



Our Ref A610586

Committee meetings Thursday 4 September 2014

Following are the agendas for the Committee meetings to be held on Thursday 4 September commencing at 8.30 am. The venue is the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin, and members of the public are welcome to attend. Full technical reports referred to in the committee reports are available on the Council website, or by contacting the Committee Secretary – see contact details below.

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janet Favel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Janet Favel
Committee Secretary

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OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL**Agenda for a meeting of the Technical Committee to be held
in the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin
on Thursday 4 September 2014 commencing at 8.30 am**

Membership:

Cr Bryan Scott (Chairperson)
Cr Doug Brown (Deputy Chairperson)
Cr Graeme Bell
Cr Louise Croot MNZM
Cr Michael Deaker
Cr Gerrard Eckhoff
Cr Gary Kelliher
Cr Trevor Kempton
Cr Sam Neill
Cr Gretchen Robertson
Cr David Shepherd
Cr Stephen Woodhead

Apologies:

Leave of Absence:

In attendance:

Please note that there is an embargo on agenda items until 8.30 am on Tuesday 2 September.

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

PUBLIC FORUM

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 July 2014, having been circulated, for adoption.

Matters arising from minutes

PART A - RECOMMENDATIONS

Item 1

2014/0758 **Flood and Erosion hazard information for the upper Clutha Valley between Queensberry and Lake Dunstan.** DEHS, 29/7/14

The report summarises the full technical report 'Flood and erosion hazard in the Clutha River/Mata-Au between Queensberry and Lake Dunstan' (circulated with the agenda) which draws on the results of earlier technical investigations, and recent modelling of flood hazard in the Upper Clutha Valley.

Item 2

2014/1077 **Channel morphology of the Waianakarua and Shag rivers.**
DEHS, 29/7/14

Two reports 'Channel morphology of the Waianakarua River, Otago' and 'Channel morphology of the Shag River/Waihemo, Otago' are circulated with the agenda. The reports summarise the results of surveys of cross-sections of the Waianakarua and Shag rivers.

PART B – ITEMS FOR NOTING

Item 3

2014/0941 **Director's Report on Progress.** DEHS, 9/7/14

The report describes progress with Council's flood protection, land drainage and river management programmes, and the management of natural hazards and civil defence and emergency management, and provides an overview of significant activities undertaken by the Resource Science Unit.

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Technical Committee held in the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on Thursday 24 July 2014 commencing at 9.40 am

Present:

Cr Bryan Scott (Chairperson)
Cr Doug Brown (Deputy Chairperson)
Cr Graeme Bell
Cr Louise Croot MNZM
Cr Michael Deaker
Cr Gerrard Eckhoff
Cr Gary Kelliher
Cr Trevor Kempton
Cr Sam Neill
Cr David Shepherd
Cr Stephen Woodhead

Apologies:

Cr Gretchen Robertson
 The apology was accepted on the motion of Crs Scott and Deaker.

In attendance:

Peter Bodeker
Wayne Scott
Jeff Donaldson
Jane Leahy
Fraser McRae
Gavin Palmer
Matt Dale
Deborah Mills
Sarah Ibbotson
Janet Favel

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 June 2014, having been circulated, were adopted on the motion of Crs Scott and Shepherd.

Matters arising from minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

ITEMS FOR NOTING

Item 1

2014/0983 **Air quality in Otago – Issues and Considerations.** DEHS, 10/7/14

The report examined the issue of wood burner use in Otago, reviewed the current air quality management strategy, and re-framed air quality issues in light of what had been learned over the past 10 years. Councillors commended the report.

Concern was expressed that solutions were seen as being restricted to what was put into the air, whereas the core issues were the climate and the inversion layer. It was suggested that other potential solutions such as the principles of frost fighting be investigated.

It was noted that Otago towns had some of the highest heating demands in the country, and improvements to the housing stock such as insulation and double glazing were noted. There was concern around the resilience in relying on one source of power (electricity), and comment was made that communities should be able to utilise woodburners. Councillors supported the eight elements of a reasoned approach to future air quality management, as listed in Item 8 of the report.

It was noted that the national targets for Airshed 1 were not going to be met, and Ms Mills commented that there were health issues in not meeting the minimum standards. She pointed out that there were restrictions on industries in Airshed 1 towns, and emissions that reached ground level were not allowed to exceed 2.5 micrograms per cubic metre. If the effect was greater than that, they had to take out of the airshed the total emissions they put in.

Comment was made that it was important to consolidate and build on what had been achieved over the last 10 years. There had to be a balance between clean air and being compassionate.

It was suggested that the PC6A approach could be applied to air emissions – measure the discharge from chimneys rather than looking at the type of fuel used. The importance of central government commitment was noted, and the option of different electricity prices in different areas was suggested.

In response to a reference to behavioural change, Mr Donaldson noted the establishment of the Cosy Homes Group in Dunedin. The Group was investigating becoming a trust, and would provide fires, insulation, double glazing, and drapes at subsidised rates. In Central Otago people with community services cards could receive 100% funding for insulation, and a \$2,000 subsidy on a heating appliance.

Cr Deaker moved
Cr Shepherd seconded

That the report be received.

Motion carried

The meeting adjourned at 10.28 am, and reconvened at 10.46 am.

Item 2

2014/0993

Lindis River Catchment Residual Flows. DEHS, 9/7/14

The report discussed a study carried out to monitor flows at six sites in tributaries of the Lindis River to gain an understanding of hydrological characteristics at the sub-catchment level and to calculate a naturalised flow for the entire Lindis Catchment. A summary of the study was circulated with the report.

It was noted the study had found that the tributaries contributed more water to the Lindis than originally thought. The water was taken out by a combination of deemed permits and RMA consents, and there had been no way of measuring it because it was taken out before the tributary reached the river. Through the consenting process those takes would remain because they were being used, but once deemed permits expired they would be required to apply the minimum flow.

In response to a question Mr Dale explained that the rate of take might not change, but the surety of supply would change, and consent holders might not be able to take their full allocation during low flow periods.

Cr Shepherd moved
Cr Brown seconded

That the report be received.

Motion carried

Item 3

2014/0992

Pisa Range Residual Flows. DEHS, 9/7/14

The report discussed a study carried out to better understand the spatial and temporal distribution of water within the Pisa Range tributaries. A summary of the study was circulated with the report.

Mr Dale advised that there was currently no minimum flow process on the tributaries; the purpose of this study was to inform future decisions.

Cr Brown moved
Cr Kempton seconded

That the report be received.

Motion carried

Item 4
2014/0981

Coastal Morphology of South Otago: Nugget Point to Chrystalls Beach. DEHS, 10/7/14

The report explained that an analysis of recent and historic changes in the onshore and offshore coastal environment had been undertaken to help inform one of the conditions of Contact Energy Ltd's consent for Roxburgh Dam. The work was fully described in the report 'Coastal morphology of South Otago: Nugget Point to Chrystalls Beach' which was circulated separately with the agenda.

