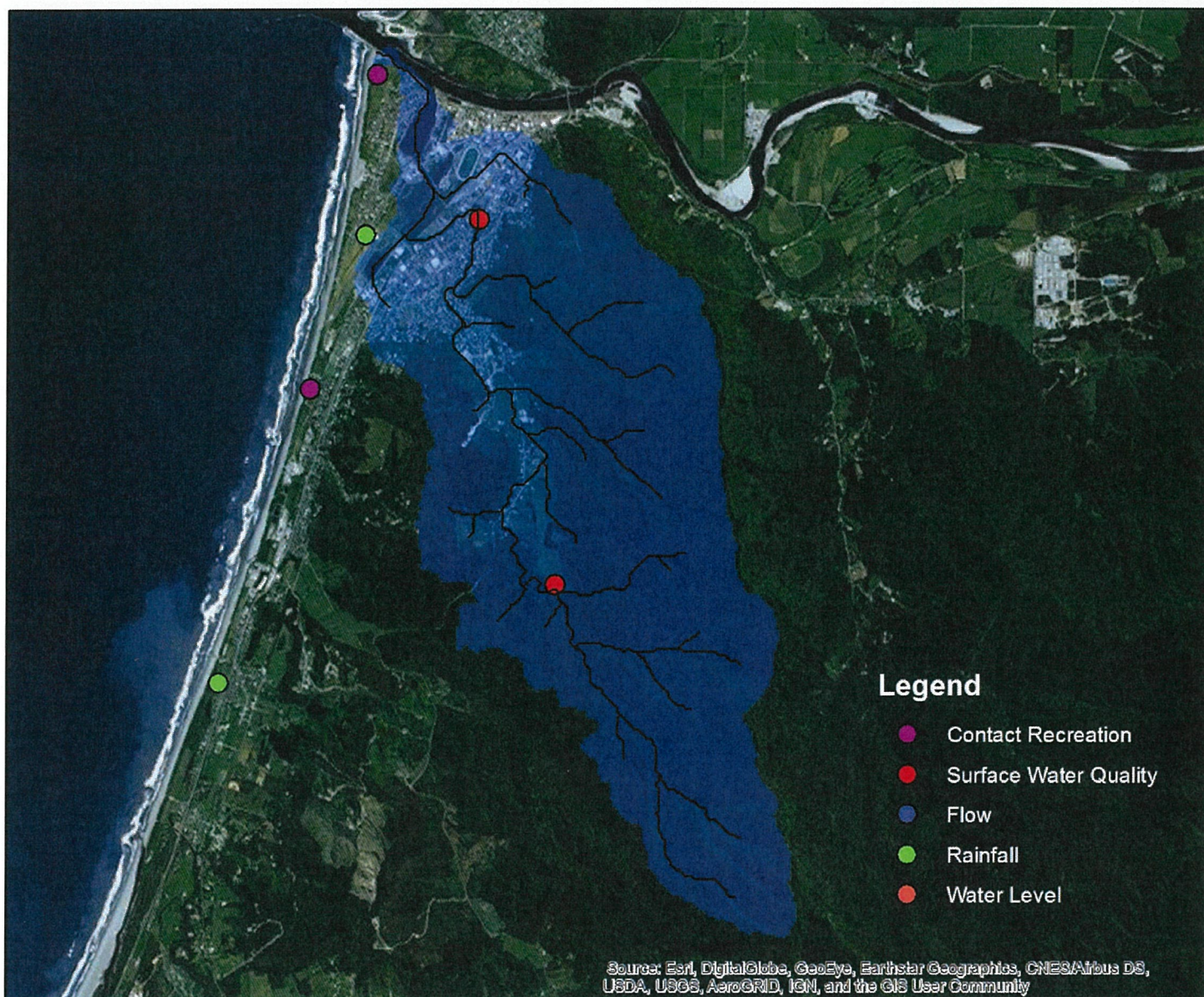
Draft Terms of Reference are attached to this report which set out the above arrangements in more detail.

RECOMMENDATION

1. *That the report is received.*
2. *That the Council agrees the draft Terms of Reference.*
3. *That the Council establishes two working groups in accordance with the agreed Terms of Reference.*

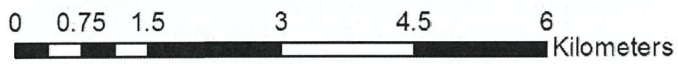
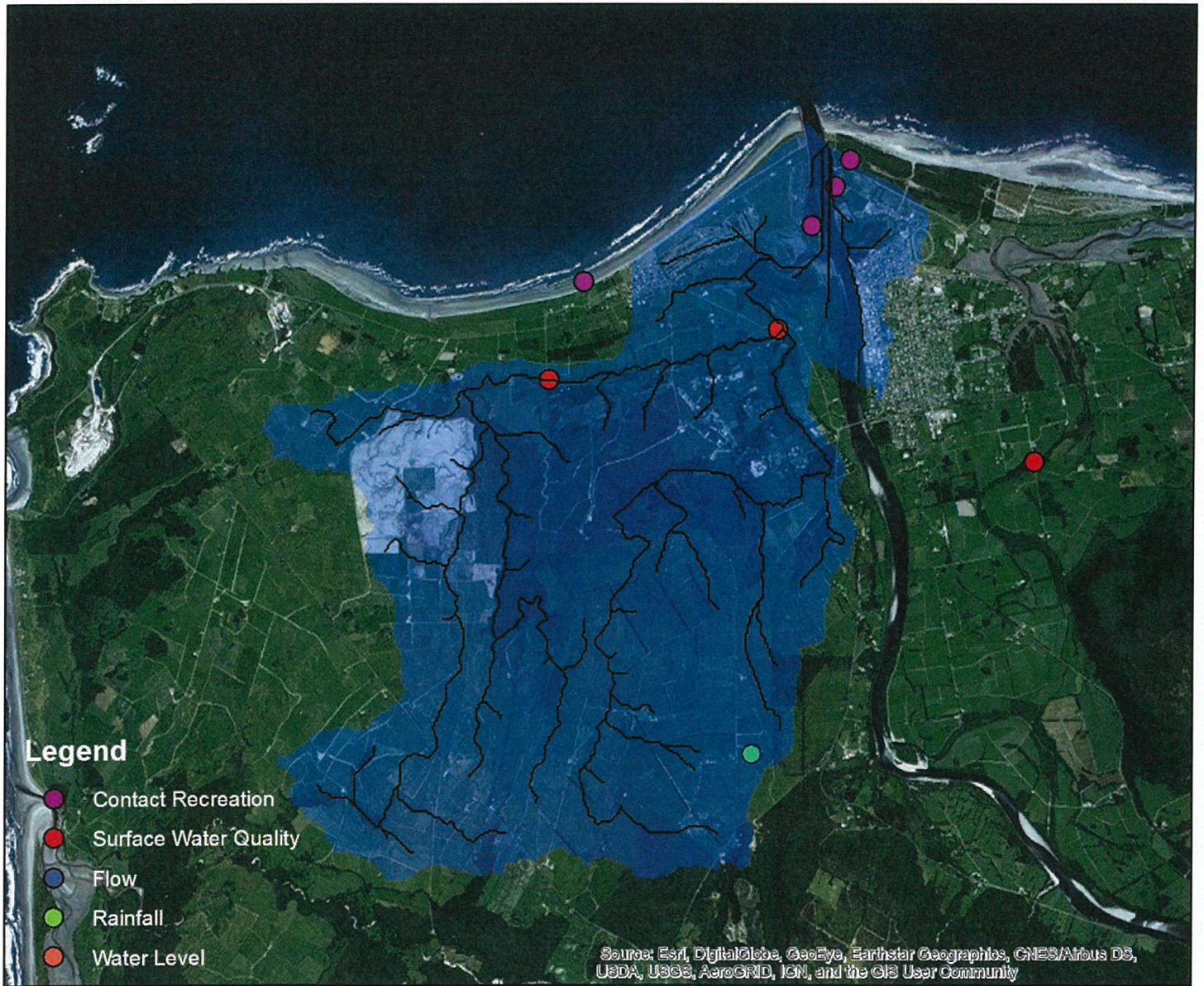
Sarah Jones
Planning Team Leader

