

**Committee Members**

Chair: Brett Cummings  
Cr Frank Dooley  
Cr Andy Campbell  
Cr Allan Birchfield

Cr Peter Ewen  
Cr Peter Haddock  
Cr Mark McIntyre

**Iwi Representatives**

Francois Tumahai (Ngāti Waewae)  
Jackie Douglas (Makaawhio)



THE WEST COAST  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

**PUBLIC COPY**

**Meeting of the Resource Management Committee**  
*(Te Huinga Tu)*

**Tuesday, 9 April 2024**

**9.30am**

**West Coast Regional Council Chambers, 388 Main South Road, Greymouth**

**and**

**Live Streamed via Council's Facebook Page:**

**<https://www.facebook.com/WestCoastRegionalCouncil>**

# **RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

# Resource Management Committee Meeting (Te Huinga Tu)

## A G E N D A (Rarangī Take)

1. **Welcome (*Haere mai*)**
2. **Apologies (*Ngā Pa Pouri*)**
3. **Declarations of Interest**
4. **Public Forum, Petitions and Deputations (*He Huinga tuku korero*)**
5. **Confirmation of Minutes**
  - 5.1 Minutes of Resource Management Committee meeting 5 March 2024  
**Matters Arising**
  - 5.2 Minutes of Resource Management Committee meeting 29 January 2024  
**Matters Arising**
6. **Actions List**
7. **Chairs Report (Verbal Update)**
8. **Planning and Resource Science Group**
  - 8.1 *Planning, TTPP and Science Report*
    - 8.1.1 *Submission on Draft Government Policy Statement (Land Transport) 2024*
    - 8.1.2 *Contact recreation water quality sampling results for November 2023-March 2024*
    - 8.1.3 *Key to symbols in Attachment 2 Table*
  - 8.2 *WCRC Hazardous Activities and Industries List (HAIL) Register and DOC Additions*
  - 8.3 *Compliance and Enforcement Quarterly Report*
  - 8.4 *Consents Quarterly Report*
  - 8.5 *Quarter Three Biosecurity Report*
9. **General Business**

### **PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS**

10. **Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes**
  - 10.1 Minutes of Resource Management Committee meeting 5 March 2024

**Matters Arising**

- 11. Actions List**
- 12. Taylorville Verbal Update**

**D. Lew**  
**Chief Executive**

**Purpose of Local Government**

The reports contained in this agenda address the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 in relation to decision making. Unless otherwise stated, the recommended option promotes the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.

**Health and Safety Emergency Procedure**

In the event of an emergency, please exit through the emergency door in the Council Chambers.

If you require assistance to exit, please see a staff member. Once you reach the bottom of the stairs make your way to the assembly point at the grassed area at the front of the building. Staff will guide you to an alternative route if necessary.

**THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 5 MARCH 2024**  
**AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL,**  
**388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH**  
**COMMENCING AT 9.50AM**

**PRESENT:**

B. Cummings (Chair), P. Haddock, F. Dooley, A. Campbell, A Birchfield, M. McIntyre, P. Ewen

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

D. Lew (Chief Executive), J. Douglas (Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio), L. Sadler (Planning Team Leader), C. Barnes (Acting Compliance and Consents Manager), S. Tripathi (Governance Advisor (via zoom)), B. McMahon (Media)

**1. Welcome (*Haere mai*)**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Apologies (*Ngā Pa Pouri*)**

The Chair called for apologies. An apology was received from Francois Tumahai.

**Moved** (McIntyre/ Haddock) *that the apology from F Tumahai be received.*

*Carried*

**3. Declarations of Interest**

The Chair called for any declaration of interests. There were none.

**4. Public Forum, Petitions and Deputations (*He Huinga tuku korero*)**

There were no public forums or deputations.

**5. Confirmation of Minutes**

**5.1 Minutes of Resource Management Committee meeting 29 January 2024**

The Chair called for any corrections to the minutes. The following corrections were noted –

- On page 5 of the agenda, paragraph 4 to be changed to read "Cr Dooley was consistently being contacted by the neighbour who was not happy" instead of "Cr Dooley was consistently visiting this site and had noted that the neighbours were not happy."
- In the "General Business" section of the meeting, it was pointed out by Cr Dooley that he had requested a copy of the investigation report for the Westport sandstorm. This request was not included in the minutes or actions list and should be added to both.
- The second line of paragraph 3 on page 5 of the agenda should be removed.

It was further noted, that when referencing Creek names, the specific area locations should be included in the minutes and reports due to the duplication of Creek names across the West Coast.

**Moved** (Haddock/ Ewen) *that the minutes from 29 January 2024 meeting be deferred to the next meeting.*

*Carried*

**Matters Arising**

With regards to WDC's update on Ross, it was noted that the green waste was not WDC's. A private operation had applied for the resource consent and was waiting on affected parties. The operation was approved by DOC as it was on DOC's land.

It was further noted with respect to Alma Road flooding issues that C Barnes would provide a detailed report to Cr Dooley on the compliance findings. The issue was discussed further, and it was noted that the engineering team was in discussion with BDC over this matter. It was also noted that a workshop had been arranged with one of NZ's best legal counsels on flood liability and legal matters after the Council and Committee meetings of 9 April 2024 and that these issues would be addressed in that workshop.

## 6. Actions List

The following was noted/updated on the actions list.

- Item 1 – A delegation of MCI would attend the next DWC Board meeting, and Cr Dooley would be happy to assist with his knowledge in the matter. [It was noted that the application was not made with DWC. The application form was incorrect, and when WCRC asked for the application form for a grant (not loan) DWC informed that they didn't have loan forms. It was also noted that in the past DWC had given out grants but that was not their current practice.]
- Item 2 and 3 to be added together – Ongoing.
- Item 4 –
- Item 5 – completed. To be deleted.
- Item 6 –
- Item 7 –
- Item 8 – completed. To be deleted.
- Item 9 – it was noted that ongoing monitoring was not necessary for the Giles Creek site. Completed. To be deleted.
- Item 10 – A copy of the letter sent to the neighbour regarding the asbestos removal consent process will be forwarded to Cr Dooley. A discussion took place on the standards pertaining to asbestos removal within the region, highlighting that the process is subject to obtaining consent. It was mentioned that individuals can request permission to dispose of asbestos in a landfill after completing the necessary consent procedures. Furthermore, it was brought to attention that there was no allowance for asbestos dumping at the Karamea fill site under the current consent. It was noted that C Barnes will provide the Councillors with an update on this matter via email.
- Item 11 – Ongoing.
- Item 12 – Ongoing. The CE noted that the Council was getting more active in the biosecurity area in terms of pest plants and pest management strategy. Some landowners had been supportive, and others were not. The Council was focusing on pest plants in the biosecurity area, as they were a threat to agricultural sustainability and marine ecosystems in the region. The CE also noted that it would be a good idea to team up with Federated Farmers and other industry groups and plan a roadshow around some of the farming communities and engage with farmers and work on these issues before escalating them into the biosecurity enforcement area. It was noted that a paper will be presented to the Committee on Regional Pest Management Strategy.

**Moved** (Ewen/ Campbell) *that the report be received.*

*Carried*

## 7. Chairs Report (verbal update)

There was none.

## 8. Planning and Resource Science Group

### 8.1 Planning and TTP Report

L Sadler spoke to the report.

### Key discussions:

- It was noted that the first RMC workshop on issues and options for the Air Quality Plan was postponed to a later date.
- Resource management changes – Government’s plan to introduce permanent fast-track consenting (FTC) and changes to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) 2020 were discussed briefly.
- It was further noted that accompanying changes to Te Mana o te Wai, the Government would extend the December 2024 timeframe for regional freshwater plan changes to be publicly notified for submissions to December 2027. This decision reflects the Government’s intention to review and replace the entire NPS-FM 2020 during this Parliamentary term, likely by October 2026. The Government is aiming to take the new Bill to Parliament on 7 March.
- It was noted that the Council would put on hold any reviews of the Land and Water Plan containing freshwater components until they received further instruction from the government. This decision would allow Council staff to focus on reviewing other documents that needed a 10-year statutory review, such as the Regional Air Plan, Regional Coastal Plan, some Regional Policy Statement matters, and the Mana Whakahono ā Rohe Agreement.
- Discussion was held on the TTPP and Regional Coastal Plan. It was noted that coastal hazard zones were the central pillar that linked the TTPP to the Regional Coastal Plan. Coastal hazards were a district council matter and not a regional planning matter. It was further noted that the RMA states that the district plan on coastal environmental matters should be consistent with the Regional Coastal Plan, and that there was a clear distinction between what the district plan and regional plan needed to cover in that area.
- It was noted that the Regional Coastal Plan addressed a wide range of coastal issues, including coastal hazard zones, which have potential impacts on the TTPP. Reference to the coast and coastal hazard zones in the TTPP was one of the issues. In the next few months an issues and options document would be presented to the Committee to get direction on how the Council would like to approach the review and subsequent update of the Regional Coastal Plan. It was also noted that the TTPP process and coastal hazard zones were totally consistent with the Regional Coastal Plan proposed in 2016.
- It was further noted that –
  - The draft Regional Speed Management Plan (SMP) was approved by the Regional Transport Committee (RTC) on 24 January 2024 and was to be publicly notified on 14 March 2024.
  - The draft Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP) was approved by the RTC meeting on 24 January 2024 and was publicly notified on 28 February 2024.
  - The Draft Regional Public Transport Plan (RPTP) was notified for submissions in August/September 2023 and the Hearing was scheduled for 13 March 2024. Council received ten submissions, and four submitters wished to be heard.
  - On 1 July 2023 the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) introduced a Community Connect Concession Programme subsidy for Total Mobility users. The subsidy further reduced the taxi fare for users registered with the Total Mobility Scheme from paying 50% of the fare (up to a maximum of \$30) to 25%. The additional 25% reduction of the fare would be paid by the NZTA.
- The TTPP Hearings in the report were briefly discussed.
- The Resource Science report was discussed, and it was noted that a paper would be presented to the Committee by J Horox on the summary of all the testing in the summer, along with an explanation on what it meant, what it exhibited and what its conclusions



were. It was noted that streams from urban areas, like Sawyers Creek, that flow into the farming areas should also be tested. The CE commented that this matter was under discussion with GDC and would be taken up as part of the LTP.

- It was further noted that a press release would be going out on the Total Mobility Scheme update.

**Moved** (Haddock/ Ewen) *that the Committee receives the report.*

*Carried*

## 9. General Business

Discussion was held on 18 resource consents that were awaiting approval from Iwi as the affected party. It was noted that some of those resource consents had been outstanding for up to 3 years, with delays also caused by other parties needing to sign off.

It was noted that as the Iwi partnership agreement was up for review, Cr Birchfield suggested that Iwi should be removed from the affected party list in the resource consent process. He stated that the Iwi partnership agreement was voluntary and not a statutory requirement. However, the CE mentioned he was not comfortable in doing that and asked for a report summarising the 18 consents. C Barnes was requested to present the report with the summary of those 18 consents, along with the details and status of each of the consents.

The meeting was adjourned at 10.58 am.

## PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS

**Moved** (Dooley/ Haddock) *that:*

1. *the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely – 10 to 12 (all inclusive):*

<b>Item No</b>	<b>General Subject of each matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Ground(s) under section 7 of LGOIMA for the passing of this resolution</b>
10.1	Confidential Minutes of Meeting – 29 January 2024	The item contains information relating to commercial, privacy and security matters	To protect commercial and private information and to prevent disclosure of information for improper gain or advantage (s7(2)(a), s7(2)(b), and s7(2)(j)).
11	Actions List	The item contains information relating to commercial, privacy and security matters	To protect commercial and private information and to prevent disclosure of information for improper gain or

			advantage (s7(2)(a), s7(2)(b), and s7(2)(j)).
12	<i>Taylorville Verbal Update</i>	<i>The item contains information relating to commercial, privacy and security matters</i>	To protect commercial and private information and to prevent disclosure of information for improper gain or advantage (s7(2)(a), s7(2)(b), and s7(2)(j)).

2. *Darryl Lew and Chris Barnes be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public have been excluded due to their knowledge of the subjects. This knowledge will be of assistance in relation to the matters to be discussed; and*
3. *The Governance Advisor also be permitted to remain.*

The meeting reconvened and moved into the public-excluded session at 12.23pm.

.....  
Chair

.....  
Date

**THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 29 JANUARY 2024**  
**AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL,**  
**388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH**  
**COMMENCING AT 9.49AM**

**PRESENT:**

B. Cummings (Chair), P. Haddock, F. Dooley, A. Campbell, A Birchfield, M. McIntyre, P. Ewen

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

D. Lew (Chief Executive), J. Douglas (Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio), L. Sadler (Planning Team Leader), R. Clark (Acting Consents & Compliance Manager), J. Horrox (Science Team Leader), S. Tripathi (Governance Advisor (via zoom)), B. McMahon (Media)

**1. Welcome (*Haere mai*)**

The Chair opened the meeting with a prayer and welcomed everyone.

**2. Apologies (*Ngā Pa Pouri*)**

The Chair called for apologies. The apology was received by Francois Tumahai.

**Moved** (Douglas/ Haddock) *that the apology from F Tumahai be received.*

*Carried*

**3. Declarations of Interest**

The Chair called for any declaration of interests. Cr Haddock declared interest in page 59 of the agenda with respect to “Mining Work Programmes and Bonds”.

**4. Public Forum, Petitions and Deputations (*He Huinga tuku korero*)**

There were no public forums or deputations.