In response to a question Dr Palmer stated that implications of the 3.3m/year dune retreat on the flood protection and drainage scheme asset would have to be taken into account in preparation of the Long Term Plan.

A question was raised about the effect of sediment from the Roxburgh dam. Dr Palmer explained that the purpose of the investigation was to establish a base line, to which further information would be added as it became available. There was information available on the shoreline position, but not on the offshore position.

Dr Palmer further explained that both ORC and Contact Energy had now carried out the work required by Contact Energy's consent conditions. The overall investigation would be repeated in 10 to 15 years, with work on the shoreline possibly every 10 years.

He further noted that this had been communicated to Contact Energy and to Clutha District Council, and the issues had been covered at the annual Lower Clutha Drainage Liaison Group meeting at the beginning of the year.

In response to a query Dr Palmer explained that Contact Energy was required by a consent condition to survey the bed of Lake Roxburgh every two years. The company had sought to change this to every five years. Several surveys had been carried out to determine changes in lake bed.

Cr Woodhead moved
Cr Kelliher seconded

That the report be received.

Motion carried

Item 5
2014/0957

Update on South Dunedin Groundwater monitoring and sea level rise. DEHS, 8/7/14

The report presented an update on ORC's groundwater monitoring, incorporating observations made subsequent to that reporting. Dr Palmer explained that the report was requested by the Committee to update monitoring undertaken in 2009, and included an update on existing bores and the new bore.

Comment was made that DCC and ORC needed to work collaboratively to project climate change and sea level rise effects for the next 50 to 100 years.

Cr Woodhead proposed an additional recommendation 'That Council work collaboratively with DCC on the climate change adaption work programme with respect to the South Dunedin harbourside area.' Cr Kelliher seconded the motion.

Cr Woodhead noted that DCC was considering a report on this issue at their meeting today, and their report had a similar recommendation. Dr Palmer commented that all information that the ORC held on South Dunedin natural hazards had been provided to the DCC.

In response to a question, Cr Woodhead explained that the purpose of the additional recommendation was to publicly formalise the ORC's desire to work collaboratively with the DCC on the issue. He commented that the ORC was required by the RMA to supply hazards information to the DCC, but would not tell the DCC how to use that information. Dr Palmer pointed out that ORC and DCC had joint responsibility for hazard management and any pre-existing risk around land management, and noted that ECan had been criticised after the Canterbury earthquakes for not having provided this information.

The two recommendations were taken separately:

Cr Woodhead moved
Cr Kelliher seconded

That Council work collaboratively with DCC on the climate change adaption work programme with respect to the South Dunedin harbourside area.

Motion carried

Cr Croot moved
Cr Shepherd seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

Item 6
2014/0941

Director's Report on Progress. DEHS, 9/7/14

The report described work on proposed changes to the natural hazards provisions of the Dunedin District Plan, and progress on Leith Flood Protection Scheme works and Kakanui/Kauru River management.

Cr Brown advised that Mr Ray Lawrence, a member of the Kakanui flood warning group, had given notice of his intention to retire from the group, and suggested that he be formally thanked for his services to the management of the Kakanui River. Mr Bodeker was to write to Mr Lawrence, and an article was to be included in the next issue of 'Otagowide'.

Note was made of the well attended DCC District Plan and natural hazards meeting held in Mosgiel the previous night. A lot of interest was shown in the presentations, which provided better defined information about the hazards of the area.

Councillors commended work on the clocktower reach of the Leith, and in response to a question Mr Bodeker advised that the project was progressing on time and within the revised budget.

Cr Croot moved
Cr Woodhead seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

The meeting closed at 11.30 am.

Chairperson

REPORT

Document Id: A617129

Report No: 2014/0758

Prepared For: Technical Committee

Prepared By: Michael Goldsmith, Manager Natural Hazards and Jacob Williams,
Natural Hazards Analyst

Date: 29/7/2014

**Subject: Flood and erosion hazard information for the Upper Clutha Valley
between Queensberry and Lake Dunstan**

1. Précis

The report '*Flood and erosion hazard in the Clutha River/Mata-Au between Queensberry and Lake Dunstan*' has been prepared, drawing on the results of earlier technical investigations, and recent work undertaken to model flood hazard in the Upper Clutha Valley. Hazard maps have been created to describe valley floor areas which are subject to river flooding; alluvial fan areas which are subject to debris and/or flood flows; and terrace margins which are vulnerable to erosion hazard.

The Upper Clutha Valley has experienced population growth over the last decade, and this work has been undertaken to enable the local community to make informed decisions about the risks associated with flood and erosion hazards. It is proposed that this information is provided to the Central Otago District Council to be included in their review of the Central Otago District Plan, and is explained to the Upper Clutha Valley community.

2. Flood hazard

Current knowledge about flood hazard in the Upper Clutha Valley between Queensberry and Lake Dunstan is based on observations of three significant flood events in the 1990's (including the November 1999 flood). To enable a better understanding of potential flood hazard effects in this area, a numerical hydraulic model has been developed by Opus International Consultants. The model has been used to identify the area likely to be affected by a flood with an estimated return period of 100 years (Figure 1). Such a flood would result in a flow of approximately 1,685m³/s in the Clutha River/Mata-Au above the confluence of the Lindis River and 2,082m³/sec below the confluence. This is larger than the peak flow of 1,800m³/s experienced during the November 1999 flood. The model can also be used to estimate the flood hazard associated with other scenarios, including larger flood events, and the effect of ongoing sedimentation in the Upper Clutha Arm of Lake Dunstan.

The main differences between the extent of the modelled flood area and the observed flood hazard map are on the true right bank opposite the Lindis river confluence and on the true left bank near the junction of SH8 and Bendigo Loop Road (Figure 1). At these locations the modelled flood area extends beyond that of the observed flood hazard map.