Sawyers Creek Watershed Map



0 0.5 1 2 3 4 Kilometers

Marrs Beach Watershed Map



Marrs/Shingle Beach and Sawyers Creek Working Group Terms of Reference (June 2017)

Establishment and Status

The Marrs/Shingle Beach and Sawyers Creek Working Groups are established under the Local Government Act 2002. They have the status of an Advisory Committee of the West Coast Regional Council.

The Working Group's Purpose

The purpose of each working group is to consult with the local community and then work together to identify the issues associated with water quality and ways of addressing the water quality issues in each project area. Each working group will be tasked with making recommendations to Council for future plan provisions and work programmes for the integrated management of land and water resources within the project area. The recommendations may contain both regulatory and non-regulatory measures.

The project will also work toward improving swimmability performance within the Region and implementing the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.

The identified project areas are shown on the attached map.

Objectives of the Working Group

1. To understand what is contributing to the decline in water quality and how the water body is used and valued.
2. To identify water quality targets and objectives for improving water quality informed by the way the water body is used and valued.
3. To develop a range of regulatory and non-regulatory approaches for achieving those targets and objectives.
4. To present the recommended approaches to the West Coast Regional Council by June 2019.

The Working Groups are advisory and have no decision-making powers.

Committee Membership

The Committee will comprise no more than 12 members made up as follows:

- 1 member appointed by the Regional Council who shall be an elected member
- 1 member appointed by the relevant territorial authority who shall be an elected member
- 1 member appointed by the relevant iwi authority.
- 1 member nominated from Community and Public Health
- Up to 8 members appointed from the local community who come from a range of backgrounds and interests within the community. The 8 community members should be selected to reflect the broad interests in water management within the project area and provide a cross-section of values, understanding and perspectives.

It is expected that all members will engage with their organisations and wider networks to share information and get feedback on the matters being considered.

Chairman and Quorum

The Working Groups will be initially chaired by the Regional Councillor. The permanent chairperson position is to be elected by the Working Groups when all members have been appointed.

The quorum at a meeting consists of:

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

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

Term of Appointment and meetings

Members of the Working Groups are appointed for a term of 2 years from the date of the inaugural meeting. The Committee is expected to meet quarterly, with workshops and additional meetings as required.

General Operating Principles

The Working Groups are expected to:

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

Working Group Support

The Working Group shall be supported by the West Coast Regional Council, with the primary contact being the Planning Team Leader, Sarah Jones.

A minimum of two Council staff will be present at each meeting and will provide administrative support, including minute-taking and technical advice and data where it is available. Any additional investigation or data collection requested by the Working Group will require approval by Council. Staff from the relevant territorial authority will also be invited to attend each meeting and will be asked to contribute technical advice and data where appropriate.

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee Meeting - 11 July 2017
 Prepared by: Emma Chaney, Senior Resource Science Technician
 Date: 27 June 2017
Subject: REEFTON AIR QUALITY SUMMARY

There have been no exceedances of the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Air Quality) Regulations 2004 for PM₁₀ in Reefton so far this year (Figure 1).

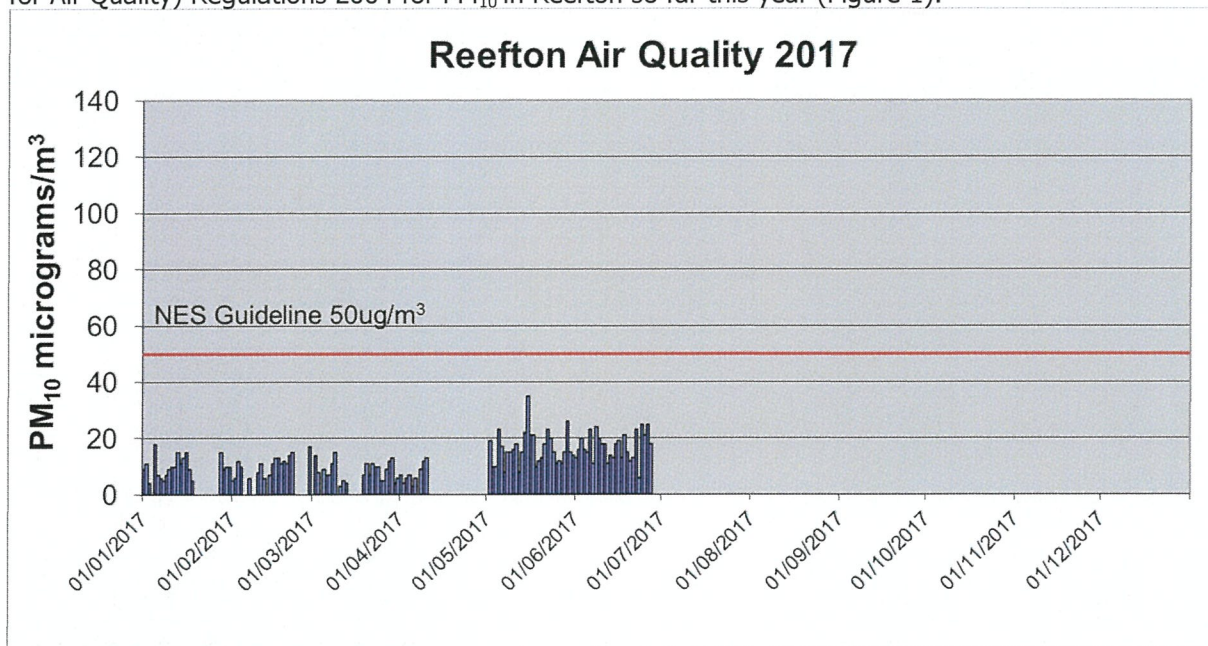


Figure 1. Reefton daily PM₁₀ for 2017 showing exceedances of the NES in red.