**5. Confirmation of Minutes**

**5.1 Minutes of Resource Management Committee meeting 13 November 2023**

The Chair called for any corrections to the minutes. There were none.

**Moved** (Dooley/ Haddock) *that the minutes from 13 November 2023 meeting are a true and correct record.*

*Carried*

**Matters Arising**

There were none.

**6. Actions List**

The following was noted/updated on the actions list.

- Item 1 – A delegation of MCI would attend the next DWC Board meeting, and Cr Dooley would be happy to assist with his knowledge in the matter. [It was noted that the application was not made with DWC. The application form was incorrect, and when WCRC asked for the application form for a grant (not loan) DWC informed that they didn’t have loan forms. It was also noted that in the past DWC had given out grants but that was not their current practice.]
- Item 2 and 3 to be added together – Ongoing.

**Moved** (Ewen/ Campbell) *that the report be received.*

*Carried*

## **7. Chairs Report (verbal update)**

The Chair noted that it had been a long time since the last Council and Committees meeting and was looking forward to the update on Franz Josef. The Chair hoped that everyone enjoyed their Christmas break and noted that 2024 would be a good year.

**Moved** (Ewen/ McIntyre) *the Chair's Report be received.*

*Carried*

## **8. Planning and Resource Science Group**

### **8.1 Planning and TTP Report**

L Sadler spoke to the report.

#### Key discussions:

- A workshop was held with the Resource Management Committee members on 8 December 2023 to outline new Government's resource management priorities as stated in their 100-day plan and the two Coalition Agreements between National and Act, and National and New Zealand First; and what they meant for the Council.
- Work Areas were divided into three main categories – “Work areas to stop”, “Work areas to pause” and “Work areas to progress”.
- Work areas to stop were noted as below –
  - Repeal the Spatial Planning and Natural and Built Environments Acts and introduce a fast-track consenting regime (in the Resource Management Act).
  - Cease implementation of new Significant Natural Areas (SNA identification and inclusion in district plans that was required in the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity). It was noted the SNA provisions in the proposed TTPP were developed to reflect a requirement in the Council's Regional Policy Statement for SNAs to be identified.
  - It was also noted that the “implementation of new Significant Natural Areas” to be moved to “work areas to pause” in the presentation of 8 December 2023.
- Work areas to pause was noted as below –
  - Replace the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 and the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater 2020. The NPSFM and NESF implementation work to be put on hold, including freshwater plan change to the Land and Water Plan, Wetland Mapping and Inventory, Fish Passage Action Plan, the NPS-Highly Productive Land, and the NES-Drinking Water.
  - It was noted that the Council would hold the review of the RPS.
- The memo dated 19 January 2024 by R Clark to the Councillors regarding “Functional Need Test in the NES Freshwater and What it Means for Mining Applications” was discussed in brief.
- Work areas to progress were noted as below –
  - Farm plans
  - Regional plan reviews under the Resource Management Act (RMA)
  - Te Tai o Poutini Plan
  - Three-year review of Mana Whakahono ā Rohe
  - Transport plans
- The Regional Coastal Plan review had been underway since May 2023, and the Regional Air Quality Plan needed reviewing.

- The non-freshwater parts of the Land and Water Plan would need to be reviewed, as it would be 10 years old in May 2024.
- The staff would prepare issues and options report on each Plans' changes/reviews for workshops with the RMC over the next few months, first workshop to consider issues and options for the Air Quality Plan on 5 March 2024.
- The Mana Whakahono ā Rohe Participation Agreement needed reviewing and the Council was in discussions with Poutini Ngāi Tahu.
- Nine (9) TTPP hearings were held by the end of 2023.
- Contact recreation sampling began in November 2023 for the summer period and would continue through to the end of March 2024.
- In relation to exceedances of the E. coli standard at Marrs Beach, the E-DNA testing showed that this was due to cow's ruminants and a report would be prepared on possible actions to address the exceedances.
- It was noted that catchment priorities paper would be presented to the Committee on 5 March 2024. In the paper one of the recommendations would be to assign Catchment Coordinator to the catchment in Marrs Beach to work with the farmers. The presentation from Jonny Horrox and Ben Douglas on how ruminants were causing the E.coli at Marrs Beach was to be emailed to Cr Dooley and Cr McIntyre. The team is looking at other areas for hotspots that would need to be worked with respect to not just catchment issues, but also urbanization issues.

**Moved** (Dooley/ Haddock) *that the Committee -*

1. *Receives the report; and*
2. *Endorses halting, pausing and progressing the planning workstreams outlined in the PowerPoint presentation of 8 December 2023 and notes to move "implementation of SNA" from "work areas to stop" to "work areas on pause", under the Resource Management Act.*

*Carried*

## 8.2 Quarter Two Biosecurity Report

The CE spoke to the report and took the report as read.

It was noted that the "Parrot's feather containment" issue was not resolved as some of the landowners opposed Council staff and stated they didn't want to take any action. Parrot's feather had the potential to seriously affect agriculture, infrastructure, and ecosystems on the West Coast and if the issues were significant than the Council would deal with it taking regulatory approach.

It was noted that the staff should speak to the constituents Councillors on this issue and involve them in resolving the issue.

It was also noted that the Councillors would be updated regarding the objective - "Stakeholder relationships and contribute to national biosecurity direction" with respect to the NZTA been unresponsive to communications regarding pest plant issues on their land and the Westland District Council operating an unpermitted green waste site in Ross.

**Moved** (Ewen/ Dooley) *that the Committee -*

1. *Receives the report; and*
2. *Provides feedback to the biosecurity team on the approach to knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*) containment in the Grey region.*

*Carried*

## 9. Consents and Compliance Group

### 9.1 Consents Quarterly Report

R Clark spoke to the report.

In regard to TiGa Minerals and Metals, Barrytown Consent hearing, it was noted that it was not up to the Council but the applicant's decision to ask for the hearing to be on hold or withdrawn from the proceedings. The applicant had clearly indicated for the hearing to start on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

It was noted that the constituent Councillors were to be updated on the method used to spray for weeds on the cliffs at Cape Foulwind.

**Moved** (Dooley/ Haddock) *that the Committee receives the September – December 2023 and January 2024 report of the Consents Group.*

*Carried*

### 9.2 Compliance and Enforcement Quarterly Report

It was noted that the Council had transferred the investigation into potential contaminant discharges from the Taylorville Resource Park landfill to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The issues were complex, and this specific case called for an agency with broader jurisdiction and resources. The Council had handed over the comprehensive investigation report to date to the EPA. Concerns were raised regarding potential air and water quality impacts surrounding the landfill operation, prompting WCRC to initiate initial inquiries. However, to guarantee an independent and thorough investigation, the Council had deemed it necessary to involve EPA.

WCRC will continue to collaborate with the EPA, providing relevant information and data during the investigation. It was noted that EPA's team of six (6) personnel worked from WCRC office for one week, and cost of this investigation was borne by the EPA. Investigation was under the EPA jurisdiction, and they would carry on investigation and make public statements along the way. The Council would be briefed on the report before the EPA makes any public statement.

It was also noted that there could be some issues with the compliance around the consents by the Grey District Council (GDC). GDC had mimicked WCRC in this matter and has invited the delegations with EPA on all the resource management matters that GDC administered on that site.

It was noted that the CE, the Chair, and the Consents and Compliance Officer met the concerned residents on 11 and 25 January 2024 and listened to their concerns. All the concerned residents were now on an email group so that they can be kept informed.

Cr Haddock left the meeting at 10.43am.

It was noted that there were complaints concerned to discharge of water on site. WCRC alleged and had mentioned it to the EPA, that the discharge of water that WCRC's compliance team observed was a discharge of contaminants.

Cr Haddock joined the meeting at 10.46am.

It was noted that at Sergeants Hill (Giles Creek), the materials originated from the recent demolition in Westport, raised concerns about asbestos contamination which was now removed and remedied. The remaining material was tested and there were no more asbestos on site. The other contaminants,

lead and zinc, were in the same material that was removed. It was further noted that the constituent Councillors were to be updated on the residual risk of all the contaminants in the area.

10 Mile Creek sludge run-off from the roads to several creeks was discussed briefly. It was noted that the discharge was deemed non-compliant, and inquiries were being made and there were procedures in place to deal with the issue.

A brief discussion was held on Upper Grey Valley, gold mining issue and it was noted that there was no mining bond lodged.

Karamea landfill issue was discussed. It was noted that the same contractor who was working at Taylorville was operating on this site as well. Cr Dooley was consistently being contacted by the neighbour was not happy. It was further noted that this issue was investigated, and the Council had no indications of anything other than what was already disposed of. It was further noted that the area might have asbestos and that could be the reason it was all buried. The Council had tested and observed the site and there was no issue found, as asbestos was airborne contaminant. It was noted that R Clark would write to the neighbour regarding this to inform them.

Alma Road, Westport issue was also discussed. There were repeated blockages and re-diversions of the drains in the area. It was noted that this issue was with the operations and infrastructure team and an update was requested on this by Cr Dooley.

Brief discussion was held on mining bonds, and it was noted that the mining bonds were held by the Council.

**Moved** (Cummings/ Douglas) *the Committee receives the September to December 2023 report of the Compliance Group.*

*Carried*

## **10. General Business**

Cr Dooley requested a copy of the investigation report for the Westport sandstorm, to which C Barnes confirmed that he will email the report to Cr Dooley.

It was noted that no Iwi reps were members of the WCRC Regional Transport Committee. It was further noted that the WCRC Regional Transport Committee terms of reference should be reviewed. The CE and the Chair would take this matter with Francois Tumahai and Paul Madgwick in their next 6 monthly meeting.

## **PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS**

**Moved** (Cummings/ McIntyre) *that:*

- 1. the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely – 11 and 12 (all inclusive):*

<b>Item No</b>	<b>General Subject of each matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Ground(s) under section 7 of LGOIMA for the passing of this resolution</b>
11.1	Confidential Minutes of Meeting – 10 October 2023	The item contains information relating to commercial, privacy and security matters	To protect commercial and private information and to prevent disclosure of information for improper gain or advantage (s7(2)(a), s7(2)(b), and s7(2)(j)).
12	Actions List	The item contains information relating to commercial, privacy and security matters	To protect commercial and private information and to prevent disclosure of information for improper gain or advantage (s7(2)(a), s7(2)(b), and s7(2)(j)).

2. *Darryl Lew be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public have been excluded due to their knowledge of the subjects. This knowledge will be of assistance in relation to the matters to be discussed; and*
3. *The Governance Advisor also be permitted to remain.*

The meeting was adjourned at 11.11am.

The meeting reconvened and moved into the public excluded session at 12.36pm.

.....  
Chair

.....  
Date



<b>Report to:</b> Resource Management Committee	<b>Meeting Date:</b> 9 April 2024
<b>Title of Item:</b> Actions List	
<b>Report by:</b> Sarah Tripathi, Governance Advisor	
<b>Reviewed by:</b> Darryl Lew, Chief Executive	
<b>Public excluded?</b> No	

### **Report Summary**

A summary of items that require actions.

### **Draft Recommendations**

The recommendation is that the Committee receive the Actions List for information.

## ACTIONS LIST

Item No.	Date of Meeting	Item	Officer	Update
1.	5 March 2024	<p>A delegation of MCI would attend the next DWC Board meeting, and Cr Dooley would be happy to assist with his knowledge in the matter.</p> <p>[Previous Action Item- Application to DWC to fund the cost associated to TTPP]</p>	CE	The DWC Board meeting is on 8 April 2024. It was noted that the application was not made with DWC. The application form was incorrect, and when WCRC asked for the application form for a grant (not loan) DWC informed that they didn't have loan forms. It was also noted that in the past DWC had given out grants but that was not their current practice.
2.	5 March 2024	Schedule the workshops for Regional Plan Committee issues and on effect of legislation changes/ new legislations.	Acting Planning and Science Manager	A roadmap on other regional planning work giving a work program for the year will be presented to the RMC meeting of May 2024.
3.	5 March 2024	To prepare issues and options report on each Plans' changes/reviews for workshops with the RMC over the next few months, first workshop to consider issues and options for the Air Quality Plan.	Acting Planning and Science Manager Selvia	Air quality RMC workshop is scheduled to be held in April.
4.	5 March 2024	<p>a. Exceedances of the E. coli standard at Marrs Beach, the E-DNA testing showed that this was due to cow's ruminants and a report was to be prepared on possible actions to address the exceedances.</p> <p>b. To present a full report summarizing all the testing with explanation of Resource Science report.</p>	Science Team Leader - Water Quality	Agenda item.

Item No.	Date of Meeting	Item	Officer	Update
5.	5 March 2024	A paper to be presented to the Committee on Catchment priorities.	Acting Planning and Science Manager	To be addressed in May 2024 meeting.
6.	5 March 2024	To review the membership of the Regional Transport Committee.  The issue was raised regarding the potential for Iwi participation in the Regional Transport Committee during the RMC meeting of 29 Jan 2024. The CE and Council Chair to have discussion with the Iwi reps.	CE	To write to the Iwi Chairs for the appointment of a member for the Regional Transport Committee and then update the Terms of Reference. Present it to the next Regional Transport Committee meeting.
7.	5 March 2024	To investigate and get back to Cr Dooley regarding the Karamea consents condition regarding asbestos dumping at the site.  The copy of the letter written to the neighbour who has an issue with the Karamea fill site that took the material from the old school site to be sent to Cr Dooley.	Acting Consents and Compliance Manager	Completed.  Email sent to Cr Dooley on 27 March 2024.
8.	5 March 2024	To update Councillors on NZTA not engaging in biosecurity issues and the dumping of illegal green waste at the Ross Dump.	Biosecurity Manager	Waiting for a response from the NZTA.
9.	5 March 2024	To follow up on the Parrots Feather weed in Gallows dam and the associated protest action. It was noted that the issue was not resolved. Team to talk to the constituent Councillors and staff to formulate a response.	Biosecurity Manager	Councillors were contacted via email in January but have not responded. Staff will check in again with the Councillors to discuss option on this property in April.
10.	5 March 2024	Westport sandstorm investigation report to be sent to the constituent Councillors.	Acting Compliance and Consents Manager	Completed. The report was emailed to Cr Dooley on 2 April 2024.