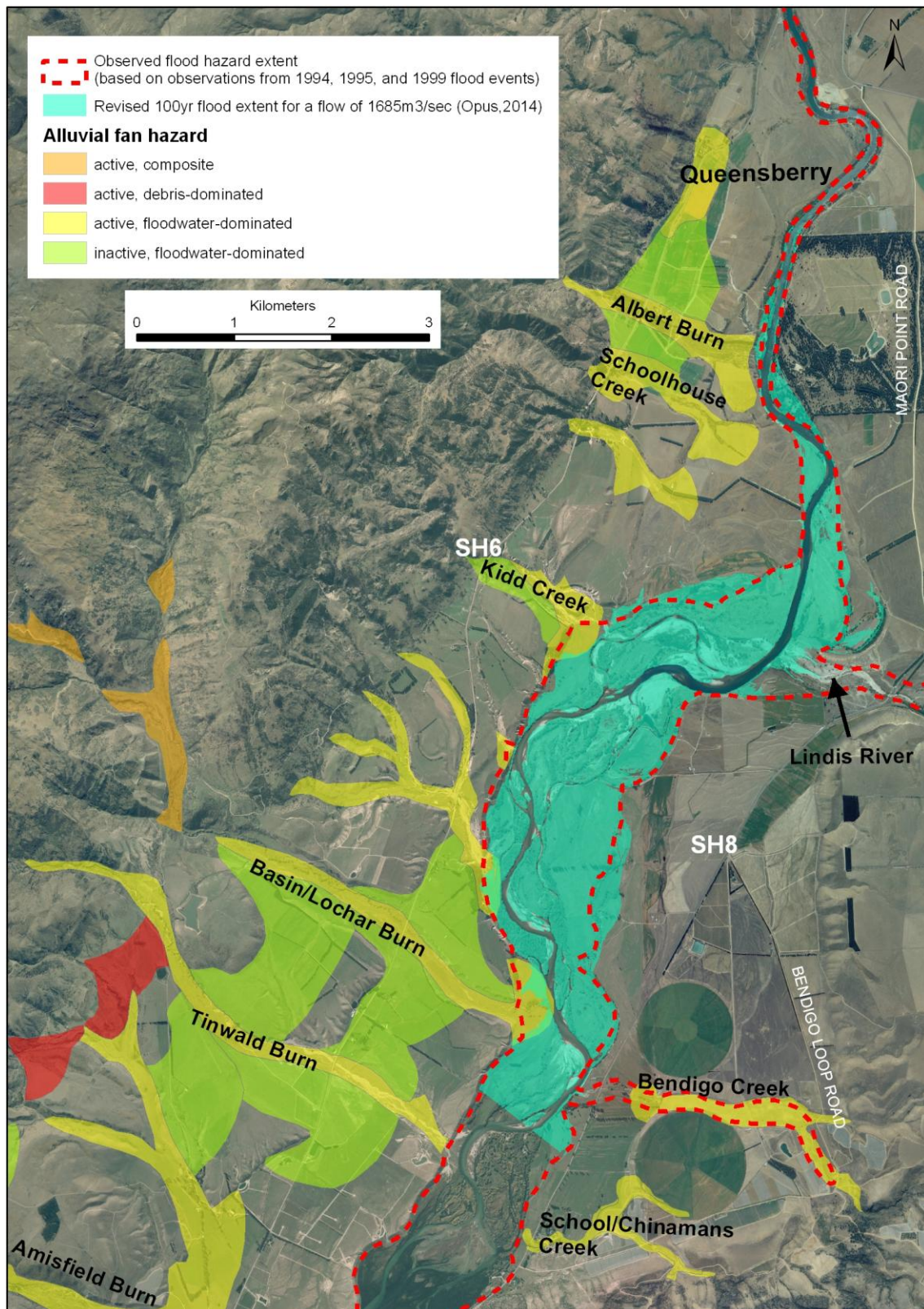


Figure 1. The margins of the Clutha River which are likely to be inundated during a 1:100 year flood (area shaded blue). Alluvial-fan deposits on the margins of the river are also shown (as reported in ORC, 2007).

3. Alluvial fan hazard

The margins of the Upper Clutha Valley are subject to hazards associated with alluvial fan activity (Figure 1). Active floodwater-dominated alluvial fans which may present a hazard, either separately, or in conjunction with flooding in the Clutha River have previously been reported.¹ These include the lower reaches of the Tinwald Burn, Basin / Lochar Burn, Kidd Creek, Schoolhouse Creek and Albert Burn on the western side of the valley, and Bendigo Creek and Chinaman's Creek on the east.

4. Erosion hazard

An erosion hazard map has been created, primarily using LiDAR and aerial photography (Figure 2). This shows the likelihood of erosion occurring along each length of terrace, based on its proximity to the active channel, recent activity, and local topography. Four categories of erosion hazard were identified:

- i. 'Active' where erosion is currently occurring,
- ii. 'High' where erosion of the river bank or terrace riser is likely to occur in the near future if lateral migration of the river channel continues as at present,
- iii. 'Moderate' where terrace risers are on the margins of the floodplain, but currently well back from the main channel, and
- iv. 'Low' where river terraces are beyond the current extent of the floodplain.

¹ ORC, 2007. Report 2007/274. Otago Alluvial Fans Hazard Identification. Prepared for Engineering and Hazards Committee, Otago Regional Council, 1 June 2007.