The large gap in data in April is due to a serious fault occurring with the BAM instrument. The BAM is currently away for repair and a loan machine has been installed at the Reefton site. Several other instrument failures have also caused small gaps in the data. Equipment has been repaired or replaced and is all now in working order for winter.

The monitoring equipment was re-located in September 2016 due to the sale of the original site. The air quality site is now located at the rear of the Reefton Area School (Figure 2).

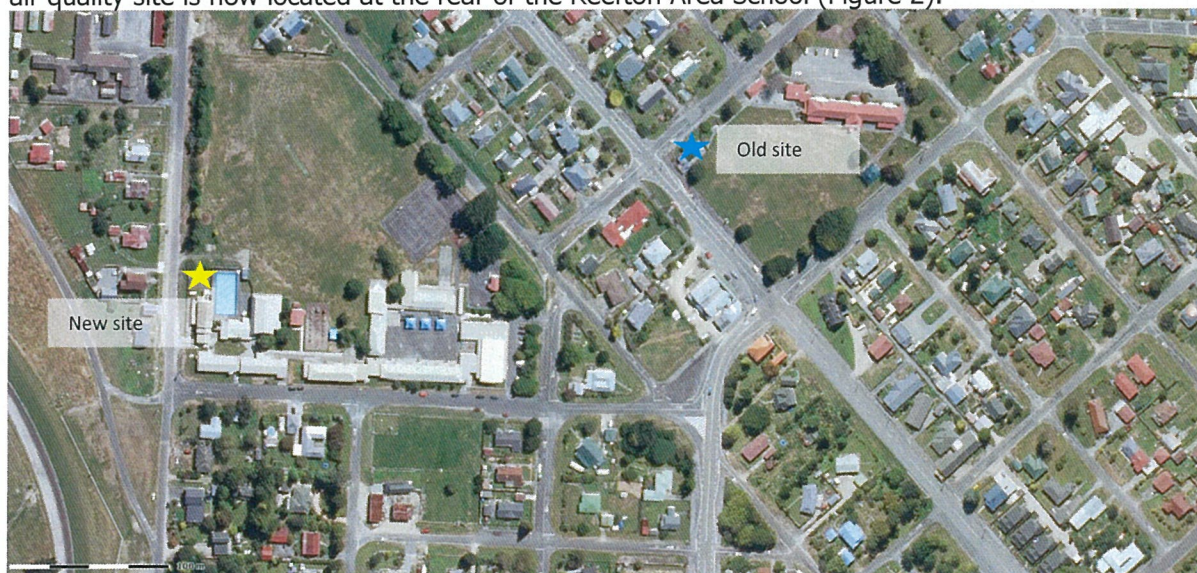


Figure 2. Map of Reefton showing the change in monitoring site location.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report is received.

Michael Meehan
 Chief Executive Officer

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee 11 July 2017
 Prepared by: Cassidy Rae – Trainee Administrator and Karen Glover - Consents & Compliance Administration Officer
 Date: 29 June 2017
Subject: CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT

Consents Site Visits undertaken 01 June – 28 June 2017

09-06-2017	RC-2017-0057 – Greymouth Boating Club Inc, Construct a boat ramp, Grey River	To meet with applicant and undertake site visit of proposed boat ramp and vegetation clearance.
------------	--	---

Non-Notified Resource Consents Granted 01 June – 28 June 2017

CONSENT NO. & HOLDER	PURPOSE OF CONSENT
RC-2017-0062 DK Enterprises (2015) Ltd	To discharge treated onsite sewage wastewater to land from a workshop at Lot 19 DP 384771, Kaiata Park.
RC-2017-0054 BW & JM Blacktopp	To discharge treated onsite sewage wastewater to land from a motel at 8 Donovan Drive, Franz Josef.
RC-2017-0057 Greymouth Boating Club Inc	Works and activities associated with the construction of a boat ramp in the Grey River.
RC-2017-0056 JL Adamson & AK Crawford	To discharge treated onsite sewage wastewater to land from a domestic dwelling block at Lot 4 DP 402859, 112 Welshman’s Road.
RC-2017-0061 M3 Contracting	To disturb the dry bed of the Waiho River for the purpose of gravel extraction.
RC-2017-0063 The Mokihinui-Lyell Backcountry Trust	To disturb the dry bed of Stern Creek, Mokihinui for the purpose of extracting gravel.
RC-2017-0052 Rosco Contractors Ltd	To disturb the dry bed of the Inangahua River for the purpose of removing gravel.

33 whitebait stand resource consent files were also granted during this period. 511 out of 657 (77.78%) whitebait stand resource consent files have now been granted. 581 applications (88.43%) have been received to date.

Changes to and Reviews of Consent Conditions Granted 01 June – 28 June 2017

CONSENT NO. & HOLDER	PURPOSE OF CHANGE/REVIEW
RC-2014-0166-V1 Grey District Council	To add contaminated material to an existing containment cell, McLeans Pit Landfill.

No Notified or Limited Notified Resource Consents were granted between 01 June – 28 June 2017

Public Enquiries

66 written public enquiries were responded to during the reporting period. 56 (85%) were answered on the same day, and the remaining 10 (15%) within the next ten days.

RECOMMENDATION

That the July 2017 report of the Consents Group be received.

Gerard McCormack
Consents & Compliance Manager

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Resource Management Committee – 11 July 2017
 Prepared by: Colin Helem – Senior Compliance Officer
 Date: 3 July 2017
 Subject: **COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT**

Site Visits

A total of 48 site visits were undertaken during the reporting period, which consisted of:

Activity	Number of Visits
Resource consent monitoring	11
Mining compliance & bond release	25
Complaint related	9
Dairy farm	3

Out of the 48 total site visits, 34 visits were compliant, 14 visits were non-compliant.

- **Mining visits**

Gold Mining: 20 alluvial gold mining inspections were carried out during the month.

Coal Mining: 5 coal mining inspections were carried out during the month.

- **Dairy Farms**

3 dairy farm inspections were carried out, which were graded compliant.