Item No.	Date of Meeting	Item	Officer	Update
11.	5 March 2024	To update Cr Ewen on the bond lodged w.r.t. Upper Grey Valley gold mine. A brief discussion was held on Upper Grey Valley, gold mining issue and it was noted that there was no mining bond lodged. It was the requirement of the consent that the mining bond should be lodged.	Acting Compliance and Consents Manager	Completed.
12.	5 March 2024	To update the Councillors regarding the Alma Road drainage issues, and how the Council would deal with these issues.	Acting Compliance and Consents Manager	Report emailed to constituent Councillors on 2 April 2024.
13.	5 March 2024	To present a paper on the approach on Regional Pest Management Strategy.	Biosecurity Manager	This will be presented in June 2024 and will include the annual plan for the 2024/2025 FY for Biosecurity.
14.	5 March 2024	To present to the Committee the Coastal Plan Review issues and options paper in the next few months.	Acting Planning and Science Manager	To be presented in May or June 2024 committee meeting.
15.	5 March 2024	To provide information to the Councillors around the 18 consent applications awaiting Iwi approval. To include the nature of why Iwi are considered, other parties that have not signed off, a breakdown of all issues.	Acting Planning and Science Manager	To be emailed to the Councillors by 5 April 2024.

<b>Report to:</b> Resource Management Committee	<b>Meeting Date:</b> 9 April 2024
<b>Title of Item:</b> Planning, TTPP and Science Report	
<b>Report by:</b> Lillie Sadler, Acting Planning Team Leader	
<b>Reviewed by:</b> Darryl Lew, Chief Executive	
<b>Public excluded?</b> No	

### Report Purpose

To update the Resource Management Committee on planning, TTPP and science developments.

### Draft Recommendations

**It is recommended that Committee resolve to:**

1. *Receive the report.*

### Issues and Discussion

#### Planning

#### Update on NPS for Natural Hazard Decision-making

The Ministry for the Environment (MFE) is scoping two proposed pieces of national direction to reduce the risk to people and property from natural hazards like flooding, landslips and coastal inundation. One of these, the National Policy Statement on Natural Hazard Decision-making (NPS), will set out how local authorities should consider natural hazard risk when making decisions on regional policy statements, regional plans, district plans and resource consents relating to new developments.

The NPS is expected to:

- limit new building in areas that are at high risk from natural hazards
- require actions to reduce risk for areas at moderate risk.

It is not intended to reduce overall housing supply.

Public consultation on the NPS opened on 18 September 2023, and closed on 20 November. Feedback from the consultation will inform final decisions on the NPS, which is expected to be in place in early 2024, providing councils with short term direction while a more comprehensive National Direction for Natural Hazards is developed.

#### Update on transport Plans, and national transport direction

##### Regional Land Transport Plan

The Draft Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP) was advertised for submissions on 28 February. At the close of the submission period on 28 March, 9 submissions were lodged. The submissions will be analysed and staff recommendations made to the Regional Transport Committee.

##### Regional Public Transport Plan

The hearing on the Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2023 (RPTP) was held on 13 March. Members of the Resource Management Committee formed the Hearing Panel. Submitters representing three organisations presented their submissions. Following adjournment of the Hearing, the Panel deliberated on the submissions and the staff recommendations on submissions. A Decisions Report is being prepared.

### Submission on Draft GPS 2024

The Draft Government Policy Statement (for land transport) (GPS) was released on 4 March for submissions. The GPS is reviewed every three years, and outlines the Government's national priorities for funding land transport. The 2024 GPS reflects the new Government's priorities, and the West Coast District Councils have concerns about reduced funding in a number of areas that will potentially affect maintenance and improvement of State Highways and local roads in the Region. Areas where central government funding is to be reduced include:

- Climate change resilience projects, however more frequent and severe weather events will impact the transport network;
- The Walking and Cycling activity class means less central government funding will be available for footpath maintenance;
- Public Transport Services, and an expectation of greater farebox recovery.

Additionally, funding for major transport projects does not include:

- Cross-funding of multi-modal transport, for example, where road and rail cross over or are located near each other, and need an integrated investment approach;
- Investigating and moving the State Highway south of the Waiho River (Franz Josef) bridge away from the flood plain.

A submission was prepared by contractor Rationale for the three District Councils, and the West Coast Regional Council was invited to support it. As the closing date for submissions was 2 April, before the 9 April RMC meeting, the Council's Regional Transport Committee (RTC) Chair (Councillor Peter Ewen) and RTC rep (Councillor Peter Haddock) reviewed the submission and supported it. The submission has been lodged, and a copy is shown as Attachment 1.

### **Fast-Track Approvals Bill**

This process would enable a fast-track decision-making process for infrastructure and development projects that are considered to have significant regional or national benefits. The bill would establish a separate process for several approvals under different legislation including:

- resource consents, notices of requirement, and certificates of compliance (Resource Management Act 1991)
- concessions (Conservation Act 1987)
- authority to do anything otherwise prohibited under the Wildlife Act 1953
- archaeological authority (Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014)
- marine consents (Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects) Act 2012)
- land access (Crown Minerals Act 1991)
- aquaculture activity approvals (Fisheries Act 1996).

To access the fast-track approvals process, project owners would need to apply to the joint Ministers. A project would then be referred to an expert panel to assess the project and make a recommendation to the joint Ministers, who would then determine whether the approvals should be granted or declined.

The decision on a fast-track consent is to be made by a panel with a current or retired Environment Court or High Court judge as the convenor who is appointed by the Ministers. Up to 4 persons may be appointed

to be members of a panel set up to consider and report on a listed project, listed referred project, or referred project.

The membership of a panel must include—

- (a) 1 person nominated by the relevant local authorities; and
- (b) 1 person nominated by the relevant iwi authorities.

The person nominated by a local authority may, but need not, be an elected member of the local authority.

If either the relevant local authorities or the relevant iwi authorities nominate more than 1 person for appointment as a panel member, the panel convener must decide which one of those nominees is to be appointed as a panel member. If a local authority or an iwi authority does not make a nomination, the panel convener must appoint a person with the appropriate skills and experience to be a member of the panel.

This Bill is currently open for submissions which close on 19 April 2024 and is therefore not yet operative. It will likely be subject to change as a result of the submissions process.

Here is a link to the Bill:

[https://www.legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2024/0031/latest/LMS943195.html?search=y\\_bill%40bill%2024\\_bc%40bcur\\_an%40bn%40rn%2025\\_a&p=1](https://www.legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2024/0031/latest/LMS943195.html?search=y_bill%40bill%2024_bc%40bcur_an%40bn%40rn%2025_a&p=1)

The Ministry for the Environment website has further information about what is proposed in the Bill, as well as a Supplementary Analysis Report: Treaty Impact Analysis for the Fast-Track Approvals Bill, and another Supplementary Analysis Report: Fast-Track Approvals Bill. These can all be found at the link below:

<https://environment.govt.nz/acts-and-regulations/acts/fast-track-approvals-bill/>

### **Te Tai o Poutini Plan**

The Natural Features and Landscapes hearings were held over two separate weeks in Hokitika and Westport in March, with a number of submitters presenting in person at the two venues. The next hearing will be on the topics of Subdivision, Financial Contributions and Public Access, which will be held at WCRC on 16 and 17 April 2024. Following this, the hearing for Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori will be held at Arahura Marae from 30 April 2024.

Further information in relation to a proposed variation for the mapping of Coastal Hazards in the Proposed TTPP will be brought back to the next TTPP Committee meeting on 29 April 2024, to be held at WCRC. A scientist from NIWA will be at the meeting to provide more information to the Committee on the coastal hazard mapping work done to date.

The proposed variation in relation to Port of Greymouth and Westport Harbour Port has not yet been notified as originally intended. A report will be going to the next TTPP Committee meeting to recommend that the proposed Ports Variation be notified separately to any other proposed variations, and on a limited basis to affected parties only, to reduce the costs of this process.

### **Resource Science**

#### **Contact recreation water quality sampling**

Contact recreation sampling at bathing beaches concluded recently for the 2023-24 Summer period. For the sampling period from 19<sup>th</sup> February - 20<sup>th</sup> March, there were no exceedances (> 260 *E. coli* colony forming units per 100 mL), despite significant rainfall preceding sampling in some locations.

The whole season's (November-March) monitoring results are summarised in Attachment 2 of this report. The key in Attachment 3 of this report explains the symbols shown in the Attachment 1 Table.

**Note:** Above 260 *E. coli* colony forming units per 100 ml, caution is advised for swimming. Above 540 *E. coli* colony forming units per 100 ml, a site is deemed temporarily unsuitable for swimming.

### Hydrology - Flood warnings

There were no flood alarms triggered in the last reporting period. The flood alarm below was triggered after the RMC report for the 5 March meeting was finalised, so it is reported here.

February 2024

Site	Alarm threshold (mm)	Warning issued	Peak level (mm)	Time of peak
Hokitika Rv at Gorge	3750	24/02/2024 19:19	4272	24/02/2024 20:15

## Considerations

### Implications/Risks

There are no implications or risks arising from items in this report.

### Significance and Engagement Policy Assessment

There are no issues within this report which trigger matters in the significance policy.

### Poutini Ngāi Tahu views

No views were recorded on the matters covered in this report.

### Views of affected parties

No parties will be affected by the subject matter of this report.

### Financial implications

There are no current financial implications arising from items in this report.

### Legal implications

There are no legal implications arising from items in this report.

## Attachments

**Attachment 1: Submission on Draft Government Policy Statement (Land Transport) 2024**

**Attachment 2: Contact recreation water quality sampling results for November 2023-March 2024**

**Attachment 3: Key to symbols in Attachment 2 Table**



## Attachment 1: Submission on Draft Government Policy Statement (Land Transport) 2024

### West Coast Councils – GPS 2024 Submission

#### Context

1. Buller, Grey, and Westland District Councils and West Coast Regional Council (West Coast Councils) jointly provide the following feedback to the draft Government Policy Statement on Land Transport (GPS) 2024.
2. This feedback is based on the consultation document, it is provided at both a strategic level and regarding the regional and district transport programmes of the four Councils.

#### West Coast Priorities

3. The draft West Coast Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP) 2024 presents the 30-year vision of "A safe, resilient and connected multi-modal transport network which enables the West Coast to thrive."
4. The RLTP vision is delivered through the following strategic objectives:
  - a. Resilience – a transport network that can better cope with unknown stresses, natural disasters, and the impact of climate change.
  - b. Asset condition – a transport network that is fit for purpose.
  - c. Safety – a transport system that is safe for all users.
  - d. Connectivity – a multi-modal transport network that enables all users to meet their economic, social, and cultural needs.
  - e. Regional advocacy – improved regional advocacy.
5. The three local authorities, Buller, Grey and Westland, prepare a joint transport programme business case and asset management plan for development of their Long-Term Plans and the National Land Transport Programme.
6. The 2024 West Coast Regional Transport Programme Business Case recommends a 10-year programme to achieve the following benefits and strategic responses sought from investment:
  - a. Improve network resilience.
    - i. Identify and mitigate or adapt to natural hazard risks and transport disruption.
    - ii. Ensure current and future infrastructure is fit for and resilient to a changing climate.
  - b. Safer travel.
    - i. Speed management to reflect the capability and function of our roads.
    - ii. Targeted safety improvements, especially for vulnerable road users.
  - c. Improved transport efficiency.
    - i. Increase trips made by walking, cycling, and lower emission modes.
    - ii. Maintain inter- and intra-regional connectivity to move people and goods.

#### Feedback on draft Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2024

##### Feedback on GPS strategic priorities

7. **Support** focus on Economic Growth and Productivity, and the role of freight in supporting economic growth.
8. **Support** the key shift from the previous GPS2021 to promote Increased Maintenance and Resilience.

9. **Support** the inclusion of Value for Money to support more efficient and effective delivery on behalf of ratepayers and taxpayers.
10. **Request** inclusion of climate change related risk within the discussion of future resilience, with the expectation that more frequent and severe weather events impacting the transport network will require long-term planning and financing of improvements. The West Coast is heavily reliant on the one north-south route, State Highway 6, providing the main arterial road functions for communities across the region. Continual weather-related emergencies have highlighted the vulnerabilities of the network, and how this creates disruptions and at times, displacement for our communities. The Ministry for Environment projections (2018) indicate 'It is very likely that for winter and spring there will be an increase in rainfall for the west of both the North and South Islands, with drier conditions in the east and north. This is a robust prediction both in 2040 and 2090, caused by the westerly winds over New Zealand increasing during these seasons.'
11. **Request** inclusion and stronger focus on the safety of vulnerable users of the transport system, particularly walking, cycling and other active modes. There is evidence that shows the wider social, economic and health benefits to be gained through cycle commuter routes and shared trails. There is no mention of these users under the Safety Strategic Priority with the emphasis solely on safety for vehicle and motorbike modes. The West Coast region has generated economic benefit through cycle tourism visitation and aims to safeguard the forecasted benefits for local businesses and the community. Near urban centres these cycle commuter routes also benefit local users, for example providing off carriageway access for school children.