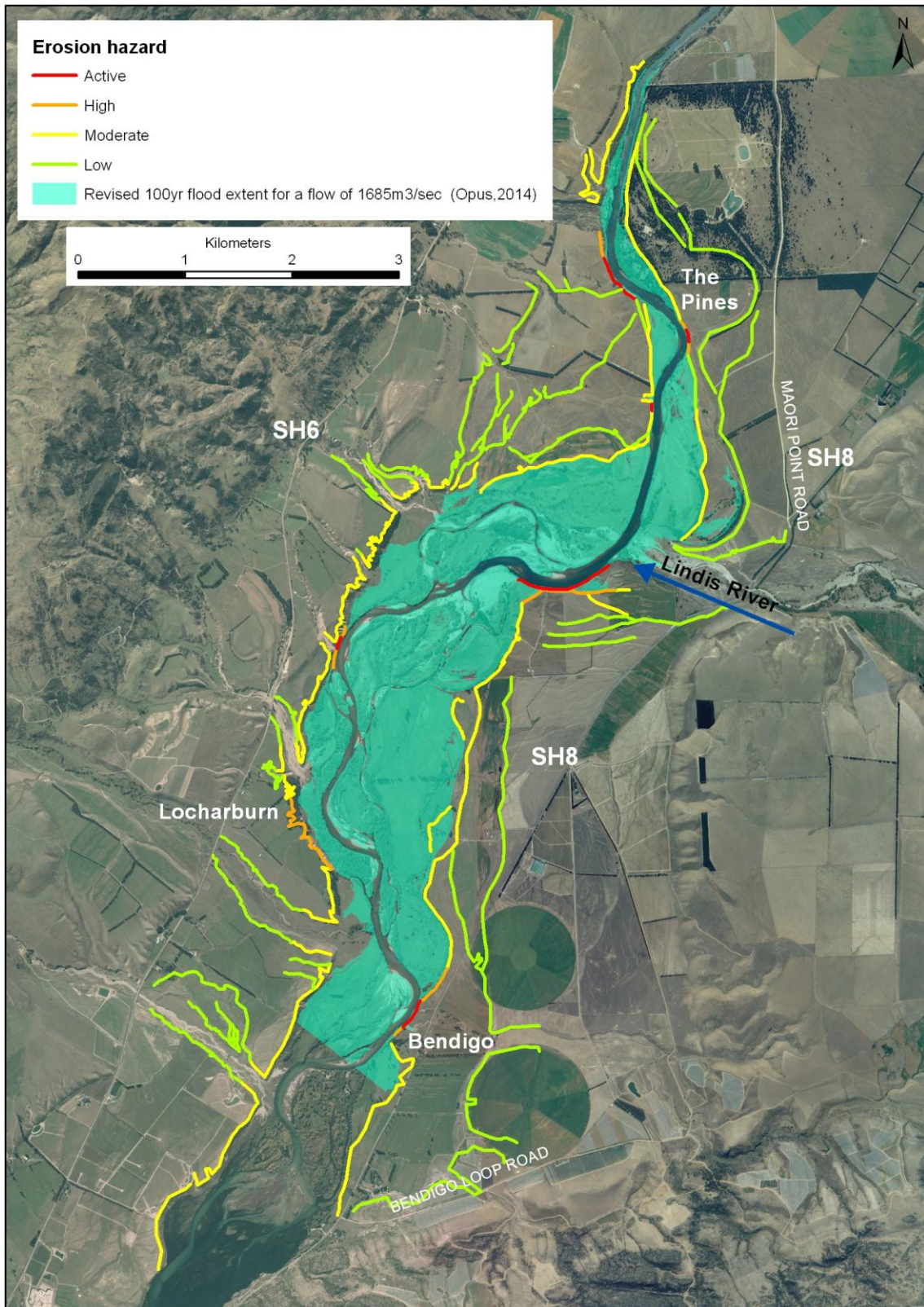


Figure 2. Erosion hazard map

5. Recommendations

That:

1. The report '*Flood and erosion hazard in the Clutha River/Mata-Au between Queensberry and Lake Dunstan*' is received.
2. The Upper Clutha Valley community is informed of the revised hazard information at a community meeting.
3. The report and its associated flood hazard maps are provided to the Central Otago District Council for incorporation into the revision of the Central Otago District Plan.

Gavin Palmer

Director Engineering, Hazards and Science

REPORT

Document Id: A656989

Report Number: 2014/1077

Prepared For: Technical Committee

Prepared By: Jacob Williams, Natural Hazards Analyst
Michael Goldsmith, Manager Natural Hazards

Date: 29 July 2014

Subject: **Channel morphology of the Waianakarua and Shag rivers**

1. Précis

Changes in river channel morphology are driven by physical processes such as river hydrology, and by human activities such as gravel extraction and channel modification.

To help understand recent changes in channel morphology, and how those changes sit within longer-term trends, the ORC completed a repeat survey of 19 cross-sections in the Waianakarua River, and 22 cross-sections in the Shag River/Waihemo in October 2013.

Two reports ‘Channel morphology of the Waianakarua River, Otago’ and ‘Channel morphology of the Shag River/Waihemo, Otago’ (attached) have been prepared by ORC to summarise the results of these surveys. They describe the changes in morphology that have occurred since the last comprehensive survey was undertaken in 2008 (Waianakarua River) and 2009 (Shag River/Waihemo), and places these more recent changes within the context of longer term trends. The two reports are intended to inform decisions relating to these rivers and their margins.

2. Discussion

Changes in the channel morphology of the Waianakarua River and the Shag River/Waihemo have been assessed using cross-section data collected in February 2008 / October 2013 and April 2009 / October 2013 respectively, as well as aerial and ground photography, and visual inspections. This assessment provides an update on the changes in channel morphology which have occurred since the last catchment-wide analyses of long-term trends were completed in 2008/09.

Waianakarua River

The North Branch of the Waianakarua experienced bank erosion in some locations between February 2008 and October 2013. The surveyed reach contains areas of both channel aggradation and channel degradation. Erosion was also an ongoing process in the South Branch of the Waianakarua River between 2008 and 2013. Sediment movement (in the form of both erosion and deposition) has led to the channel becoming wider in some locations but narrower and deeper in others. Between 2008 and 2013 the main stem has experienced bank erosion in some locations and shows a trend of

sediment deposition and channel widening. Both the North and South branches and the main stem have been affected by gravel extraction activities between 2008 and 2013.

The surveyed reaches of the Waianakarua River experienced noticeable amounts of bank erosion between 2008 and 2013. Generally the largest observable change occurred in the South Branch with the North Branch showing smaller changes in the width of the active channel during this period. The surveyed sections of the main stem are located in an area of braiding and contain numerous flow channels that show a general trend of sediment deposition between 2008 and 2013.

Shag River/Waihemo

Between April 2009 and October 2013 there was an overall increase in mean bed level (MBL) at 16 of the 22 surveyed cross-sections, and a decrease in MBL at six sections. This assessment shows that channel degradation was more prominent between Craig Road and Munro Road, while there was aggradation or minimal change in MBL from Munro Road downstream to Palmerston and also from Craig Road upstream to McLew Road. The analysis indicates that (in the short term) the Shag River/Waihemo is showing signs of changing from a state of overall degradation (as described in previous ORC reports) to one of aggradation/stability. However, the Shag River/Waihemo has not returned to a state of excess gravel accumulation and is still experiencing areas of ongoing bank erosion and channel instability.

Monitoring of changes in channel morphology in the Shag and Waianakarua rivers provides a useful tool to help inform river management objectives. As such, the timing of further cross-section surveys (or other monitoring) should be considered through the development of the ORC Long Term Plan.

3. Recommendations

That:

1. This report be received and noted.
2. The two channel morphology reports (attached) are presented to the Waitaki District Council, and to the Waianakarua and Shag valley communities.

Gavin Palmer
Director Engineering, Hazards and Science

REPORT

Document Id: A658392

Report No: 2014/1104
Prepared For: Technical Committee
Prepared By: Director Engineering, Hazards and Science
Date: 13 August 2014

Subject: Director's Report

1. Leith Flood Protection Scheme

Works to the St David Street to Union Street reach are continuing and are now well advanced. The works within the reach will be completed in sections, with the first sections expected to be completed in late August. Other sections will be completed throughout September, with the last section (groundworks each side of St David Street footbridge) expected to be completed in October. Micro piles installed beneath the new supporting pier for St David Street footbridge took longer than the contractor envisaged due to the difficult ground conditions and this had an effect on part of the works programme. The design also anticipated that the original bridge abutment (being reconstructed as the new supporting pier) incorporated a foundation beam; demolition identified no such structure. The University is being kept informed of progress and the contractor's programme.



Photograph 1 – Modifications to the St David Street footbridge. The new foundation beam for the supporting pier can be seen to the right of the excavator.

Design work and preparation of tender documents for the next implementation stage of the Leith Flood Protection Scheme, the Dundas Street to St David Street reach, progressed during the period.

2. SH1 Flooding near Hilderthorpe

The New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA), Waitaki District Council, Lower Waitaki Irrigation Company and ORC have agreed to work collaboratively on identifying possible solutions to the repeat flooding of SH1 near Hilderthorpe, north of Oamaru. At a meeting on 8 August it was agreed a technical group will be formed to initially scope an investigation of the issues and possible solutions. The group will comprise a representative of each organisation, and be led by NZTA.