Complaints/Incidents between 1 June 2017 & 29 June 2017

The following 8 complaints/incidents were received during the reporting period:

Activity	Description	Location	Action/Outcome	INC/Comp
Gold mining	Complaint received that a miner was operating outside of their consented boundary and had discharged sediment onto a neighbouring property.	Marsden	The site was investigated which resulted in an infringement notice for the discharge and an abatement notice issued to undertake remedial work.	Complaint
Gold mining	Complaint received regarding the discharge of sediment from a gold mining operation.	Notown	The site was investigated which has resulted in the operator being issued with two infringement notices for the discharge of sediment.	Complaint
Gold mining	Complaint received regarding the discharge of sediment from a gold mining operation.	Notown	Enquiries are continuing and enforcement action is pending.	Complaint
Discharge to water	Complaint received that effluent from a piggery may be discharging to water.	Kaiata	Enquiries are continuing.	Complaint
Stock access to water	Complaint received that cows within the lake Brunner catchment were crossing a creek.	Lake Brunner	Enquiries established that the cows had broken out of a paddock and wandered across the creek. The cows had been returned to the paddock.	Complaint

Activity	Description	Location	Action/Outcome	INC/Comp
Unauthorised rubbish dump.	Complaint received that building demolition materials had been dumped unlawfully on a property.	Greymouth	The site has been investigated and enquiries are continuing.	Complaint
Earthworks	Complaint received that unconsented earth works have been undertaken within the Greymouth earthworks control area to develop a house pad.	Greymouth	Enquiries are continuing	Complaint
Stock access to water	Complaint received that cows have access to a water body.	Barrytown	Enquiries are ongoing.	Complaint

Formal Enforcement Action

Eight Formal Warning notices were issued during the reporting period.

Activity	Location
Gold Mining - discharge of sediment into the Coastal Marine Area	Ross
Gold Mining – miner was operating without an annual work programme	Nelson Creek
Dairy – discharge of effluent	Atarau
Dairy – discharge of effluent	Ikamatua
Dairy – discharge of effluent	Kowhitirangi
Dairy – discharge of effluent	Inchbonnie
Dairy – discharge of effluent	Lake Brunner
Dairy – discharge of effluent	Inangahua

Infringement Notice

Four infringement notices were issued during the reporting period.

Activity	Location
Gold Mining discharge –discharge of sediment (two notices to the same operator)	Notown
Gold Mining – discharge of sediment	Marsden
Gold Mining – discharge of sediment	Marsden

Abatement Notices

Ten abatement notices were issued during the reporting period.

Activity	Location
Dairy – discharge of effluent	Inchbonnie
Dairy – discharge of effluent	Inchbonnie
Dairy – discharge of effluent	Inchbonnie
Dairy – discharge of effluent	Kowhitirangi
Dairy – discharge of effluent	Inangahua

Dairy – discharge of effluent	Rotomanu
Dairy – discharge of effluent	Franz Josef
Gold Mining – cease mining outside of consented area	Marsden
Dairy – discharge of effluent	Maruia
Dairy – discharge of effluent	Reefton

Mining Work Programmes and Bonds

The Council received the following two work programmes during the reporting period. One work programme is still to be approved.

Date	Mining Authorisation	Holder	Location	Approved
16-06-17	RC-2015-0060	Southwest Energy Ltd	Ross	Yes
27-06-17	RC-2014-0159	Prospect Resources Ltd	Maori Gully	In progress

No bonds were received during the reporting period, therefore no bonds are recommended for release.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the July 2017 report of the Compliance Group 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, 11 July 2017** 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>
1.		APOLOGIES
2.		PUBLIC FORUM
3.		MINUTES
	1 – 3	3.1 Minutes of Council Meeting 13 June 2017
	4 – 5	31.1 Minutes of Special Council Meeting 27 June 2017
	6 - 8	3.1.2 Minutes of Special Council Meeting 30 June 2017
4.		REPORTS
	9 – 12	4.1 Engineering Operations Report
	13 - 15	4.2 Corporate Services Manager's Report
5.	16	CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
6.	17	CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT
	18	6.1 Appointment of Regional On Scene Commanders
7.		GENERAL BUSINESS

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 13 JUNE 2017,
AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD,
GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11.28 A.M.****PRESENT:**

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

M. Meehan (Chief Executive Officer) R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), G. McCormack (Consents & Compliance Manager), R. Beal (Operations Manager), N. Costley (Strategy & 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 / Birchfield) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 9 May 2017, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters arising

Cr McDonnell asked G. McCormack if the rock work in the Kaniere rating district opposite to where the proposed works are situated is consented. G. McCormack agreed to follow up on this.

3.1.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Moved (Archer / Clementson) *that the minutes of the Special Council Meeting dated 15 May 2017, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

REPORTS:**4.1 ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT**

R. Beal spoke to this report. He advised that the tender price for the works in the Kaniere rating district have come in significantly lower than the estimate.

R. Beal reported that the tender has been released to extract rock from the Whitehorse Quarry for use on the Punakaiki Seawall extension. He stated that if the extension does not go ahead, then this rock will be stockpiled and sold. R. Beal confirmed that all rock will be removed in one operation. Cr

Birchfield asked R. Beal if the Punakaiki rating district is likely to want to go ahead with the works. R. Beal responded that there are changes to the classifications which will increase rates for some classifications. He stated that the rating district will be putting in submissions via the annual plan process and this will reveal whether or not the works go ahead. Cr Birchfield stated that the Whitehorse rock is very good quality and is a good opportunity for the rating district to get rock at a good price.

Cr Clementson raised the matter of trees on stopbanks as he has received a lot of questions from constituents on this. He asked if the previous advice of removing trees and stumps from stopbanks still stands. M. Meehan advised that stated that there is good information available on the importance of removing these from stopbanks.

M. Meehan drew attention to the arrival of the much awaited Niwa report on Carters Beach. Cr Ewen asked how much these reports cost Council. M. Meehan stated that the Niwa reports for Cobden Beach Rapahoe Beach are included in today's agenda and all three reports were paid for via Envirolink funding and each report costs \$5,000. Cr Archer passed on his congratulations to staff for applying to Envirolink for funding for these reports as otherwise Council would have to fund them. The Chairman stated that these reports give good information to communities and allow for Council to make informed decisions. Cr Archer stated that he is happy with the Carters Beach report. Cr Birchfield agreed with Cr Archer's statement.

R. Beal answered various questions from Councillors. Discussion took place on matters relating to rating districts, the annual plan process and the responsibilities Council has to its ratepayers.