#### **Feedback on activity classes**

12. **Support** focus on sealed and unsealed road maintenance, renewal, and rehabilitation through the Local Road Pothole Prevention Activity Class.
13. **Note** with concern WC216 Bridge and structures renewals is proposed to be included under Local Road Improvements, instead of the previous Local Road Maintenance activity class. The streamlined process for approval of like-for-like replacement of end-of-life bridges and structures substantially improved the efficiency of demonstrating when investment in replacement of a bridge should take place, without the need for a more extensive Business Case. Having bridges capable of carrying 50Max and HPMV loads is critical for the West Coast as geographically there is no alternative to getting goods to processing facilities. Heavy earthmoving machinery needed for reinstating access also needs bridges to be upgraded or replaced to modern bridge standards.
14. **Note** with concern the exclusion multi-modal improvements and reduction in funding for traffic calming and multi-modal measures from the Local Road Improvements activity class. The Councils consider this a risk to provision of a safe multi-modal transport network, particularly in urban areas where multiple modes utilise the same public space.
15. **Note** with concern that investment under the Walking and Cycling activity class will be made "where there is clear benefit for increasing economic growth, or clear benefit for improving safety where demonstrated volumes of pedestrians and cyclists already exist." The Council's experience is that safe infrastructure encourages higher demand for walking and cycling, and in many locations existing demand is not present due to a lack of infrastructure. The major increase in cycle activity through the growing network of separated cycle trails on the West Coast provides evidence of this, these trails have been a key source of economic benefit with the region becoming a tourist destination for cycling.
16. **Note** with concern the substantial reduction in funding for the Walking and Cycling activity class which now includes maintenance and renewal work categories. The Council's are concerned that a substantial amount of unsubsidised local funding will be required to retain status quo levels of service on our footpaths if NLTF co-funding is not made available. This may

be unachievable given competing priorities for funding across transportation and other activities we deliver. Engagement with our communities routinely highlights the importance of footpath condition.

17. **Note** with concern the potential risk to full realisation of potential investment benefits, particularly wider economic and social benefits, and efficiency of project delivery if a multi-modal approach to planning and funding is not supported. There is a risk that due to differing funding sources and requirements increased effort will be needed to plan and deliver multi-modal projects, or that these will not be delivered in an integrated manner, increasing project overheads and total cost.
18. **Note** with concern the reduction in GPS funding range for Public Transport Services activity class, and expectation of greater farebox recovery. The West Coast lacks a comprehensive public transport system, instead relying on total mobility services via taxis. This is a critical service to ensure our geographically isolated communities maintain access to essential services, the region also has a high and increasing population aged 65+ and a low median household income relative to wider New Zealand. A reduction in subsidy for total mobility services risks reduced access to essential services, particularly health care and/or an increased financial burden on those who are unable to drive, walk, or cycle to these services.
19. **Note** with concern the removal of the newly included Coastal Shipping activity class. Investigation to support planning for investment to improve economic productivity via integrated land and sea freight opportunities has been identified as a significant opportunity for the West Coast. The West Coast has resources such as minerals, gravel and rock that can be shipped to other regions of NZ where some of these resources are not so plentiful.

#### **General feedback**

20. **Support** the GPS to adopt a 10-year investment plan aligned with local government Long-Term Plans to improve strategy and planning across the transport system. The Councils advocate NZTA provide guidance to local authorities well in advance of 2027 NLTP submissions for how local government will integrate with any new NZTA systems and processes to achieve this.
21. **Support** consideration of how city and regional deals between central and local government can provide an opportunity across the transport system. The Councils advocate that this integrates with other Council activities, particularly 3-waters.
22. **Support** focus on reporting and reducing expenditure on temporary traffic management. The Councils advocate that health and safety of workers and transport network users is not compromised by cost savings.
23. **Note** the omission of major transport projects noted for the West Coast. While the region's proposed state highway projects may not be significant in the context of national expenditure, they are significant to our local communities. This includes moving the state highway at Franz Josef as part of a major flood resilience project.

## Attachment 2: Contact recreation water quality sampling results for November 2023-March 2024

Week starting	30-Oct	6-Nov	13-Nov	20-Nov	27-Nov	4-Dec	11-Dec	18-Dec	25-Dec	8-Jan	15-Jan	22-Jan	29-Jan	05-Feb	12-Feb	19-Feb	26-Feb	04-Mar	11-Mar	18-Mar	25-Mar	
	Nov	Nov	Nov	Nov	Dec	Dec	Dec	Dec	Dec	Jan	Jan	Jan	Feb	Feb	Feb	Feb	Feb	Mar	Mar	Mar	Mar	
Arahura Rv at SH6		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊			* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊	
Buller River at Marris Beach	* 😊	* 😊	* 😞	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊
Buller River at Shingle Beach	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊
Carters Beach at campground beach access		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊			* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊	
Cobden Beach at Bright Street West end		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊			* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊	
Fox River at SH6	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊
Grey River at Taylorville Swimming Hole	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊
Kaniere River at Kaniere Kokotahi Rd		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊			* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊	
Karoro Beach at Surf Club		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊			* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊	
Lake Brunner at Cashmere Bay Boat Ramp		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊			* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊	
Lake Brunner at Iveagh Bay		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊			* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊	
Lake Brunner at Moana	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊
Lake Kaniere at Hans Bay Jetty		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊			* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊	
Lake Kaniere at Sunny Bight		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊			* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊	
Lake Mahinapua at Shanghai Bay		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊			* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊	
Nelson Ck at Swimming Hole Reserve	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊
North Beach at tip head road steps		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊			* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊	
Punakaiki River at Colville Close	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊	* 😊
Rapahoe Beach at end of Statham St		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊			* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊	
Seven Mile Creek at SH6 Rapahoe		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊			* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊		* 😊	

### Attachment 3: Key to symbols in Attachment 1 Table

Rainfall past 24hrs	Rainfall past week		Category
*	•	0-10 mm	minimal
*	•	11-30 mm	light
*	•	31-60 mm	moderate
*	•	>60 mm	high
😊	< 260 E. coli; < 140 Ent		very low risk
😐	260-550 E. coli; 140-280 Ent		low risk
😞	> 550 E. coli; > 280 Ent		moderate to high risk

<b>Report to:</b> Resource Management Committee	<b>Meeting Date:</b> 9 April 2024
<b>Title of Item:</b> WCRC Hazardous Activities and Industries List (HAIL) Register and DOC Additions	
<b>Report by:</b> Jonny Horrox, Science Manager	
<b>Reviewed by:</b> Darryl Lew, Chief Executive	
<b>Public excluded?</b> No	

## Report Purpose

This report aims to inform Council on how the WCRC HAIL register works, recent HAIL site additions from the Department of Conservation, and the Contaminated Sites Remediation Site Fund.

## Report Summary

Council and the community are required to be aware and give effect to national legislation that manages the risk contaminated land poses to humans and the environment. WCRC must maintain a register of sites (currently numbering 533) that do or might pose health risks because a hazardous activity or industry occurred. Information on the register allows the community to manage these risks appropriately, particularly when land use changes or earthworks ensue. The contaminated sites remediation fund is available to assist the region with characterisation, management and remediation of contaminated land. The Department of Conservation has recently identified 301 sites on public conservation land with past histories of hazardous activities or industries. When these sites are finalised their information will be added to the WCRC register.

## Recommendations

**It is recommended that Council/the Committee resolve to:**

1. *Receive the report.*

## Issues and Discussion

### The WCRC HAIL register and contaminated land

The National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health (NESCS 2012), and RMA (1991), provide legislation underpinning contaminated land management in New Zealand

The Ministry for the Environment (MfE) publish a list, which has 51 categories (e.g. landfill, service station, wood treatment and storage). This is known as the Hazardous Activities and Industries List (HAIL). Under the RMA, Council must maintain a register containing the location and details of these 'HAIL' sites.

There are several terms used by people to refer to this register – HAIL register is colloquially popular. The official name for our register is the 'Selected land use sites' register (SLUS), chosen by a multi-council consortium. Prior to this, it was called the 'Sites associated with hazardous substances' register (SAHS). All these terms are currently used by staff and external practitioners, with HAIL being the best understood.

Sites are on the register, as a precautionary measure, because hazardous activities and industries have potential to cause contamination. Contaminants may or may not be present. The register's purpose is to inform future decisions around site use. It does not mean all sites are contaminated, thus terms like 'contaminated site register' can be misleading.

Land can become contaminated when hazardous substances are not used, stored or disposed of in a safe way. Contamination is not always limited to a specific site. Hazardous substances may seep through the soil into groundwater, or be carried to nearby land and waterways in rainwater or as dust. Hazardous gases can also pollute the air.

Risk to human health, or ecology, requires the presence of several factors and these need to be linked for a significant risk to be present.

**Risk = Hazard** (toxicity x quantity x mobility) x **Pathway** (contaminant x pathway barriers) x **Receptor** (varying sensitivity).

Contaminated land is a problem when the hazardous substances are at a concentration and/or are located where they have, or are reasonably likely to have, a significant adverse effect on human health and the environment. Contaminated land is a more urgent problem when contaminants are close to buildings and people, or close to water bodies and important habitats.

It is likely for the majority of West Coast sites that significant risks are not present, but this can change and needs to be assessed if there are earthworks or changes to land use. On rare occasions sites need remediation or require plans in order to manage risks. Some basic statistics from our register are:

- There are currently 533 sites on the WCRC HAIL register.
- For 70% of sites the presence or extent of contamination is not known (VERIFIED HAIL SITE: RISK NOT QUANTIFIED: Insufficient information to quantify adverse effects or risks) (Table 1).
- A range of activities and industries are present. The commonest five activities are ‘Service stations’ (40%), ‘Landfill’ (10%), ‘Substations’ (5%), ‘Hydrocarbon exploration’ (4%), and ‘Gasworks’ (4%)(Table 2).

The amount of science staff time dedicated to HAIL and contaminated land work is roughly estimated at 0.5 FTE per annum. This is a lot less than the time dedicated to other programs like surface water quality or air quality. Our primary tasks include: managing information and updating records when new information comes to light; responding to public information requests; and providing technical assistance where appropriate.

Most new information is gained during the consenting process from the likes of district councils, consultants, central government, or private landowners. A more proactive approach to updating the register could be pursued with more resourcing. Funding investigations involving soil testing are unlikely to be within the Council remit given the landowners responsibility and cost. The Contaminated Sites Remediation Fund (CSRF) provides a potential means to fund in part further investigation and remediation of land owned by private individuals.

The extent of a property associated with the HAIL activity is demarcated by a polygon on Council mapping software. Polygons are directed by property boundaries if there is insufficient information to define the extent in more detail and define a smaller area. This can seem contrived if the property is large and the activity is unlikely to have affected a large area. But it is a precautionary first step if greater detail is lacking. These polygons are often adjusted following the addition of more information on site history, or soil testing. An example of a WCRC HAIL site listing is provided in Appendix 1.

**Table 1: Classifications of West Coast WCRC HAIL sites.**

Classification	# sites
VERIFIED HAIL SITE: RISK NOT QUANTIFIED: Insufficient information to quantify adverse effects or risks.	375
VERIFIED HAIL SITE: MANAGED FOR INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL LAND USE	48

VERIFIED NON-HAIL: HAIL activity did not occur and was previously thought to have occurred due to an error.	32
VERIFIED HAIL SITE: SUITABLE FOR INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL LAND USE	25
VERIFIED HAIL SITE: MANAGED FOR RESIDENTIAL LAND USE	13
VERIFIED HAIL SITE: SUITABLE FOR RESIDENTIAL LAND USE - REMEDIATED	10
VERIFIED HAIL SITE: SUITABLE FOR INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL LAND USE - REMEDIATED	10
VERIFIED HAIL SITE: SUITABLE FOR RESIDENTIAL LAND USE	8
VERIFIED HAIL SITE: AT OR BELOW BACKGROUND	3
UNVERIFIED HAIL: HAIL land use information not confirmed.	2
VERIFIED HAIL SITE: AT OR BELOW BACKGROUND - REMEDIATED	2
VERIFIED HAIL SITE: CONTAMINATED FOR RESIDENTIAL LAND USE	2
VERIFIED HAIL SITE: SUITABLE FOR AGRICULTURAL LAND USE	2

**Table 2: Categories of West Coast WCRC HAIL sites.**

<b>HAIL category</b>	<b>Sites #</b>
F7. Service stations	213
G3. Landfill sites	52
B4. Power stations, substations or switchyards	27
E6. Hydrocarbon exploration or production	21
A7. Gasworks incl. gas manufacture from coal or oil feedstocks	20
F3. Engine reconditioning workshops	19
A18. Wood treatment or preservation or bulk storage of treated timber	18
A1. Agrichemicals including spray contractors commercial premises	17
B2. Electrical transformers incl. manufacturing, repairing or disposing	16
F6. Railway yards incl. workshops, refuelling or maintenance areas	16
A17. Storage tanks or drums for fuel, chemicals or liquid waste	15
G4. Scrap yards including automotive dismantling and wrecking	11
G6. Waste recycling or waste or wastewater treatment	11
F4. Motor vehicle workshops	10
E1. Asbestos products manufacture, disposal or deteriorated buildings	9
F1. Airports	9
A13. Petroleum or petrochemical industries	5
A2. Chemical manufacture, formulation or bulk storage	5
D5. Engineering workshops with metal fabrication	5
E7. Mining industries (excluding gravel extraction)	5
A5. Dry-cleaning premises or bulk storage of dry-cleaning solvents	3
C1. Explosive or ordinance production, disposal, bulk storage	3
D1. Abrasive blasting including cleaning and disposal	3
D4. Metalliferous ore processing	2
F8. Transport depots or yards	2
E2. Asphalt or bitumen manufacture or bulk storage	2
B3. Electronics incl. the manufacturing, reconditioning or recycling	2
E4. Commercial concrete manufacture or cement storage	2
G5. Waste disposal to land	2



E5. Coal or coke yards	1
A12. Pesticide manufacturing, blending, mixing or formulating	1
A6. Fertiliser manufacture or bulk storage	1
D2. Foundry operations	1
D3. Metal treatment or coating	1
F2. Brake lining manufacturers, repairers or recyclers	1
A14. Pharmaceutical manufacture	1

A polluter, occupiers or current owners (even if innocent parties) can all potentially be liable for contamination and the cost of the remediation under the RMA. Although where there are no significant effects, liability is usually only triggered when an application is made for consent to a new land use activity or for the land's rezoning, or if there is a discharge. Determining liability becomes more difficult with old historic sites, where the current landowner (often the crown) will be responsible for managing risks.