3. Recommendation

That this report is noted.

Gavin Palmer
Director Engineering, Hazards and Science

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL**Agenda for a meeting of the Communications Committee to be held in
the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on Thursday
4 September 2014 following the Technical Committee meeting**

Membership:

Cr Trevor Kempton (Chairperson)
Cr Graeme Bell (Deputy Chairperson)
Cr Doug Brown
Cr Louise Croot MNZM
Cr Michael Deaker
Cr Gerrard Eckhoff
Cr Gary Kelliher
Cr Sam Neill
Cr Gretchen Robertson
Cr Bryan Scott
Cr David Shepherd
Cr Stephen Woodhead

Apologies:

Leave of absence:

In attendance:

**Please note that there is an embargo on agenda items until 8.30 am on Tuesday 2
September.**

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

PUBLIC FORUM

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 July 2014, having been circulated,
for adoption

Matters arising from minutes

FOR NOTING

Item 1

2014/1244 **Stakeholder Engagement Report.** DSE, 20/8/14

Reporting on community, stakeholder and staff engagement activities carried out by Stakeholder Engagement directorate staff since the last meeting.

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL**Minutes of a meeting of the Communications Committee held
in the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on
Thursday 24 July 2014 commencing at 11.30 am**

Present: Cr Trevor Kempton (Chairperson)
Cr Graeme Bell (Deputy Chairperson)
Cr Doug Brown
Cr Louise Croot MNZM
Cr Michael Deaker
Cr Gerrard Eckhoff
Cr Gary Kelliher
Cr Sam Neill
Cr Bryan Scott
Cr David Shepherd
Cr Stephen Woodhead

Apologies: Cr Gretchen Robertson
The apology was accepted on the motion of Crs Bell and Shepherd.

In attendance: Peter Bodeker
Wayne Scott
Jeff Donaldson
Jane Leahy
Fraser McRae
Gavin Palmer
Janet Favel

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 June 2014, having been circulated, were adopted on the motion of Crs Bell and Croot.

Matters arising from minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

Cr Kempton welcomed Mrs Jane Leahy, Director Stakeholder Engagement, to her first Communications Committee meeting.

ITEMS FOR NOTING

Item 1

2014/0948 **Report on Community Liaison and Education.** DSE, 10/7/14

The report provided an update on Plan Change 6A implementation, catchment programmes, water quantity, and other activities. Thanks were extended to staff for their considerable involvement in the Plan Change 6A roadshows, and Mrs Leahy noted that there had been significant follow up enquiries from the public following the roadshows.

Cr Kelliher moved
Cr Deaker seconded

That the report be received.

Motion carried

Item 2

2014/0949 **Report on Communications and Media Activity.** DSE, 1/7/14

The report provided an update on Council communications and media activity carried out during the period 16 May to 30 June.

The following points were discussed:

- Publications – the number and range of publications was noted, and it was suggested that the public survey could indicate the usefulness or otherwise of the publications.
- Use of website – this information might be easily read in graph rather than numeric form.
- EnviroSchools – Mr Scott advised that he had met with the General Manager and EnviroSchools staff at the DCC and discussed funding and where the work fitted. Work was being carried out towards a 1 July 2015 changeover date.
- International Science Festival – attention was drawn to the involvement in the Festival of Council staff, and of Cr Robertson as a keynote speaker in the ‘Women in Science’.
- The air quality presentation to Grants Braes School was noted, and it was suggested that this information also be presented to Central Otago schools.

Mr Bodeker was pleased with the attendance of 1000 people at the Plan Change 6A roadshows, and commented that significant resourcing would be needed to meet the target that all affected landowners be aware of their requirements by 1 July 2015.

Cr Croot moved
Cr Shepherd seconded

That the report be received.

Motion carried

Item 3

2014/1000 **Report on Customer Services Activity.** DSE, 10/7/14

The report provided an update on Customer Services Activity for June 2014.

Mrs Leahy commented that Customer Services was an extremely important point of contact between members of the public and the Council, and the unit was seen as being able to provide part of the resource to advise on Plan Change 6A queries in the future. It was noted that Customer Services Officer Sarah Paterson had attended the Milton 6A meeting. She had found it very valuable, and had also provided assistance at the meeting.

Cr Deaker moved
Cr Bell seconded

That the report be received.

Motion carried

Cr Deaker in welcoming Mrs Leahy also extended congratulations to Mr Bodeker for initiating the new directorate, and to Mr Taylor and his staff for their work to date.

The meeting closed at 11.52 am.

Chairperson

REPORT

Document Id: A664645

Report Number: 2014/1244

Prepared For: Communications Committee

Prepared By: Director Stakeholder Engagement

Date: 20 August 2014

Subject: **Stakeholder Engagement Report – August 2014**

The Communications Committee will now receive a single report from the Stakeholder Engagement directorate incorporating all aspects of community, stakeholder and staff engagement. The report will be structured by topics that fit the ORC objectives.

1. WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY

Water Quality (Plan Change 6A)

Planning for Phase 2 of the new water quality rules (Plan Change 6A) is underway and will generate detailed actions for the next 12 to 18 months that will be governed by a newly-established internal group.

This group will comprise the directors of Stakeholder Engagement, Environmental Monitoring and Operations, and Engineering, Hazards, and Science, and will work with the existing water quality implementation group.

The strategy for current work is four-fold, focussing on:

1. Cultivating early adopters
2. Leveraging agencies and rural professionals
3. Establishing key message
4. Developing resources for immediate use.

Early Adopters

Community Liaison staff have received more than 100 enquiries following the launch of the water quality rules. Those enquiring tend to represent stakeholders who are already engaged and who will be important leaders in the implementation process throughout the next few years. The team recognises the need to invest time and resources in effectively responding to their enquiries. We are developing plans on how to maximise the impact of this group.

The key areas of enquiry have been:

- What is a river and how will this affect stream cleaning works?
- Stock access to waterways
- Water measuring and group monitoring
- Culvert installation.

Agencies and Rural Professionals

We are attending a range of meetings and workshops in response to requests by agencies and rural professionals. At this stage our staff attend these forums in order to present water quality information and respond to questions. We will gradually upskill their staff so they can respond directly to enquiries, ensuring a much greater reach.

Beef and Lamb New Zealand have initiated Farm Plan workshops designed to enable farmers to identify environmental risks on farm and implement solutions. Our Community Liaison staff have attended these workshops across the region and presented to 78 farmers.

In August, at their request we met representatives of the large Otago forestry companies and a representative of the Otago Farm Foresters Association to discuss the implications of the new water quality rules for their industry. The industry also updated Council on their current environmental protection practices. The Community Liaison staff will attend a series of workshops that will be run for forestry owners and contractors over the next few months.