Cr Challenger asked for an update on matters relating to Franz Josef. M. Meehan advised that staff attended the Franz Josef Working Group meeting yesterday, and the final stages of the Tonkin & Taylor work is near completion. He stated that cost benefit analysis on options will be worked through and once this has been completed a further meeting will be held to discuss where to from here. M. Meehan suggested that a meeting is held with the Carters Beach community and that the Niwa report is distributed to the community

Moved (Archer / Challenger)

1. *That the report is received.*
2. *That the Carters Beach Niwa Report is received and that steps are taken to initiate public consultation with the community.*

Carried

4.2 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT

R. Mallinson spoke to his report and advised that this is the 10 month financial report to the end of April. He reported that the operating surplus is just under \$1.5M for the reporting period. R. Mallinson stated that the excellent financial result is due to the strong VCS and PCR LP performance over the 10 month period. R. Mallinson answered questions relating to the investment portfolio and the possibility of reinvesting monies from recent land sales and purchases back into the investment portfolio. Extensive discussion ensued and it was agreed that when Council has profitable years then these profits will be put into a reserve to be used when necessary.

Moved (Birchfield / McDonnell) *That this report be received.*

Carried

5.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT

The Chairman spoke to his report and advised that at the recent Regional Sector Group meeting Lawrence Yule, President of Local Government NZ, provided an update and he advised that the relationship with the new Local Government Minister is at a good level. The Chairman stated that Minister Tolley visited recently. He stated that she is a very good Minister to deal with and she indicated that she is happy with the work on shared services on the West Coast. The Chairman spoke about the Edgecombe flood event which was discussed at the Regional Sector Group meeting, he stated that the review into this flood will have implications that other councils will need to be aware of in future. The Chairman stated that the Havelock North inquiry into water contamination will also have implications for other councils.

The Chairman spoke of Minister Collins visit to Westport and advised that this was a very positive and progressive meeting. Cr Clementson also attended this meeting and agreed with the Chairman's comments.

The Chairman reported that LGNZ Water Symposium was very well received, with good speakers attending. He advised that the Regional Sector Group is considering holding this event every year. The Chairman reported that the interview process for the DWC Appointment went well with three excellent candidates interviewed. He advised that Dame Julie Christie has now officially accepted the position.

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

Carried

6.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

M. Meehan spoke to his report and spoke of recent meetings he attended. He advised that he was elected Chairman of the CEG on 8 May and attended the meeting for CEG Chairs on 6 June along with parts of the National Emergency Management Conference. The national review for Civil Defence in NZ is now underway with a recommending report expected shortly.

M. Meehan reported that water was the big focus at the recent LGNZ Policy Advisory Group meeting. He advised that Mayors, Chairs and CEO's from regional, unitary and territorial authorities were in attendance with discussion taking place about natural hazards and flood protection schemes, insurance and awareness of insurance and the lack of insurance during flood events. He stated that it was revealed that 40% of residents in Edgecumbe affected by the recent flood were uninsured and of those that were insured a large proportion were under insured.

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

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Ewen suggested that monies from recent land sales are put into the Catastrophe Fund. M. Meehan advised that he and R. Mallinson will be bringing a report to the next council on this matter.

The meeting closed at 12.25 p.m.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL HELD ON 27 JUNE 2017, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.30 A.M.

PRESENT:

A. Robb (Chairman), T. Archer, A. Birchfield (arrived 10.38), P. Ewen, S. Challenger, N. Clementson, P. McDonnell

IN ATTENDANCE:

R. Beal (Operations Manager), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

2. ANNUAL PLAN SUBMISSIONS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He stated that this meeting is a hearing to listen to submitters. The Chairman advised that Councillors have read the submissions. He stated that Council takes note of what submitters have to say and may also ask questions of clarification but there is no debate allowed. The Chairman explained that this meeting was to hear submissions on the Council's Annual Plan 2017 / 18. The Chairman explained that at the conclusion of today's meeting a workshop will be held to discuss submissions. Decisions will be made at the Special Council meeting on 30 June 2017.

Submissions on the Annual Plan 2017 / 18

36 submissions were received, two of these were late and not included in the agenda, and were emailed to Councillors. Five submitters spoke to their submissions in person, and one submitter spoke to his submission via telephone.

Craig Bryant – Proposed Flood Protection for Cobden

C. Bryant spoke to this submission. Cr Robb thanked C. Bryant for his submission.

Gordon Linklater – Kaniere Rating District

G. Linklater spoke to his submission. Cr Robb thanked G. Linklater for his submission.

Des Bartlett - Punakaiki Rating District

D. Bartlett spoke to his submission. Cr Robb thanked D. Bartlett for his submission.

Michael & Frances Keating – Punakaiki Rating District

F. Keating spoke to this submission. Cr Robb thanked F. Keating for her submission.

Pancake Rocks Café – Punakaiki Rating District

P. Volk spoke to this submission. Cr Robb thanked P. Volk for his submission.

John Sutton – Neil’s Beach Rating District

J. Sutton spoke to his submission via telephone. Cr Robb thanked J. Sutton for his submission.

Moved (Archer / Clementson) *That the 36 submissions, including the two late submissions on the 2017 / 18 Annual Plan are received.*

Carried

Cr Robb thanked those present for their attendance.

The meeting closed at 11.52 a.m.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL HELD ON
30 JUNE 2017, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL,
388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.35 A.M.****PRESENT:**

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

M. Meehan (Chief Executive Officer), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

MOVED (Archer / Ewen)

That Standing Orders be suspended to allow Crs Birchfield and Challenger to participate in the meeting via telephone.

Carried

2. STAFF REPORT ON 2017 / 18 ANNUAL PLAN SUBMISSIONS

R. Mallinson spoke to this report. He stated that 36 submissions were received on the Annual Plan. R. Mallinson went through the staff report and answered questions from Councillors. R. Mallinson advised that he has done further work on the differentials for Class B and D in the Punakaiki Rating District due to the submissions from Class B ratepayers. He advised that the total cost for the seawall extension has come in at \$420,000 which is within the bounds of what was anticipated in the Annual Plan of \$426,000. R. Mallinson advised that he has modelled the effect of different scenarios on a property from each of the classes and he has compared that with their existing maintenance rate.

R. Mallinson spoke to the rest of his report. He answered questions relating to the Cobden Flood Protection item and advised that there is a healthy credit balance in the Greymouth Floodwall loan account should Council decide to go ahead with the project. It was noted that a Niwa report on this matter is awaited. Further discussion took place on the proposed Cobden flood protection work. M. Meehan answered questions regarding this and advised that further information is awaited from Niwa and engineers. Cr Ewen stated that he feels this work should be done.

Cr Ewen stated that he is in favour of the Punakaiki classifications being a 65 / 30 split for the Class B (65%) and Class D (30%). Cr Ewen stated that the work R. Mallinson has done on this is very helpful. R. Mallinson advised that the Punakaiki existing maintenance rate is sitting at an artificially high level currently at \$95,000 + GST while the overdraft is being recovered, with the overdraft currently \$130,000. He stated that in the future when the overdraft is under control and there some money in the kitty, the maintenance rate can then be pulled back to around \$60,000 annually.