The National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health (NESCS) came into effect on 1 January 2012 and is a nationally consistent set of planning controls and soil contaminant values. They make sure that land affected by contaminants in soil is appropriately identified and assessed before it is developed.

If land is or has been affected by a hazardous activity or industry and one of the activities outlined below is undertaken, compliance with the NESCS is required.

- Removing or replacing of fuel storage systems or part of a fuel storage system.
- Soil sampling.
- Earthwork activities/soil disturbance.
- Subdivision of land.
- Change of land-use.

The enforcement of the NES:CS requirements sits with the territorial authority rather than the Regional Council.

### **The Contaminated Sites Remediation Fund**

The Contaminated Sites Remediation Fund (CSRF) was initiated in 1999 and is administered by MfE. The CSRF can provide financial assistance to owners of land that is considered high-risk to the environment, and where the landowner is unable to fund all costs associated with the remediation or management themselves.

The CSRF has been set up to help regional councils and unitary authorities facilitate the investigation, remedial planning, and remediation of sites that pose a risk to human health and the environment.

Most land that has been identified by local government as being contaminated can be remediated and managed at the time the land is being developed. However, some sites are unlikely to ever be cleaned up without significant financial assistance. This is because the landowners/parties who contaminated the land no longer exist or are unwilling or unable to remediate.

Funding from the CSRF is allocated to selected projects following consideration of the applications received during the funding round. Priority for funding is given to sites on the Ministry's Contaminated Sites Remediation Fund Priority List (none on West Coast). This list details the sites that pose (or are likely to pose) a high risk to human health, or those located in an environmentally sensitive area or an area of national/cultural significance.

Some criteria to be aware of are:

- Grants can cover up to 50% of costs.
- Any associated capital gain is recouped proportional to grant contributions.
- Crown land is not eligible.
- Projects have to be four staged – desktop study (not eligible), investigation, remedial planning, then remediation.

To date nine projects have been completed on the West Coast with a total cost of \$2,462,350.

### **DOC West Coast HAIL list**

Council was notified in March 2024 of a list, compiled by DOC, containing HAIL sites on public conservation land in the West Coast conservancy. These sites are a subset of a wider national DOC survey.

There are 301 of these sites on the West Coast. Risk screening and prioritization for further assessment has been undertaken by DOC with preliminary site investigations (PSI's) carried out for 24 sites. Further assessments are planned and risk screening will be re-run as more information is gained. As assessments can be costly and time consuming this work may take some time and will depend on what resources are available. In summary of the current information:

- One site is categorized as 'Unverified HAIL' (ie unsure if this had a HAIL activity), the rest are classified as 'Verified HAIL'.
- Approximately 48 sites are related to sites already listed on the WCRC HAIL/SLUS register.
- Eight sites are within the DOC national 50 high risk sites.
- For the majority of sites the presence or extent of contamination is unclear (Table 3).
- A range of activities and industries are present, but mining is the main HAIL activity for 80% of sites (Table 4).

**Table 3: Classifications of West Coast DOC HAIL sites.**

<b>Classification</b>	<b># sites</b>
Risk not quantified*	292
Managed for industrial commercial	4
Entered in error	2
Site suitable for industrial commercial	2
At or below background	1

\*Risk not quantified normally suggests a lack of sufficient information, e.g. no soil testing available to determine a more detailed designation.

**Table 4: Categories of West Coast DOC HAIL sites.**

<b>HAIL category</b>	<b>Sites #</b>	<b>HAIL category</b>	<b>Sites #</b>
Mining (including coal)	243	Hydrocarbon exploration	2
Metal treatment	56	Pest control	2
Landfill	24	Railway	2
Waste	16	Transformers	2
Electrical/power	13	Disposal	1
Vehicles	13	Electrical/power	1
Service station	12	Engines	1

Agrichemicals	6	Explosives	1
Chemical manufacture, application and bulk storage	6	Fertiliser	1
Engineering workshop	5	Ore Processing	1
Fuel and chemical storage	5	Pesticide manufacture	1
Asbestos	2	Timber treatment	1
Cement	2	Waste water treatment	1
Extraction	2		

## Considerations

### Implications/Risks

The Council needs to ensure that all available information on the register is provided to those that seek it so risks can be managed. This information needs to be as accurate as possible to ensure safety and financial costs are appropriate.

## Appendix 1: Example of HAIL/SLUS/SAHS site from the WCRC register.

IRISID	SLS-00000223
FileNumber	SAHS_223
SiteName	SAHS_223
Classification	VERIFIED HAIL SITE: RISK NOT QUANTIFIED: Insufficient information to quantify adverse effects or risks.
Context	UNKNOWN
HailYearFrom	Unknown
HailYearTo	
HAILGroup	F. Vehicle refuelling, service and repair
HAILCategory	F6. Railway yards incl. workshops, refuelling or maintenance areas
LetterComment	VNZ Numbers: 2562052600, 2562052700 Rail Reserve #Years of Operation: (?) to present (Many years) #Current Site Uses: Main Greymouth railyards #Primary Land Uses: Industrial, Recreational, Commercial, Residential, Lagoon #Approx Area: 3.01ha #Discharge Method: Spillage, leakage, possible direct discharge, flooding, transportation #Nearest Watercourse: Tarry Creek, Sawyers Creek #Ground Slope: Flat - slopes South #Hist. Data: West Coast Regional Council #Notes: Main Greymouth rail yard/storage area. Situated around Elmer Land and Herbert Street. Some features such as the Roundhouse and Wagon Workshops have been demolished. Summarised land titles include PPTY ID 81194 -81212 LO 2312, Offices and storage area, vacant site, ex wagon workshops, wagon depot, loco foremans office, LEA buildings, roundhouse loco repairs, loco amenity, loco store, Railtech customer engineering division, carpenters' shop, A C M S Amenity, painters' shop, fitters shop, old goods shed. In Grey River - Lagoon Flood Zone See WCRC flood maps and notes for details. 23/08/01 Tony White Environmental Engineer Tranz Rail Limited advised once contained a bunded AGT (Diesel) which was removed approx 1996. VERIFIED HAIL SITE: RISK NOT QUANTIFIED: Insufficient information to quantify adverse effects or risks to people or the environment from known HAIL activity. The site may not have been investigated, or if it has, sampling may be inadequate to assess risk, or some activities on site may not have been investigated. Contamination may have occurred but should not be assumed to have occurred.



<b>Report to:</b> Resource Management Committee	<b>Meeting Date:</b> 9 April 2024
<b>Title of Item:</b> Compliance and Enforcement Quarterly Report	
<b>Report by:</b> Chris Barnes, Manager Compliance	
<b>Reviewed by:</b> Darryl Lew, Chief Executive	
<b>Public excluded?</b> No	

### Report Purpose

For the Resource Management Committee to be kept informed of activities in the Compliance and Enforcement department, and to provide an update on current matters.

### Report Summary

This is the Compliance and Enforcement report for the January 2024 to March 2024 activities.

### Recommendations

It is recommended that Council/the Committee resolve to:

1. Receive the January 2024 to March 2024 report of the Compliance Group.

### Site Visits

A total of 111 site visits were undertaken during the reporting period, which consisted of:

Activity	Number of Visits
Resource consent monitoring	9
Mining compliance & bond release	25
Complaints	28
Territorial Authorities consent monitoring	8
Dairy farm	41

This report covers the period of 1 January 2024 to 26 March 2024.

- A total of 31 complaints and incidents were recorded.

### Non-Compliances

There were 7 non-compliances that occurred during the reporting period.

Activity	Description	Location	Action/Outcome	INC/Comp
Stockpiling	Strong winds scattered stockpiled mineral sand around the Westport business centre.	Westport	The company addressed the issue upon notification. They completed a clean-up operation and reported their findings to the Council. A subsequent inspection by a Compliance Officer confirmed the streets and building gutters were free of deposited matter.	Complaint
Gold Mining	Discharge of untreated water from a gold mining operation.	Awatuna	A site inspection by Compliance Officers revealed an underground leak from the processing area contaminating a historic mining pond which overflowed into Waimea Creek. The company were served with abatement and infringement notices.	Complaint
Dairy Farming	Installation of culvert in a waterway that's connected to Larry River that doesn't meet the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater Regulations.	Larrys Creek	Compliance Officers identified minor concerns regarding fish passage on the farmer's property. The farmer was briefed on the necessary steps to maintain a clear passage for fish, and the officers will be following up to ensure implementation.	Complaint

Creek Diversion	An applicant for a creek diversion was found to have completed the diversion without a resource consent being granted.	Dobson	A compliance officer inspected the work site and confirmed completion. However, there are concerns about the impact on the road and culverts. A full assessment is underway to determine the extent of the impact and decide on the most appropriate course of action.	N/A
Gold Mining	A gold mining exploration operation (consented) was found to be operating without a bond or annual work programme.	German Gully, Mt Fox	Our proactive monitoring identified a small gold mining project missing a lodged bond and work programme. The scope of the works was larger than what would normally be permitted without these approvals. The miner has since secured the bond, and we are awaiting the final work programme for review.	N/A
Ford Crossing	The installation of a ford crossing with multiple culverts at a creek crossing point has been found to not comply with National Environmental Standards for Freshwater regulations.	Waitangitahuna River, Whataroa	During a site visit, a Compliance Officer and a Consenting Officer observed that the ford is eroding the creek bed, likely reducing fish passage. An investigation is currently underway to determine the full extent of the issue.	Complaint

Dairy Farming	The Council was contacted regarding lime spray drift on to their property.	Karamea	A Compliance Officer contacted the farmer regarding a recent incident. The farmer expressed regret for the issue and provided a sincere guarantee that it wouldn't happen again. Since the neighbouring property owner had never experienced problems before and was satisfied with the farmer's apology, the Compliance Officer concluded that no further action was required.	Complaint
---------------	--	---------	---	-----------

**Other Complaints/Incidents**

Note: These are the complaints/incidents assessed during the reporting period whereby the activity was found to be compliant, or non-compliance is not yet established at the time of reporting.



Activity	Description	Location	Action/Outcome	INC/Comp
Odour	After hours received a call relating to a strong smell of sewage, it was said to have been around for the last four days.	Blaketown	An Officer visited the area and the complainant, no odour could be detected.	Complaint
Landfill	After hours call received regarding a strong odour coming from a landfill operation.	Coal Creek, Greymouth	An on-call Officer conducted a site visit and identified a very subtle landfill odour. This odour was only detectable from directly below the site and was not considered objectionable. The landfill operators were informed as a precaution.	Complaint
Landfill	After hours call received regarding a strong odour coming from a landfill operation. Two calls were received.	Coal Creek, Greymouth	The on-call Officer visited the area and could not detect any odour.	Complaint
Land Development	Notification was received around concerns with earthworks being carried out on a slope.	Chatterbox Creek, Mokihinui	An Officer carried out a site visit and found that all works were compliant.	Complaint
Road Works	After hours notification of a strong odour of tar from the late-night resealing operation.	Main South Road, Paroa	The on-call Officer visited the site, they could only detect a slight odour, the site supervisor said they will monitor the site to ensure no issues arise. No further actions.	Complaint
Dairy Farming	Notification from the District Council of a stock road crossing covered in cow effluent.	Poerua Valley Road, Hari Hari	With the information provided no breaches were found, no further information available.	Complaint
Gravel Extraction	Notification was received that a consented gravel extraction operation was working too close to the river.	Taramakau River, Camerons	The site was visited and found to be compliant.	Complaint

Waste Water Treatment	Regular monitoring by the Consent Holder showed a spike in discharge E. coli levels to the disposal cells. Surveillance of the site found an unusual stream of water emanating from below the site.	Waiho River, Franz Joseph	A Compliance Officer carried out sampling of the surface water below the site, this was found to be contaminated with E. coli bacteria. At the time these samples were taken the Waiho River was pushing up against the Havel Wall outside of the Wastewater Treatment ponds. Further works have been carried out on site to protect the Waiho River from cutting back up towards the pond, the area sampled is now under these works. Further enquiries are ongoing to pinpoint the source.	N/A
Road Works	A local landowner is worried that the new bunding along Waitangitaona Road, near the Waitangitahuna River, will disrupt the natural flooding patterns of the area. They're concerned that floodwater which usually overflows onto the land will now be directed downstream, causing increased flooding risks for properties there.	Whataroa	At the time of reporting no enquiries have been carried out.	Complaint
Gold Mining	Notification of the mining operation exceeding noise requirements.	Hokitika	An Officer visited the site and found that the site was not emitting excessive noise.	Complaint