Staff are developing field programmes to roll out from October to meet the high demand from across the region for more information.

Key Messages

Work has begun on expanding our set of key messages relating to different aspects of the water quality rules, including monitoring and compliance. These will be used in all communication channels and will ensure that all Council staff are consistently reinforcing those key messages.

Our lawyers are assessing the wording we have developed to provide guidance to landowners on what is a river. We will complete this process by developing clear messages and resources for staff and other agencies to use in the field.

The Otago Daily Times (13 August 2014) published an opinion piece in the Chief Executive's name that reinforced key messages around policy objectives, implementation and compliance. This was written in reply to a similar piece by a Central Otago resident.

Resources

The development of immediate resources is based around the seasonal needs of farmers who traditionally carry out cleaning of waterways in late spring. They therefore need to know how to identify rivers on their properties, how to comply with the permitted rules (particularly around sediment), and when to apply for a consent.

To support this we will have the following fact sheets ready in September:

- What is a river?
- The new sediment rules explained
- Culverts and bridges explained
- Rules around stock access to waterways
- Cleaning out streams, rivers and drains.

Publications produced relating to water quality and quantity

- State of the Environment and minimum flow science report cards were produced for Taieri, Clutha, Northern and Coastal, Pisa, and Lindis.
- Revised 6A water quality guide
- Wakatipu groundwater aquifer report
- CDs for Water Plan changes 3B and 4C
- Water Plan reprinted as well as additional insert pages.

Water Quantity

As ORC is currently consulting communities on Water Plan Change 4C (Cromwell terrace aquifer allocation) and 3B (Pomahaka catchment minimum flow), we have updated our website with pages and submission forms to support these processes. This work has been completed by publicity and promotion of the meetings through various mediums, including in print, on radio, and through social media; and production of information sheets. New pages and online submission forms were created on the ORC website to assist the consultation process.

The Kakanui irrigators collective requested that ORC science staff help them to understand more about the water quality issues facing the catchment and the new 6A groundwater monitoring project, which will help inform the solutions.

The dominant focus in print media coverage of water issues during the period has been on water quality monitoring, allocation/accessibility, and Water Plan compliance (or lack thereof).

2. LAND, BIODIVERSITY, AND BIOSECURITY

The formation of the Landscape Connections Trust in North and East Otago is an example of groups getting together to develop community management strategies for enhancing the biodiversity and landscape functionality of their areas. We support this work by groups by providing staff to attend and speak at their meetings, as staff did at the Orokonui field day in August.

Resource science staff presented on East Otago and North Dunedin water quality and biodiversity to a forum at the Orokonui Ecosanctuary on 2 August.

3. AIR QUALITY

We recently attended an Environment Canterbury workshop to hear about their social marketing campaign and their application for funding to run an In-Home Behavioural Change project related to reducing emissions from wood burners.

ECan already have some valuable learnings on changing behaviour that is also potentially applicable to Otago. Their change project will be relevant for air quality initiatives across New Zealand so we are supporting the application for funding.

4. HAZARD AND RISK MITIGATION

The Kakanui River management plan development was initiated in July when staff met with interested locals to identify the current issues and ideal form and function. Staff will return to the community in September with a paper on potential options and costs. This work is particularly significant as, if successful; it will provide a blueprint for working with other communities on their rivers.

We have started planning for this year's flood awareness work in the Queenstown Lakes District and are investigating using the networks of Chambers of Commerce in the area to better reach business owners.

ORC natural hazards staff participated in a series of 12 community consultation sessions with the DCC on their proposed revisions to the natural hazards section of the DCC District Plan.

5. REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT

We used social, web and print media to encourage participation in the consultation process for the draft Regional Public Transport Plan. This resulted in strong public interest, including good attendance at the information sessions held in Dunedin and Mosgiel from July 26 to August 1. Consultation closed on Friday 22 August.

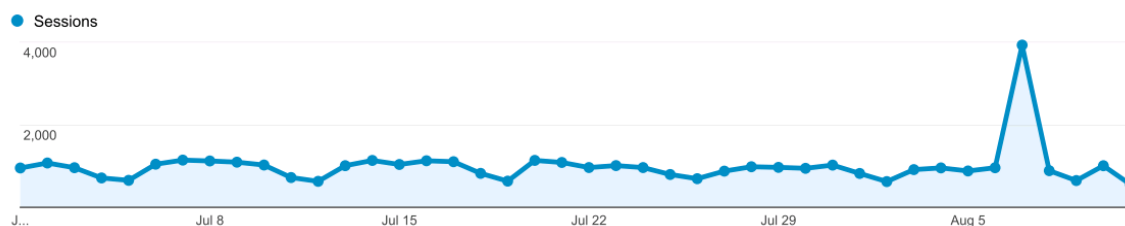
Photo of South Dunedin Information Session on Regional Public Transport Plan



The new look Dunedin bus timetable was distributed to 60,000 households. The re-design reflected strong public input and a desire for improved readability. Every timetable on the ORC website has been updated with new times and/or new route maps.

The ORC website recorded nearly 4000 visits on Friday August 8 (Snow Day), representing about four times the usual number of daily visits. A Communications team member spent the day constantly updating social media and radio stations on disrupted Dunedin bus services, and this resulted in positive feedback from bus users.

Graph of daily visits to ORC website



6. STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITIES

The Local Government Act has been amended to include a requirement for councils to have developed a Significance and Engagement Policy by 1 December 2014. This will provide clarity to the public on what decisions or matters the council and the community consider to be particularly important, how the council will go about assessing the importance of matters, and how and when the community can be expected to be consulted on both.

We will bring a draft policy to the September committee meetings round.

7. CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

Customer Awareness Satisfaction Survey 2014

The Executive Management Team has agreed that the ORC Customer Awareness Satisfaction Survey 2014 will be presented to managers in a workshop environment for the purpose of informing, gaining input, and developing organisational alignment with a stronger customer-driven culture. We are aiming to run this in October 2014 and outputs from the meeting will form part of the action plan for improvements.

Customer Services

The Customer Service team met in August to start the development of a longer-term plan for expanding their value to the organisation by developing the skills and resources to transfer more enquiries to their team. Council staff across the organisation currently spend around 8000 hours a year on telephone enquiries.

Rates

There has been significant work done to improve the experience for our customers at rates assessment time. The Customer Services team is set up to handle most enquiries. Improvements made include:

- Rates brochure re-designed to complement rates assessment payment information in user-friendly format to highlight key projects
- Technology improvements including new PCs, barcodes on accounts, scanners, Eftpos at each serving station and receipt printers for each Customer Service representative. These have improved the speed of transactions so customers will have shorter wait times.
- We have identified the need for an upgraded system for email-only rate accounts to ratepayers. However, the work required to achieve this means this will not be in place in time for this year's rates assessment mailout.