Cr McDonnell stated that most members of the Kaniere rating district that he has spoken to are in favour of the proposed extension of the rock wall.

The Chairman asked Crs Birchfield and Challenger for their opinions. Cr Birchfield stated that he feels there should be a uniform rating charge for all properties in the Punakaiki rating district but he is in favour of R. Mallinson's recommendation. Cr Challenger stated that he is concerned about the longevity of Punakaiki and how much more money is going to be spent. Cr Challenger noted that the rating district is not interested in a retreat and he feels that long term a seawall is not viable. The Chairman stated that this is the community's decision, and while they are prepared to pay to protect their properties and the seawall is sustainable then this is the will of the rating district. Further discussion ensued on rating districts and risks to properties and rating classifications. R. Mallinson provided additional information on the maintenance rate based on capital value and no classes of benefit. M. Meehan advised that the maintenance rate was set low, at \$15,000 for a number of years, but was raised to \$95,000 in recent

years. Cr Ewen feels that a uniform rate for everyone is worth looking into. M. Meehan advised that a uniform rate could be consulted on for next year based on R. Mallinson's figures. It was agreed that Class B differential would be changed to from 80% to 65% and Class D would change from 20% to 30%.

- 1. That all submitters be thanked for their submissions.

MOVED (Archer / Clementson)

Carried

Cobden Flood Protection

- 2. That these submitters be advised that Council is deferring a decision regarding the proposal until it has received a NIWA report which we understand will include recommendations regarding the proposed works.

That the proposed borrowing of \$160,000 and rating impact be deleted from the Annual Plan.

That Council continues discussions with the Cobden submitters (and other affected Cobden residents) with regard to their concerns about flooding in the lower Cobden dog-park area.

MOVED (Archer / Challenger)

Carried

Punakaiki Seawall extension

- 3. That submitters be advised that Council confirms that the sea-wall extension is to proceed.

MOVED (Clementson / Ewen)

Carried

- 4. That submitters be advised that the total cost of the works following evaluation of tender responses is \$420,000 + GST.

MOVED (Ewen / Archer)

Carried

- 5. That submitters be advised Council has agreed to amend the differentials applying to Punakaiki Rating District as follows:

- Class A: remains @ 100%*
- Class B: changes from 80% to 65%*
- Class C: remains @ 60%*
- Class D: changes from 20% to 30%*

MOVED (Ewen / Clementson)

Carried

- 6. That the Annual Plan be amended to reflect the actual cost of the project, including borrowing requirement and rating impacts.

MOVED (Archer / McDonnell)

Carried

Neil's Beach Rating

- 7. That submitters be advised that the rate of \$21,200 + GST is confirmed for 17/18.

MOVED (Clementson / McDonnell)

Carried

- 8. That submitters be advised that Local Government Act 2002 consultation requirements require Council to validate the survey that a community representative undertook. This has been mailed out with a response date of 20 July. If a majority of responders support a simple rate on Capital Value then the Annual Plan will be amended to reflect that.

MOVED (Archer / McDonnell)

Carried

Federated Farmers of NZ

- 9. *That submitter be advised that Council is unconvinced that a UAGC is the best way to collect the \$700,000 cost of Regional CDEM in 17/18 and that no change will be made to the Annual Plan.*

MOVED (Clementson / McDonnell)

Carried

NZ Farm Investment Trust

- 10. *That submitter is advised that the funding request is declined. Any Council involvement in environmental awards will be across all sectors, not just the Farming sector.*

MOVED (McDonnell / Archer)

Carried

Community & Public Health

- 11. *That submitter is advised that Council is not making any changes to the 2017/18 Annual Plan.*

That submitter is advised that the monitoring reports sought are readily available upon request.

That submitter is advised that the Warm West Coast insulation scheme was not sustainable without the involvement of EECA (from a funding and quality control perspective). Council also was not prepared to run up its debt levels to fund this scheme when property owners are usually able to access their own bank funding.

That submitter also is advised that the scheme is still available to residents of Reefton in recognition of the particular air quality issues in that air shed.

MOVED (Ewen / Clementson)

Carried

Active West Coast

- 12. *That submitter is advised that Council does take into account climate change when maintaining existing and designing new infrastructure.*

That submitter be advised that the Warm West Coast insulation scheme was not sustainable without the involvement of EECA (from a funding and quality control perspective). Council also was not prepared to run up its debt levels to fund this scheme when property owners are usually able to access their own bank funding.

That the submitter also be advised that the scheme is still available to residents of Reefton in recognition of the particular air quality issues in that air shed.

MOVED (Clementson / McDonnell)

Carried

- 13. *That the Annual Plan for 2017/18 be approved, subject to the amendments included in the above recommendations.*

MOVED (Archer / Clementson)

Carried

The meeting closed at 11.10 a.m.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting – 11 July 2017
 Prepared by: Paulette Birchfield – Engineer, Brendon Russ - Engineer
 Date: 23 June 2017
 Subject: **ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT**

WORKS COMPLETED AND WORKS TENDERED FORMokihinui Rating District

Work involving the top up of the sacrificial seawall was completed by S M Lowe Contracting Ltd at a cost of \$855 (GST exclusive).



Looking south along the reconstructed Mokihinui SRA sacrificial seawall. The neighbouring landowner Sos Morgan's seawall starts at the pine trees.

Karamea Rating District

Work involving the reconstruction of the Karamea Domain Stopbank has been completed except for the immediate area around the Chorus owned anchor pole and wire stay. The Contractor was able to place and form gravel around the pole by splitting the work into two parts and approaching from either side, but the area immediately around the pole could not be effectively compacted. Negotiations are continuing with Chorus and Downer for the removal of the pole and stay. Final costs for this contract are yet to be received.



Reformed bank behind Pratts' property looking upstream, showing Anchor pole and wire stay.



Looking East along final reshaped batters.

FUTURE WORKS

Kaniere Rating District

Tendering for the construction of 220m of rock riprap up stream of the Kaniere Bridge is completed and a final cost of \$159,000; including contractor price (\$140,975), contingency (\$7,025), design and set out (\$5,000) and supervision (\$6,000) has been identified. This project is now going through the annual plan process.

Carters Beach

The NIWA report has been received and circulated to the Carters Beach community. A community meeting will be planned to discuss the report, options and the forming of a Rating District.

ONGOING WORKS

Punakaiki Rating District

The tender process has identified a preferred contractor for the northern extension, consultation will now take place with the community.