Lifestyle Block	Complaint about a neighbour turning a drain into a wetland, which is causing water to back up on their property.	Blue Spur	Two Compliance Officers visited the site, no wetland or issues with water backing up were found.	Complaint
Power Generation	A local contacted the Council regarding the low flow in the Kaniere River, they believed this was because the power company were diverting too much water for their hydro power scheme.	Kaniere	A visit to the area found that there was sufficient flow in the river, a follow up with the power company and their records they hold showed that all consent conditions were being complied with.	Complaint
Dairy Farming	A complaint was passed onto the Council from the District Council's Health Officer relating to a chemical odour that seems to be persistent in the area.	Ahaura	The second time the Health Officer contacted the Council there were two Compliance Officers with 1km of the complainant's farm, they responded immediately. They could not source any odour around the farm boundaries but did find that a trailer onsite near the complainant's farm dwelling was full of rubbish bags that were emitting a strong odour. No further actions required.	Complaint

Lifestyle Block	The Council was notified about earthworks carried out on the lake edge.	Lake Brunner, Inchbonnie	During the site visit, a Compliance Officer discovered a small amount of gravel near the lakeshore. The Officer confirmed the gravel originated from off-site. While the landowner acknowledged clearing mud from a nearby inlet, the Officer deemed the amount minimal. Therefore, a letter outlining regulations concerning lakes and rivers was determined to be the appropriate enforcement action.	Complaint
Swimming Hole	The Council was notified that the swimming hole at Saltwater Creek was discoloured and smelt of sewage.	Saltwater Creek, Rutherglen	A Water Quality Technician and a Compliance Officer visited the site immediately after the notification and took water quality samples. Once analysed it was confirmed there were no water quality issues.	Complaint
Gold Mining	The Council received notification that there was dust emitting from a gold mining operation	Awatuna	A site visit was carried out, at the time the dust was not leaving the property, the miner still took steps (water cart and reduction of speed) to ensure no further issues. No further action.	Complaint
Landfill	A member of the public believed that a demolished house had been taken to a landfill and burned.	Dunganville	Two Compliance Officers carried out a visit, no burnt-out house was found. No further action.	Complaint

Gold Mining	Notification of the mining operation exceeding noise requirements.	Hokitika	The site has had several site visits with no record of excessive noise being determined, the consent conditions and the consent application are being reviewed to determine if the site is complying, the investigation is ongoing at the time of reporting.	Complaint
Landfill	Notification received regarding a strong odour coming from a landfill operation.	Coal Creek, Greymouth	Upon receiving a call about a foul odour, Officers visited the landfill site. They identified the odour as originating above the road during a short-term project by the landfill operator on the treatment ponds. A later visit verified the odour was no longer present.	Complaint
Rubbish Burning	The afterhours received a notification of a toxic burning smell which was impacting residents.	Runanga	The on-call Compliance Officer followed up with the caller. While the caller couldn't pinpoint the source of the smoke, it had ceased. No further action was required at the time.	Complaint
Sand Extraction	After hours complaint regarding up to 20 quad motorbikes removing sand from Hokitika beach, caller stated this had been ongoing for the last 3 weeks	Hokitika	The on – call Officer asked the caller to contact the council when this is occurring (as it was not happening at the time of the call). A follow up with one of the mining permit holders has not shed any light on the large group allegedly carrying this out.	Complaint

Landfill	Call received from the afterhours service relating to odour being detected at a residential property.	Coal Creek, Greymouth	An Officer visited the area and could not detect an odour, at the time of the visit, no wind was present.	Complaint
Gold Mining	Notification of Waimea Creek being discoloured from mining operations.	Awatuna	An Officer visited the area and found the lower reaches of Waimea Creek discoloured, no source to the sedimentation could be found.	Complaint
Sewage Discharge	The Council was contacted about a septic tank outlet pipe near a creek emitting a foul smell.	Te Miko, Punakaiki	Two Officers located the pipe and found that nothing was emitting from it, further enquires are still to be made at the time of preparing this report.	Complaint

#### **Update on Previously Reported Ongoing Complaints/Incidents**

Activity	Description	Location	Action/Outcome	INC/Comp
Dairy Farming	During a routine visit to a dairy farm, it was found that three of the farm's stock crossings had not been bridged.	Rotomanu	The farmer is currently in the process of applying for resource consent to address this issue.	N/A
Tourism	The Council was notified regarding a concrete slip way constructed in the Waiatoto River and the earthworks involved.	Waiatoto	A tourism operator constructed a concrete slipway and undertook earthworks in the Waiatoto River without obtaining the necessary resource consent. While the operator has been offered the opportunity to apply for a retrospective consent, it has not yet been granted. Further communication is ongoing to determine their intentions.	Complaint
River Works	The Council was notified about a bulldozer working in McCullough's Creek.	Hari Hari	The site was visited. It was found that a bulldozer had moved a small amount of gravel to the creek bank to form bank protection. Since this has happened, the persons carrying out this work have submitted a consent application to be able to continue any works in the creek bed. The applicant still is to have affected parties sign off.	Complaint

Gold Mining	While investigating an illegal discharge to a waterway, Compliance Officers discovered a second unauthorised discharge into Waimea Creek through another tributary.	Awatuna	This breach as well as several other breaches by this company are still under investigation.	N/A
Meat Processing	Self-notification from the operator relating to their yearly environmental reports not being credible for the past three years.	Kokiri	The breaches by this company are still under investigation.	N/A
Green waste	During a proactive visit to the area, it was observed that a green waste dumping area continued to operate adjacent to a District Council transfer station in Ross.	Ross	The community group has since submitted a resource consent application for processing.	N/A
Flood Protection Works	During a proactive gravel extraction visit, a Compliance Officer found that demolition waste had been deposited into the riverbed behind recent flood protection works.	Sergeants Hill	Update to this is that all contaminated material has been removed and the site re-tested to show no contamination. Enquiries has found that the contaminated materials were confined to the last load of clean fill deposited onsite. The investigation is still active.	N/A



Wastewater Treatment	The council was notified by the District Council of a discharge of raw sewage to Watsons Creek in Greymouth.	Greymouth	An improper disposal of wipes caused this discharge. Wipes are problematic for wastewater systems because they don't break down as quickly as toilet paper. They can snag on other debris, forming clogs in pipes, pumps, and treatment machinery. This can lead to sewage backups and overflows, creating health and environmental hazards. Compliance Officers verified wipes as the culprit in this incident.	N/A
Farming	A notification was received about land disturbance in the Coastal Marine Area, potentially affecting a historic shell midden in Okari.	Okari	Update to this investigation is that at the time of reporting a request for information from Heritage NZ has just been received relating to the site being a registered historic area. Investigations are ongoing.	Complaint
Lifestyle Block	Another agency notified the Council about a newly formed creek crossing causing the main road to flood during heavy rain events in Jacksons Bay.	Jacksons Bay	No action had been taken by the landowner to date, further actions to be recommended.	Complaint

Farming	Notification of cleanfill being deposited into the Orowaiti Lagoon.	Westport	All the cleanfill material put in place for bank reinstatement has been removed. The landowner has received a formal warning for the deposition.	Complaint
Gold Mining	The Council received notification of consistent water clarity issues in part of the Little Grey River in Upper Grey Valley. No bond or annual work programme were in place.	Upper Grey Valley	Both the bond and work programme have been submitted to the council and approved. No further action.	Complaint
Landfill	A complaint was made regarding odour emanating from a landfill in Coal Creek.	Coal Creek	The EPA has issued the company abatement notices to cease the discharge and remove the unlined treatment pond.	Complaint
Coal Mining	The Council was notified that the 10 Mile Creek was discoloured a dark colour.	10 Mile, Rapahoe	A follow up visit found that the miner has carried works to up grade the stormwater runoff collection and treatment ponds, as well as implementing a more robust system of scraping sludge off the roads when raining.	Complaint

Unknown	The Council received a notification from a concerned member of the public about sediment flowing down Giles Creek. They believe this is coming from a recently closed gold mining operation.	Sergeants Hill	A Compliance Officer visited the area and used a drone to survey the top of the creek, at the time of the visit no visible sediments were observed in the creek, but the Officer did note that there were several slips that would contribute to sediment flows. No issues found with the old gold mine site. No further action.	Complaint
Farming	Notification from the District Council relating to earthworks from where native vegetation has been felled and cleared.	Turnbull	Enquiries are still ongoing.	Complaint

#### **Formal Enforcement Action**

**Abatement Notices:** There was one abatement notice issued over this reporting period.

Activity	Location
Gold Mining: Unauthorised discharge to water	Awatuna

**Infringement Notices:** There was one infringement notice issued during the reporting period.

Activity	Location
Gold Mining: Unauthorised discharge to water	Awatuna

**Formal Warning Notices:** There was one infringement notice issued during the reporting period.

Activity	Location
Land reclamation: Unauthorised discharge to the CMA	Westport

## Mining Work Programmes and Bonds

The Council received 16 mining work programmes during the reporting period.

Date	Mining Authorisation	Holder	Location	Approved
04/01/2024	RC-2014-0031	Birchfield Coal Mines Limited	Strongman Mine	Y
12/01/2024	CML37159	Birchfield Coal Mines Limited	Strongman Mine	Y
12/01/2024	RC96051	Birchfield Coal Mines Limited	Giles Creek, Mai Mai	Y
12/01/2024	RC08067	West Coast Regional Council	Blackball	Y
17/01/2024	RC-2022-0118	Fahey Contracting Limited	Red Jacks, Notown	Y
18/01/2024	RC-2023-0025	Smith Diesel Services Limited	Quins Terrace, Greenstone	Y
18/01/2024	RC-2019-0141	Longford Holdings Limited	Adair Road, Rimu	Y
01/02/2024	RC-2021-0037	Birchfields Ross Mining Limited	Ross	Y
07/02/2024	RC-2015-0132	Phoenix Minerals Limited	Callaghans	Y
09/02/2024	RC12222	Graeme Hobbs	Nelson Creek	Y
19/02/2024	RC-2015-0109	Dempster Limited & Phoenix Minerals Limited	Callaghans	Y
23/02/2024	RC09120	Francis Mining Co Limited	Wellman Creek, Reefton	Y
23/02/2024	RC09035	Francis Mining Co Limited	Wellman Creek, Reefton	Y
23/02/2024	RC09108	Francis Mining Co Limited	Wellman Creek, Reefton	Y
25/02/2024	RC-2019-0007	David Eric Russ	Greek Creek, Waimea	Y
05/03/2024	RC-2020-0015	Philip Ross Hampton	Atarau	Y

The following bonds were received:

Date	Mining Authorisation	Holder	Location	Amount
1/02/2024	RC-2022-0110	Birchfield Minerals Limited	Mai Mai	\$16000
26/03/2024	RC-2019-0075	Aspiring Exploration Limited	German Gully, Māori Creek Road	\$6000



<b>Report to:</b> Resource Management Committee	<b>Meeting Date:</b> 9 April 2024
<b>Title of Item:</b> Consents Quarterly Report	
<b>Report by:</b> Leah Buchanan, Consents & Compliance Business Support Officer	
<b>Reviewed by:</b> Rachel Clark, Principal Consent Officer	
<b>Public excluded?</b> No	

### Report Purpose

For the Resource Management Committee to be kept informed of activities in the Consents department, and to provide an update on current matters.

### Report Summary

This is the Consents report for February and March 2024 activities.

### RECOMMENDATION

**It is recommended that the Committee resolves to:**

Receive the February and March 2024 report of the Consents Group.

### Site Visits

19/02/2024	RC-2024-0017 Delany Holdings Ltd Ngahere	Site visit with Consent officer and Council engineering officers associated with resource consent renewal application for Dairy discharge.
20/02/2024	RC-2024-0013 Department of Conservation Conns Creek	Site visit associated with resource consent application for road works and culverts with Consent Officer and Compliance Officer.
20/02/2024	RC-2024-0010 Buller District Council Karamea Bluffs	Site visit associated with resource consent application for road reinstatement with Consent Officer and Compliance Officer.
15/03/2024	RC-2024-0030 Drnasin Sharemilking Company Ltd Kowhitirangi	Site visit associated with resource consent application for dairy discharge with Consent Officer and Compliance Officer.
19/03/2024	RC-2024-0027 Department of Conservation Ship Creek, Haast	Site visit associated with resource consent application for board walk repairs with Consent Officer and Council Engineering Officer.
19/03/2024	RC-2024-0015 Colin Sutherland & Kirstie Folis Okuru River	Site visit associated with resource consent application for rock structure in Coastal area with Consent Officer and Council Engineering Officer.