Customer Relationship Management (CRM) Software.

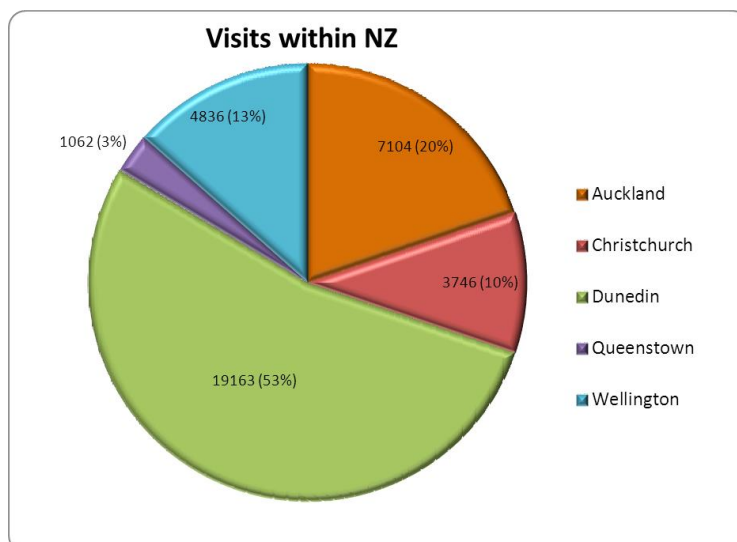
We recognise, as the unit grows and becomes more complex, that the need to have a system for managing Council's interactions with customers and other stakeholders becomes more vital. Such systems typically provide:

- Automated tracking of enquiries to ensure they are dealt with from start to finish
- Data collection for future planning
- Automated responses for high traffic or crisis periods.

We have started work on building a greater knowledge of system functionality and council needs.

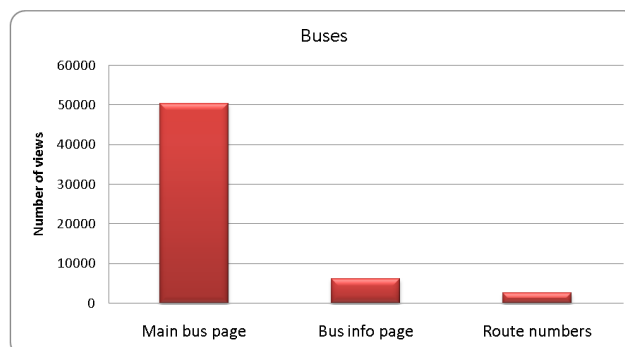
Web development and traffic summary

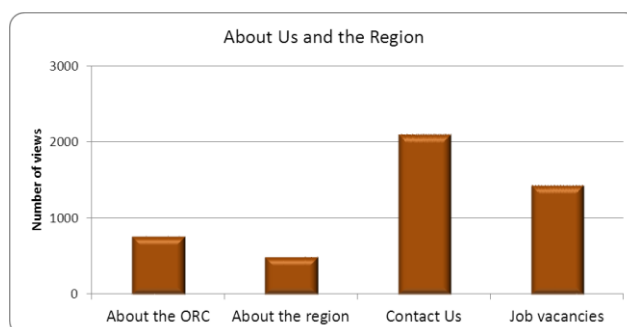
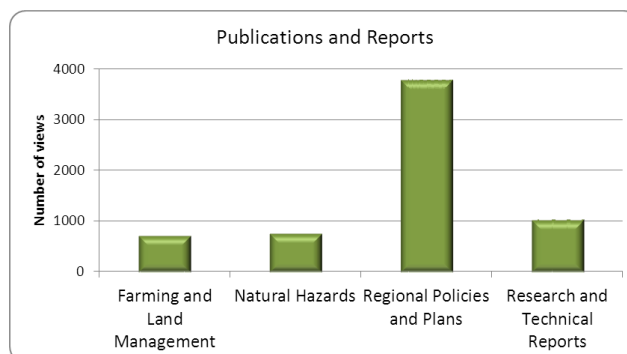
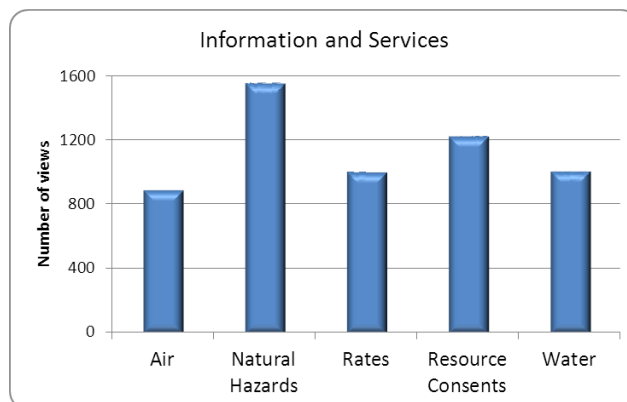
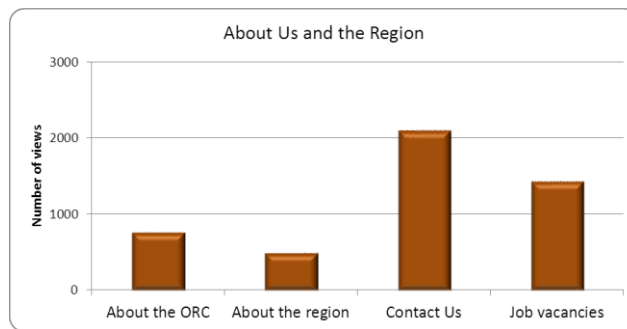
During the period under review there were 39,309 visits to the ORC website from New Zealand, 643 from Australia, and 418 from the United States.



Average number of page views per visit was 3.19 and the top two downloads were the new bus timetable (4164) and the Otago Water Plan (984).

Analysis of webpages viewed





Summary of other media and social media activity

- Sixteen media releases were prepared and distributed during the period under review.
- ORC activity has received 113 mentions in print media and 10 broadcast mentions.
- Thirty-one items were posted on the ORC Facebook page and, as at 13 August, the page had attracted 73 likes.

- Thirty-six messages were sent out on Twitter, and as at 13 August, 191 people or organisations were following the ORC Twitter feed. Subject examples of items posted on Facebook and sent out on Twitter included: consultation clinics on the RPTP, groundwater workshops, Water Plan Changes 4C (Cromwell terrace aquifer allocation) and 3B (Pomahaka catchment minimum flow) bus service updates, and publication of new Dunedin bus timetable.

9. Recommendation

That this report is noted.