Granity/Ngakawau/Hector Erosion

Staff are working through options to take back to the community in addition to this staff are continuing discussions with NZTA who are planning work in this area.

Buller River Flood Consultation

Staff has provided Councillors a recommendation to invite members of the community into the working group to assist with the information sharing process. A terms of reference document is being prepared to clearly state the expectations and responsibilities of representing the working group.

Neil's Beach Rating

As per the outcome of the Annual Plan hearin, the rating district has been set a further survey with a view to forming one classification. A copy of the survey is attached to this report.

QUARRIES

Quarry rock movements for May 2017

Quarry	Opening Stockpile Balance	Rock Used	Rock Quarried	Closing Stockpile Balance
Blackball	1,650	0	0	1,650
Camelback	16,417	0	0	16,417
Inchbonnie	13,821	713	0	13,108
Kiwi	898	780	0	118
Okuru	400	0	0	400
Whataroa	17,940	0	0	17,940
Totals	51,126	1,493	0	49,633

Note: Awaiting invoice for rock produced in Kiwi Quarry during May 2017.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report is received

Randal Beal
Operations Manager

27 June 2017

Ratepayer
 Address 1
 Address 2
Address 3

Dear Ratepayer

Results from the 2017 Annual Plan Public Submissions on Neil’s Beach Rating District

Council has received feedback on the 2017/18 Annual Plan released for consultation in May 2017. A total of 10 submissions were received relating to Neil’s Beach rating District, nine from individuals and one from the Neil’s Beach Rating District Committee. The feedback from the community and committee focussed on one key theme:

- *One classification for the Rating District*

Submission Results

Of the 10 submissions received, all submitted against the proposal within the Annual Plan. There was a clear message within the submissions that there is strong support within the Rating District for a ONE classification rating district.

However, in order to comply with the consultation requirements contained in the Local Government Act, Councillors have decided to re-survey the rating district with a simple survey in support of a One Classification rating district.

Agree/Disagree in with a One class rating district

If the majority of submissions received from this survey **do not** support the one classification rating district, then Council will implement the existing two classification rating district in the August 2017 Council meeting.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of the proposed Rating District, or require further information, please call me on 021 702591.

Yours faithfully



Randal Beal
Operations Manager

Appendix One-New rating classification

Opinion Survey on Proposed Neil's Beach Rating District – July 2017

Please return this page in the envelope provided

Ratepayer _____

Address 1, Address 2, Address 3 _____

Options	Please tick one box only
1. Agree in principle to a One classification rating District	
2. Disagree in principle to a One classification rating District (prefer two classifications A & B)	

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 **20 July 2017**, or email to rb@wcr.govt.nz with subject line "Neil's Beach Rating District".

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting 11 July 2017
 Prepared by: Robert Mallinson – Corporate Services Manager
 Date: 3 July 2017
 Subject: Corporate Services Manager's Report

1. Financial Report

FOR THE ELEVEN MONTHS ENDED 31 MAY 2017	ACTUAL	YEAR TO DATE BUDGET	ACTUAL % ANNUAL BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET
REVENUES				
General Rates and Penalties	2,116,050	2,137,667	91%	2,332,000
Investment Income	1,118,399	816,721	126%	890,968
Resource Management	1,390,581	1,074,191	121%	1,145,626
Regional Land Transport	79,739	83,062	88%	90,613
Emergency Management	265,443	243,833	100%	266,000
Economic Development	240,752	137,500	161%	150,000
River, Drainage, Coastal Protection	2,053,276	1,275,502	148%	1,391,457
Warm West Coast	65,522	99,917	0%	109,000
VCS Business Unit	6,746,754	2,847,375	217%	3,106,227
Commercial Property Revaluation	0	0	0%	34,659
	14,076,516	8,715,767		9,516,550
EXPENDITURE				
Governance	453,572	441,244	94%	481,357
Economic Development	333,246	275,000	111%	300,000
Resource Management	3,374,367	2,692,022	115%	2,934,858
Regional land Transport	153,084	153,796	91%	167,777
Hydrology & Floodw arning Services	581,014	552,816	96%	603,072
Emergency Management	353,445	295,273	110%	322,116
River, Drainage, Coastal Protection	1,904,620	1,416,601	123%	1,545,383
VCS Business Unit	5,632,598	2,336,791	221%	2,549,227
Other	56,148	69,113	74%	75,396
Warm West Coast	22,494	99,917	21%	109,000
	12,864,588	8,332,573		9,088,186
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	1,211,927	383,194		428,364

BREAKDOWN OF SURPLUS (-DEFICIT)	Variance Actual V Budgeted YTD	ACTUAL	BUDGET Year to date	ANNUAL BUDGET
Rating Districts	424,317	712,189	287,872	314,042
Economic Development	45,006	-92,494	-137,500	-150,000
Quarries	-73,276	-86,731	-13,455	-14,678
Investment Income	301,678	1,118,399	816,721	890,968
VCS Business Unit	603,573	1,114,156	510,583	557,000
General Rates Funded Activities	-528,558	-1,540,472	-1,011,914	-1,128,231
Warm West Coast	43,028	43,028	0	0
Revaluation Investment Property	0	0	0	34,659
Other	12,965	-56,148	-69,113	-75,396
TOTAL	828,732	1,211,927	383,194	428,364

Net Contributors to General Rates Funded Surplus (-Deficit)	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budet ytd</u>	<u>Annual Plan</u>
	<u>Net Variance</u>		
	<u>Actual V YTD</u>		
Rates	-21,617	2,116,050	2,137,667
Representation	-12,328	-453,572	-441,244
Resource Management	-365,954	-1,983,786	-1,617,832
Transport Activities	-2,612	-73,345	-70,734
River, Drainage, Coastal Protection	-61,286	-476,802	-415,516
Hydrology & Floodw arning	-28,198	-581,014	-552,816
Emergency Management	-36,563	-88,002	-51,440
	-528,558	-1,540,472	-1,011,914

 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION @ 31 MAY 2017

@ 31/05/2017

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash	85,583
Deposit - Westpac	612
Accounts Receivable - General	680,605
Accounts Receivable - Rates	144,471
Prepayments	96,435
Sundry Receivables	357,352
GST Refund due	0
Stock - VCS	22,643
Stock - Rock	595,596
Stock - Office Supplies	23,640
Accrued Rates Revenue	0

 2,006,937
NON CURRENT ASSETS

Investments	10,776,564
Strategic Investments	1,222,645
Term Deposit - PRCC bond	50,000
MBIE & DOC Bonds	11,142
Investments-Catastrophe Fund	1,020,104
Warm West Coast Loans	519,294
Commercial Property Investment	1,420,000
Fixed Assets	4,293,608
Infrastructural Assets	57,856,890