### Non-notified Resource Consents Granted

Fifteen non-notified resource consent applications were granted between 01 February to 31 March 2024

RC-2024-0006 Grey District Council Seven Mile, Runanga	To disturb the Coastal Marine Area by depositing and constructing rock protection bund, Seven Mile, Runanga.
--	--

<p>RC-2024-0002 Rosco Contractors Ltd Buller River-Organs Island</p>	<p>To disturb the dry bed of the Buller River (Organs Island) for the purpose of removing gravel.</p>
<p>RC-2023-0077 Department of Conservation Pike Stream, Pike River Mine</p>	<p>To discharge groundwater from the closed Pike River Mine to Pike Stream.</p>
<p>RC-2024-0007 Birchfield Coal Mines Ltd Inangahua River</p>	<p>To disturb the dry bed of the Inangahua River for the purpose of removing gravel.</p>
<p>RC-2024-0005 Peter &amp; Karla Butel 192 Omoto Road, Greymouth</p>	<p>To discharge treated onsite sewage wastewater from a domestic dwelling at Omoto Road, Greymouth.</p>
<p>RC-2024-0011 Paul &amp; Meredith Fauth Welshmans, 7 Haydens Road</p>	<p>To discharge treated onsite sewage wastewater from a domestic dwelling at Haydens Road, Welshmans.</p>
<p>RC-2024-0016 Richard &amp; Sandy Lockhart 592 Lake Kaniere Road</p>	<p>To discharge treated onsite sewage wastewater from a domestic dwelling at Lake Kaniere Road.</p>
<p>RC-2024-0014 Quinton Moss 22B Wanganui Flat Road</p>	<p>To discharge treated onsite sewage wastewater from a domestic dwelling at Wanganui Flat Road, Hari Hari.</p>
<p>RC-2024-0024 Isaac Construction Limited Grey River – St Kilda, and Kiwi Point</p>	<p>To disturb the dry bed of the Grey River at St Kilda for the purpose of removing gravel.</p>
<p>RC-2023-0156 MCM Holdings Limited MP60679, Mossy Creek, Ikamatua</p>	<p>To disturb the dry bed of the Grey River at Kiwi Point for the purpose of removing gravel.</p>
<p>RC-2023-0156 MCM Holdings Limited MP60679, Mossy Creek, Ikamatua</p>	<p>To undertake earthworks and vegetation clearance associated with alluvial gold mining, Ikamatua.</p>
<p>RC-2023-0156 MCM Holdings Limited MP60679, Mossy Creek, Ikamatua</p>	<p>To take and use surface water from Mossy Creek and/or Mossy Creek unnamed tributaries associated with alluvial gold mining activities, Ikamatua.</p>
<p>RC-2023-0156 MCM Holdings Limited MP60679, Mossy Creek, Ikamatua</p>	<p>To take and use ground water via incidental seepage into ponds associated with alluvial gold mining activities, Ikamatua.</p>
<p>RC-2023-0156 MCM Holdings Limited MP60679, Mossy Creek, Ikamatua</p>	<p>To discharge sediment-laden water to land in circumstances where it may enter water (Mossy Creek and/or Mossy Creek unnamed tributaries).</p>

<p>RC-2024-0009 Blair Tinnelly and Katharina Pirker LOT 5 DP 350045 – 38 Beechwater Drive, Moana</p>	<p>To discharge treated onsite sewage wastewater from a domestic dwelling at Beechwater Drive, Moana.</p>
<p>RC-2022-0054 Belborough Holdings Limited Part Lot 1 DP 2898 - Ianthe Forest, within MP 60843</p>	<p>To undertake mining activities, including earthworks and vegetation clearance, in the Ianthe Forest and within MP 60843.</p> <p>To undertake earthworks associated with alluvial gold mining, in the Ianthe Forest and within MP 60843.</p> <p>To take surface water and groundwater via seepage associated with alluvial gold mining, in the Ianthe Forest and within MP 60843.</p> <p>To discharge contaminants namely sediments to land where it may enter water associated with alluvial gold mining, in the Ianthe Forest and within MP 60843.</p> <p>To discharge contaminants namely sediments to groundwater associated with alluvial gold mining, in the Ianthe Forest and within MP 60843.</p>
<p>RC-2024-0031 Harry and Amy Jensen RS 1377 BLK IX Arnold SD – Kaiata Road</p>	<p>To discharge treated onsite sewage wastewater from a domestic dwelling at Kaiata Road, Greymouth.</p>
<p>RC-2021-0161 BRM Developments Limited Ianthe Forest, MP52010</p>	<p>To undertake mining, including earthworks and vegetation clearance, in the Ianthe Forest and within Mineral Permit (MP) 52010.</p> <p>To undertake earthworks associated with alluvial gold mining, in the Ianthe Forest and within MP 52010.</p> <p>To take surface water and groundwater via seepage associated with alluvial gold mining, in the Ianthe Forest and within MP 52010.</p> <p>To discharge contaminants namely sediments to land where it may enter water associated with alluvial gold mining, in the Ianthe Forest and within MP 52010.</p> <p>To discharge contaminants namely sediments to groundwater associated with alluvial gold mining, in the Ianthe Forest and within MP 52010.</p>
<p>RC-2024-0025 Paul Steegh Contracting Ltd Buller River, Upper Buller Gorge</p>	<p>To disturb and excavate the dry bed of the Buller River (Upper Buller Gorge) for the purpose of removing gravel</p>



## Changes to Consent Conditions

Two applications to change consent conditions were granted in the period 01 February to 31 March 2024.

RC-2023-0043-V1  
Henry Arnold & Kerry Ann Adams  
Bruce Bay

Variation to change the onsite sewage wastewater system.

RC-2021-0094-V1  
Mossy Creek Mining (2020) Ltd

Variation to decrease total mining area.

## Consents processed and granted on behalf of Westland District Council

Two Consents granted for the period 01 February to 31 March 2024.

RC-2021-0161  
BRM Developments Limited  
Ianthe Forest, MP52010

To undertake mining, including earthworks and vegetation clearance, in the Ianthe Forest and within Mineral Permit (MP) 52010.

To undertake earthworks associated with alluvial gold mining, in the Ianthe Forest and within MP 52010.

To take surface water and groundwater via seepage associated with alluvial gold mining, in the Ianthe Forest and within MP 52010.

To discharge contaminants namely sediments to land where it may enter water associated with alluvial gold mining, in the Ianthe Forest and within MP 52010.

To discharge contaminants namely sediments to groundwater associated with alluvial gold mining, in the Ianthe Forest and within MP 52010.

RC-2022-0054  
Belborough Holdings Limited  
Part Lot 1 DP 2898 - Ianthe Forest  
within MP 60843

To undertake mining activities, including earthworks and vegetation clearance, in the Ianthe Forest and within MP 60843.

To undertake earthworks associated with alluvial gold mining, in the Ianthe Forest and within MP 60843.

To take surface water and groundwater via seepage associated with alluvial gold mining, in the Ianthe Forest and within MP 60843.

To discharge contaminants namely sediments to land where it may enter water associated with alluvial gold mining, in the Ianthe Forest and within MP 60843.

To discharge contaminants namely sediments to groundwater associated with alluvial gold mining, in the Ianthe Forest and within MP 60843.

## Freshwater Farm Plan Rollout

Our first Freshwater Management Unit, being the Hokitika FMU, went live on 1 February 2024. The Government has indicated that while Farm Plans are likely to remain a requirement, it wants to streamline the process. The

Government has indicated that Councils should take a 'light touch' with the Farm Plan rollout. As a result the Farm Plan rollout has been paused on the West Coast until a clear direction on how to proceed has been released by the Government.

### **TiGa Minerals and Metals, Barrytown Consent Hearing**

This hearing has now closed and the Commissioners are preparing their decision. At this stage the decision report is due to be complete by 23 April 2024.

#### **Implications/Risks**

There are no implications/risks associated with this report.

#### **Significance and Engagement Policy Assessment**

There are no issues within this report which trigger matters in this policy.

#### **Tangata whenua views**

In line with the implementation of Paetae Kotahitanga ki Te Tai Poutini Partnership Protocol in the Mana whakahono ā Rohe Resource Management Act Iwi Participation Arrangement, Poutini Ngāi Tahu are provided with the weekly consent applications received report.

This provides opportunity to alert Council of any resource consent applications received in the weekly table that are of particular interest to them. Iwi do alert Council of their interest in applications and are provided a copy of applications and made affected parties where appropriate.

#### **Financial implications**

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

#### **Legal implications**

All consents are prepared in accordance with the Resource Management Act and appropriate staff reports compiled to show the reasoning towards granting the consent.

Legal implications for all consents are a risk of judicial review by any party. A judicial review would involve the court reviewing a decision made by the Council and determining if correct process was followed or not. Should a review find that the correct process was not followed then the Court would recommend the process be revisited and reassessed. The main implications would be additional cost to the Council and reputational damage.

No judicial reviews have been instigated to date.

<b>Report to:</b> Resource Management Committee	<b>Meeting Date:</b> 9 April 2024
<b>Title of Item:</b> Quarter Three Biosecurity report	
<b>Report by:</b> Taylor Blyth, Biosecurity Coordinator; Sue Davies, Te Kinga Project Lead; Emily Rutherford-Jones, Biosecurity Coordinator; Shanti Morgan, Operations Manager VCS	
<b>Reviewed by:</b> Darryl Lew, Chief Executive	
<b>Public excluded?</b> No	

### Report Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide council with an update on quarter three of the Biosecurity work program for the 2023/2024 financial year.

### Report Summary

The West Coast Regional Council have developed an annual operating plan to deliver the objects and goals set within the Regional Pest Management Plan 2018-2028 and to fulfil the objectives of projects that are externally funded.

The intent of this report is to ensure that council are informed on the delivery of projects and any emerging risks and issues.

The 2023/2024 biosecurity annual work programme includes eleven key objectives, nine of which are on-track (Green), one delayed (Amber) and one unable to complete this Financial year (Red).

### Recommendations

**It is recommended that Council/the Committee resolve to:**

1. Receive the report.

### Issues and Discussion

#### Background

The West Coast Regional Council has a regional leadership role under the Biosecurity Act to implement the regions, Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP). The purpose of the plan is to minimize the actual or potential impacts of identified pests to the region’s economic, social, cultural, and environmental values.

The West Coast Regional Council’s RPMP intends for the council to provide regional biosecurity leadership by promoting alignment of pest control operations, promoting public support for pest management, administering the RPMP, and facilitating communication and co-operation between all parties involved in pest management both within the region and externally.

#### Current situation

To improve biosecurity leadership within the region the biosecurity team have been working to deliver eleven key objectives under the biosecurity annual operating plan. Commentary has been provided under each objective with a Red, Amber, Green (RAG) status to indicate how each objective is tracking against the plan.

**1. RPMP pest plant inspections with a renewed focus on improving data collection systems and supporting our community and landowners.**

**Status:** Green

**Commentary:**

Progressive containment RPMP work this quarter focused on purple pampas which flowers in February. The rapid growth and accumulation of biomass as a result of pampas infestations above and below ground results in a domination of light, moisture and nutrient supply which has impacts to the agricultural industry. In plantation forests, much of the fertiliser applied to trees is consumed by Pampas resulting in poorer growth rates of trees. In Westland and Buller, where Jobs for Nature projects are controlling purple pampas at a landscape level, WCRC biosecurity staff undertook control and delivered notices across all private land.

In the Grey District, staff have been working with landowners with large infestations of purple pampas to make control programs more effective and regular (Image 1). These are in Marsden, on the Taramakau, and in Rapahoe.

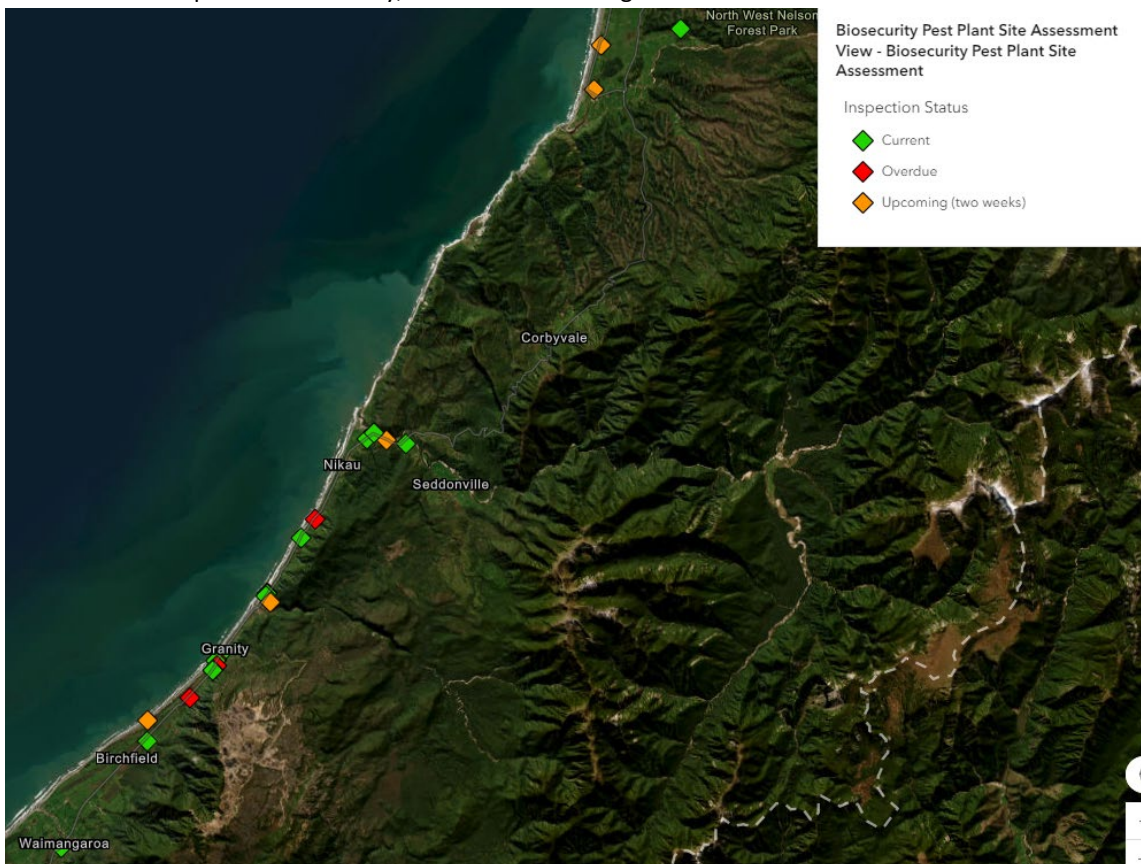
A minor amount of wild ginger was controlled throughout the region, mostly in the Buller where landowners requested assistance.