 77,170,246
TOTAL ASSETS

 79,177,182

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Bank Short Term Loan	250,000
Accounts Payable	425,674
GST	57,583
Deposits and Bonds	844,146
Sundry Payables	64,487
Rates Revenue in advance	302,097
Accrued Annual Leave, Payroll	349,448

 2,293,434
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES

Future Quarry restoration	70,000
Interest Rate Hedge Position	145,626
Lower Waiho	183,160
Greymouth Floodwall	1,643,734
Hokitika Seawall	1,243,750
Strategic Investments	1,133,656
Warm West Coast	490,000
Working capital loan	661,016
Office Equipment Leases	

 5,570,942
TOTAL LIABILITIES

 7,864,376

EQUITY

Ratepayers Equity	18,514,217
Surplus transferred	1,211,927
Rating Districts Equity	2,491,898
Revaluation	38,361,028
Quarry Account	-252,818
Catastrophe Fund	976,554
Investment Growth Reserve	10,010,000
TOTAL EQUITY	71,312,806

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

 79,177,182

2. Comment

Council achieved a surplus of \$1.211 million for the nine months to 31 May 2017. This is down somewhat from the \$1.4 - \$1.5 million surplus reported in recent months and in part reflects the slowing down of the investment portfolio income during May. All VCS aerial contracts were complete at 31 May.

3. Westpac Portfolio Performance

May 2017	Catastrophe Fund	Major Portfolio	TOTAL
Opening balance 1 April 2017	\$ 1,014,572	\$ 10,743,971	\$ 11,758,543
Income May 2017	\$ 5,532	\$ 32,593	\$ 38,125
Deposit			
Withdrawal		\$ -	\$ -
Closing balance 31 May 2017	\$ 1,020,104	\$ 10,776,564	\$ 11,796,668
Total income year to date to 31 May 2017	\$ 43,551	\$ 620,256	\$ 663,807

4. Land Purchases and Sales & Investment Portfolio

When Council purchased the Whitehorse property for quarrying, the purchase price of \$90,000 was funded by a withdrawal of \$90,000 from the investment portfolio.

Now that Council has sold the "Ritchies Block" property on the south bank of the Hokitika River for \$175,000 the \$90,000 can be repaid to the Investment Portfolio.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. *That the report be received.*
2. *That \$90,000 be repaid to the Investment Portfolio when liquidity permits and after the transition of the portfolio from Westpac to J B Were is complete.*

Robert Mallinson
Corporate Services Manager

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting- 11 July 2017
Prepared by: Andrew Robb – Chairman
Date: 30 June 2017
Subject: **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Meetings Attended:

- I attended a RBI2 / Mobile Broadband meeting at Grey District Council on 12 June.
- I attended a meeting regarding the Digital Strategy at DWC on 13 June.
- I chaired the hearing of submissions on the Annual Plan on 27 June. The Annual Plan was adopted at the Special Council meeting on 30 June.
- I attended the Governance Group meeting on 29 June. Work on this is progressing very well. The launch of the Growth Study will be held on 13 July.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received.

Andrew Robb
Chairman

Prepared for: Council Meeting 11 July 2017
Prepared by: Michael Meehan – Chief Executive
Date: 30 June 2017
Subject: **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**

Meetings Attended

- I attended the CEG chairs meeting and part of the Emergency Management conference in Wellington on 6-7 June.
- I attended the LGNZ Policy Advisory Group meeting in Wellington on 8 June.
- I met with Hon Eugenie Sage on 12 June when she visited the West Coast.
- I attended a Maritime New Zealand Regional on Scene Commander course from 14- 16 June, this was held in Auckland.
- I travelled to Dunedin to meet with Peter Bodeker, Chief Executive of Otago Regional Council and staff from Environment Southland on 27 June.
- I attended the Governance Group meeting on 29 June. This work is progressing very well towards the launch of the Action Plan on 13 July.

I took one day's annual leave during the reporting period.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received.

Michael Meehan
Chief Executive

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting 11 July 2017
 Prepared by: Michael Meehan – Chief Executive
 Date: 5 July 2017
 Subject: **APPOINTMENT OF REGIONAL ON SCENE COMMANDERS**

Background

Council undertakes oil spill response work in conjunction with Maritime New Zealand (MNZ). The work is all cost recoverable from the oil pollution fund that is funded largely from potential polluters.

In order to deliver its functions Council staff undertake training through MNZ. MNZ also maintain oil spill response gear in Westport and Greymouth as well as throughout the rest of New Zealand.

Regional On Scene Commander role

During a Tier 2 response Council is required to have suitably trained Regional on Scene Commanders who coordinate a Tier 2 response, including the deployment of resources. Section 318 of the Maritime Transport Act 1994 allows regional councils to appoint a regional on scene commander for the region.

318 Appointment of regional on-scene commanders

- (1) Every regional council shall from time to time appoint—*
- (a) a regional on-scene commander for its region; and*
- (b) a person or persons, who shall perform the functions and duties and may exercise the powers of a regional on-scene commander, if the office of regional on-scene commander is vacant or the regional on-scene commander is absent, for so long as that vacancy or absence continues.*
- (2) Any person appointed under subsection (1)(b) shall, subject to the terms of appointment, be deemed to be a regional on-scene commander during any vacancy or absence.*
- (3) The regional on-scene commander of a regional council shall manage and co-ordinate the response of, and direct the use of the resources available to, that regional council, in relation to any marine oil spill in respect of which the council is taking action.*
- (4) A regional council shall, in appointing any person or persons under paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) of subsection (1), appoint only such person or persons as are qualified under the marine protection rules to act as regional on-scene commanders.*
- (5) If the marine protection rules do not prescribe qualifications for a regional on-scene commander, a regional council shall appoint, under paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) of subsection (1), only those persons who are approved by the Director.*

In June MNZ ran the Regional on Scene Commander course which Michael Meehan and Chris Barnes from Council attended and passed.

RECOMMENDATION

1. *That this report be received.*
2. *That under S318 of the Maritime Transport Act 1994, Council appoint Michael Meehan and Chris Barnes to the position of Regional on Scene Commander for the West Coast region.*

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.

- | | | |
|---------|-----|---|
| 19 – 21 | 8.1 | Confirmation of Confidential Minutes 13 June 2017 |
| | 8.2 | Overdue Debtors Report (to be tabled) |
| 22 – 31 | 8.3 | Debtor Write Off |
| | 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 13 June 2017		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 (to be tabled)		
8.3	Response to Presentation (if any)		
8.4	Debtor Write Off		
8.5	In Committee Items to be Released to Media		

I also move that:

- Michael Meehan
- Robert Mallinson
- Randal Beal
- Nichola Costley

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.