Biosecurity staff worked with the Senior Geographic Information Analyst to Emily finish building the biosecurity GIS system and all inspections are now recorded in the field on the app. This will significantly improve biosecurity planning in the future (Image 2). Inspections of properties known to have eradication species were also undertaken this quarter. One new woolly nightshade site was identified and controlled in Westport. WCRC took over a number of African Feathergrass sites, including some new sites, which DOC has historically managed but no longer fund due to the location of the plants being outside of DOC estate.

Next quarter, RPMP work will focus on white pampas inspections and control. This species was planted as hedgerows and once naturalised is a threat to braided rivers and coastal ecosystems, particularly estuaries. On the West Coast, there is naturalising spread in Hokitika, Greymouth, Coast Road, Cape Foulwind and Karamea. Unlike purple pampas, it is not self-fertilizing and therefore infestations are much easier to contain at an early stage.



Image 1 Purple pampas on ex forestry land. This is one of the worse infestations on the west coast but should be possible to progressively contain to low levels. Purple pampas is a production pest on plantation forestry, and will slow the regeneration of cleared forest.



Example of the new GIS system in how the biosecurity team will manage property inspections going forward

## 2. Proactive pest plant surveillance programme

**Status:** Green

### **Commentary:**

Biosecurity staff continue to undertake regular proactive pest plant surveillance as part of their RPMP pest plant inspection regime. Target species searched for and documented in locations previously unknown this quarter include but were not limited to Purple and White Pampas, Ginger, Purple loosestrife (progressive containment) and knotweed (Specific progressive containment areas- Karamea & coast road only). Species added to our surveillance search list which are not currently RPMP species but have been identified as spreading on the West Coast include Wild kiwifruit, Reed Sweet Grass (*Glyciera Maxima*), and Rice-Paper plant (*Tetrapanax papyrifer*).

This pest plant surveillance data will be assessed at the end of the financial year and options will be presented to council on how to best manage pest plant pathways and localised infestations moving forward. The GIS system will be instrumental in this process, providing staff and councillors with a regional picture of weed presence informing control. As more data is collected and mapped biosecurity action will become more informed.



Knotweed invading forest understory.



Knotweed (~2.5m height) overtaking the roadside

### 3. Aquatic pest plant surveillance in lakes

**Status:** Green

**Commentary:** TC Environmental have completed the field surveillance aspect of WCRC's Annual Lakes Surveillance Programme. Initial surveillance data indicates no major changes or new incursions of introduced aquatic weeds within the surveyed lakes. Environmental DNA samples that were collected as a complementary early detection tool have been sent off for analysis. A report of findings is being generated and will be shared in Quarter four.

### 4. Parrot's feather containment

**Status:** Green

**Commentary:**

Parrot feather (Progressive containment species) has significant ecosystem impacts but can also negatively impact agriculture impeding drains. Additionally, dense infestations of parrot feather can rapidly overtake small ponds and sloughs, changing their physical and chemical properties, including impeding water flow, which can result in increased flood duration and intensity. Parrot's feather control in Kongahu, the largest infestation on the coast and funded by the rating district was undertaken over January, initial results after the first treatment were poor; without being able to use Robinson helicopters we could not get to some parts of the infestation. The Biosecurity team are set to trial a drone sprayer in April which may be able to control all the infestation cost effectively.

Biosecurity staff are controlling a site in Kaniere using herbicides and hand weeding. The long-term goal for this site is to continue to hand weed the parrot's feather to maintain near zero density and ensure there is no risk of spread.

Weed free Tai Poutini staff funded through the DOC Jobs for Nature project identified a new, estimated two-year-old parrot's feather site in Ruatapu, and biosecurity staff will attempt to eradicate this weed from the site using salt. The identification of this site raises the likelihood that there is at least one more unknown site in or around Hokitika.

DOC is continuing to monitor a historic site in Greymouth and is managing a site in Birchfield's wetland. Additionally, a further site at Gillows Dam is being managed privately, moving forward it will be managed by three landowners including DOC. WCRC have requested to be kept up to date and are providing technical advice. Staff have been instructed not to visit a historic site near Westport until safety concerns are addressed and its status remains unknown.



Image three: Parrots feather root mass. Parrots feather is a serious threat to drainage on the West Coast

## 5. Biosecurity education and advocacy

**Status:** Green

**Commentary:** Biosecurity Staff attended the annual Okarito community Gorsebusters event in March. Gorsebusters is a nationally recognised event attracting about one hundred volunteers a year from across the country to help maintain and restore the significant natural values of the Okarito Lagoon. While out cutting gorse, volunteers report sightings of other exotic species in the lagoon to biosecurity staff, contributing to WCRC's proactive surveillance program. Biosecurity staff controlled a small amount of tradescantia and tutsan in the lagoon. GorseBusters has been acknowledged as a finalist in the 2024 New Zealand Biosecurity Awards in the Community Award category.

The summer freshwater biosecurity advocacy program Check, Clean, Dry is close to wrapping up with two more events to attend in the calendar. An advocate has attended 10 local events



and spent several hours visiting popular waterbodies reaching freshwater users and promoting good cleaning practices in hopes to reduce the spread of aquatic invasive species.



Check, Clean, Dry flag at Lake Kaniere Triathlon

## 6. Marine pest surveillance program

**Status:** Green

**Commentary:** The TC Environmental dive team conducted a day of marine surveillance at Jacksons Bay in January. WCRC Biosecurity staff accompanied the dive team on the day taking the time to engage with public in the area. Overall, feedback from local wharf users was encouraging, with many already demonstrating a good understanding and practice of marine biosecurity measures. e.g. cleaning hulls regularly, particularly when visiting places such as Bluff and Fiordland.

The surveillance involved scanning the pier, inspecting the moorings, and conducting seabed transects. Boat hull surveillance was conducted on one vessel present with occupier permission. The majority of the vessels present on the day arrived to the area on trailers via land.

While conducting surveillance the dive team encountered an unknown species located underneath one of the moorings. As this year's marine surveillance is a baseline for how WCRC biosecurity team manages the risks associated with the area, the dive team are returning to collect samples of the unknown species to get a formal identification from NIWA scientists. A report will be compiled of findings and presented in Quarter Four.



Photo of the divers conducting the scan of the pier and picture of the unknown species of fan worm.

## 7. Jobs for Nature Weed Projects

**Status:** Green

**Commentary:** A willow control contract under the Sustainable Wild Whitebait Project funded by DOC has been extended to June 30.

WCRC has continued to support the two Jobs for Nature projects in Buller and Westland with technical advice, contacting landowners, and carrying out RPMP compliance work.

All three of these projects will finish in June 2024, and WCRC will take on management of the most regionally significant sites, at a scaled down level, using contractors.

## 8. Predator Free Te Kinga project

**Status:** Green

**Commentary:** Community engagement with the project continues to grow and this quarter included a field day with Lake Brunner School, collaboration with the Tai Poutini Polytech and Papa Taio EarthCare Academy, and a visit from members of the Conservation Board from Canterbury, Westcoast, and Nelson. Our social media channels are active, and the monthly newsletter has been reinstated. Three of our project staff attended the national Predator Free 2050 Ltd. Hui in Waiheke Island.

The final trap/device lines have been cut on Mount Te Kinga. All monitoring devices are now installed giving the mountain a grid of more than 80 devices at around 35ha spacings which will be ready to detect any reinvasion after the aerial 1080 knockdown which is planned for August 2024. Rodent monitoring to support the aerial operation application has been carried out on Mount Te Kinga and the nearby Hohonu range. Planning for the proposed aerial operation in August is well underway and successful collaboration with OSPRI has ensured that surrounding ranges, including the Nancy/Ahaura block and the Hohonu block (around 85,000ha in total), will be treated concurrently with Te Kinga aerial operation this winter.

A drone with thermal imaging capability was purchased and will initially be used to as a seeking tool for possums in conjunction with a hunter on foot on the forest fringes around the base of the mountain. The project has also hosted an embedded research project to determine the potential for drone based thermal imaging with Artificial Intelligence to detect possums in forest canopy. If the trial proves positive, our drone will also serve as part of a suite of ‘proof of absence’ tools. More sensitive microphones and a rain proof housing were added to the Audiomoth acoustic devices which will be installed with the next device service run on the mountain.

We anticipate that the new automated trap system with Ai will be delivered within the next quarter. Installation of this system will take the bulk of the next quarter and is planned to be complete before the planned aerial operation in August.

Initial planning and investigation of future funding sources has begun with potential for collaboration between PF2050 landscape projects.

## 9. Regional leadership

**Status:** Green

**Commentary:**

WCRC held the first West Coast Weeds Working Group meeting with representatives involved in pest plant management in each of the four DOC district offices, and four Jobs for Nature projects: SWWF, Weed Free Tai Poutini, Project Flora, and Arahura.

This is a good chance to share information on weed control across the coast, but WCRC is yet to establish a Governance Group that this technical group can report to.

Following four Wallaby reports in Westland, the biosecurity officers attended a Wallaby Response training workshop held by Environment Canterbury. WCRC staff will now be able to respond to future reports appropriately. After discussion with ECan staff we believe wallabies are unlikely to be present in South Westland, however, it is not impossible. The National Wallaby Eradication Programme holds a contingency fund for an incursion response on the West Coast.

region	Date	Observation	Response
West Coast	Jun-23	SH6 S Knights Pt - 1 alive	Cameras – nil , dogs - nil
West Coast	Oct-23	SH 6 Knights Pt - 2 alive	Cameras - nil, dogs - nil
West Coast	Nov-23	SH 6 Waitaha - 1 roadkill	DOC visit - nil
West Coast	Feb-24	S of Haast - 1 alive	scat unlikely looking

WCRC met with Kiwifruit Vine Health and Project Flora to discuss the future of wild kiwifruit management on the West Coast. Following initial knockdown and control by Jobs for Nature teams, WCRC will monitor known sites, and KVH will fund control of these sites. Wild kiwifruit is a threat to native biodiversity, is a plantation forestry weed, and a reservoir for diseases which threaten the kiwifruit industry.

Biosecurity staff spent a day in the field in Murchison with the Tasman District Council biosecurity team. Weed threats across the Tasman – West Coast boundary were discussed. These include Old man’s beard, Chocolate vine, Reed sweet grass and Yellow bristle grass. Staff learned about how the TDC biosecurity team approach RPMP compliance with landowners in the Tasman District. WCRC also met with Environment Canterbury to discuss a similar exchange, and the possibility of some involvement of the Biosecurity Southern Alliance, which is between ECan, Otago Regional Council and Southland Regional Council. Further discussions were held with Environment Canterbury (ECan) relating to revisions of their RPMP, there is an opportunity for ECan and WCRC to undertake RPMP reviews together resulting in cost sharing and benefits related to a joint approach to pest management between the regions.

#### **10. Biosecurity strategic plan**

**Status:** Red

**Commentary:** A decision has been made to delay the development of a biosecurity strategic plan due to resourcing issues across the planning department and regional planning priorities. This work will be re forecast within the next Long-Term Plan.

#### **11. Stakeholder relationships and contribute to national biosecurity direction.**

**Status:** Amber

**Commentary:** Biosecurity staff continue to work with Kiwirail to carry out initial pest plant surveillance along tracks in the region which are a known mechanism for pest plant spread. Buller District Council have drafted a management plan for pest plants on road reserve in the Buller District, which WCRC have provided feedback on.

WCRC have established clear communication lines with Grey District Council regarding pest plants on District Council administered land. GDC have committed to controlling RPMP species where directed by biosecurity staff. This will be where pests are limited in distribution and are a threat to environmental, social or economic values.

Moving forward the biosecurity team plan to undertake political engagement between senior staff counsellors and agricultural groups such as Federated farmers around our biosecurity activities, this is forecast for the 2024/2025 FY.

### **Considerations**

#### **Significance and Engagement Policy Assessment**

There are no issues within this report which trigger matters in this policy.

**WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**To: Chair, West Coast Resource Management Committee**

*I move that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely – **item 10, 11, and 12 (all inclusive)** due to privacy and commercial sensitivity reasons and that:*

1. *Darryl Lew and Chris Barnes, be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public have been excluded due to their knowledge of the subjects. This knowledge will be of assistance in relation to the matters to be discussed; and*
  
2. *That the minutes taker also be permitted to remain.*

<b>Item No</b>	<b>General Subject of each matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Ground(s) under section 7 of LGOIMA for the passing of this resolution</b>
10.1	<i>Confidential Minutes of Meeting – 5 March 2024</i>	<i>The item contains information relating to commercial, privacy and security matters</i>	<i>To protect commercial and private information and to prevent disclosure of information for improper gain or advantage (s7(2)(a), s7(2)(b), and s7(2)(j)).</i>
11	<i>Actions List</i>	<i>The item contains information relating to commercial, privacy and security matters</i>	<i>To protect commercial and private information and to prevent disclosure of information for improper gain or advantage (s7(2)(a), s7(2)(b), and s7(2)(j)).</i>
12	<i>Taylorville Verbal Update</i>	<i>The item contains information relating to commercial, privacy and security matters</i>	<i>To protect commercial and private information and to prevent disclosure of information for improper gain or advantage (s7(2)(a), s7(2)(b), and s7(2)(j)).</i>