Jane Leahy
Director Stakeholder Engagement

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL**Agenda for a meeting of the Finance and Corporate Committee
to be held in the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street,
Dunedin on Thursday 4 September 2014 following the Communications
Committee meeting**

Membership:

Cr David Shepherd (Chairperson)
Cr Gary Kelliher (Deputy Chairperson)
Cr Graeme Bell
Cr Doug Brown
Cr Louise Croot MNZM
Cr Michael Deaker
Cr Gerrard Eckhoff
Cr Trevor Kempton
Cr Sam Neill
Cr Gretchen Robertson
Cr Bryan Scott
Cr Stephen Woodhead

Apologies:

Leave of absence:

In attendance:

Please note that there is an embargo on agenda items until 8.30 am on Tuesday 2 September.

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

PUBLIC FORUM

MINUTES

The minutes of the public portion of the meeting held on 24 July 2014, having been circulated, for adoption

Matters arising from minutes

PART A - RECOMMENDATIONS

Item 1

2014/1243 **Electoral Systems.** DCS, 20/8/14

The report notes that at its meeting on 24 July 2014, the Finance and Corporate Committee considered voting systems, and resolved to invite Associate Professor Janine Hayward to meet with Councillors to provide information on voting systems. That workshop takes place before this meeting, and the committee is now asked to give consideration as to what electoral system it would like in place for the 2016 and 2019 elections.

Item 2

2014/1211 **Annual Return of Inactive Subsidiaries 2014.** DCS, 15/8/14

The report notes that for name protection purposes, three companies bearing the Regional Services name were registered in April 2006. The Companies Act requires that an Annual Return be completed for each of the companies, which are inactive and do not have constitutions.

PART B – ITEMS FOR NOTING

Item 3

2014/1224 **12 month review.** DCS, 18/7/14

The report notes that formal reviews of progress on all projects are undertaken at four, eight and 12 months, and summarises the project progress for the 12 months to 30 June 2014. The 12 month review document is circulated separately with the agenda. The full financial position of Council for the year ended 30 June 2014 will be presented in the Annual Report to the Council at its meeting on 17 September 2014.

Item 4

2014/1236 **Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Act 2014.** DCS, 20/8/14

The report explains that the purpose of the Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Bill (No 3) was to implement the Government's second phase of legislative reform to improve the operation, efficiency and effectiveness of local government. The report presents the key provisions of the Amendment Act t.

Item 5

2014/1287 **Executive Report on Progress.** DCS, 25/8/14

The report describes significant activities carried out by the Finance and Corporate sections since the last meeting of the Committee.

PART D - EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

That the public be excluded from the following part of the proceedings of the meeting.

The general subject of the matters to be discussed while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

	General subjects to be considered	Reason under LGOIMA for passing this resolution	Grounds under S.48 for the passing of this resolution
Item 6	Minutes of the in committee portion of the Finance and Corporate Committee meeting held on 24 July 2014	To protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence (S7(2)(c))	S.48(1)(a)(i)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act or Section 6 or Section 7 or Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as shown above with respect to each item.

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL**Minutes of a meeting of the Finance and Corporate Committee
held in the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin
on Thursday 24 July 2014 commencing at 8.30 am**

Present:

Cr David Shepherd (Chairperson)
Cr Gary Kelliher (Deputy Chairperson)
Cr Graeme Bell
Cr Doug Brown
Cr Louise Croot MNZM
Cr Michael Deaker
Cr Gerrard Eckhoff
Cr Trevor Kempton
Cr Sam Neill
Cr Bryan Scott
Cr Stephen Woodhead

Apologies:

Cr Gretchen Robertson
Cr Gary Kelliher for lateness
The apologies were accepted on the motion of Crs Croot and Neill.

In attendance:

Peter Bodeker
Wayne Scott
Jeff Donaldson
Jane Leahy
Fraser McRae
Gavin Palmer
Janet Favel

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

It was noted that there would not be a presentation to the meeting by Port Otago Ltd representatives. There were no other changes to the agenda.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 June 2014, having been circulated, were adopted on the motion of Crs Bell and Croot.

Matters arising from minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

PART A - RECOMMENDATIONS

Item 1

2014/0995 **Port Otago Ltd – Draft Statement of Corporate Intent.** DCS, 9/7/14

The Draft Statement of Corporate Intent for Port Otago Limited (POL), including its subsidiaries and associates, for the three year period to 30 June 2017 was presented for endorsement. Port Otago Ltd Chief Executive Geoff Plunket was present for this item.

Cr Shepherd noted particular points of interest being the arrival of the new tug Tairaroa on Tuesday 22 July, the sale of leasehold land in Dunedin where the sale would be beneficial to the city, and the amendment of the dividend from 70-80% of the Group's operating surplus after tax to 50-70%, with a \$7 million dividend intention.

Cr Kelliher entered the meeting at 8.34 am.

Mr Scott commented that the 50-70% range was more in line with other infrastructure companies, and noted that the dividend payment had been at about 50% for the last three to four years, with special dividends paid additionally.

Comment was made on the significant planned infrastructure development and the focus on business efficiency. The importance to Otago of the Port operation was emphasised.

The issue of social responsibility was raised, and policy direction given by the ORC to POL in relation to selling leasehold land was queried. In response it was pointed out that the POL Board was independent, and was expected to follow a good corporate citizenship approach. Mr Scott commented that the Port Companies Act stated that a company's purpose was to operate as a successful business, which included being a good corporate citizen. He also noted that the Council had freedom to decide how the dividend payments were used. Concern was expressed that leasehold land was not made available to the community at the best price. It was pointed out that there had been many sales of leasehold land in the past, and the sales were reported to Council.

It was noted that Council was involved not in the operation of the port but in a monitoring role.

Cr Woodhead moved

Cr Deaker seconded

That the Draft Statement of Corporate Intent for Port Otago Limited and its subsidiaries and associates for the three years to 30 June 2017, be endorsed.

Motion carried

Item 2
2014/0937 **Electoral Systems.** DCS, 1/7/14

The report explained that any decision to change the voting system for the next local body elections had to be made by 12 September 2014, and that if Council wished to establish one or more Maori constituencies, a decision had to be made no later than 23 November 2014.

Mr Scott noted that before the 2013 election Council had resolved to apply the First Past the Post (FPP) voting system for next two elections. This report gave Councillors the opportunity to change that decision.

Confusion caused for voters by ORC, DCC and SDHB using different voting systems was a concern, and it was suggested that Associate Professor Janine Hayward of Otago University, a specialist in electoral matters, be invited to meet with Councillors at the August Committee round to answer questions about the two electoral systems, and that the decision on the electoral system be deferred to the following committee round.

Cr Deaker moved
Cr Croot seconded

That Recommendation 4 be added: that the Council invite Associate Professor Janine Hayward to meet with Councillors at the next committee round to provide information on voting systems.

Motion carried

Cr Deaker moved
Cr Croot seconded

- 1. That this report be received.*
- 2. That Council give notice of the right of electors to demand a poll on the electoral system.*
- 3. That no proposal be advanced in relation to the establishment of Maori constituencies.*
- 4. That the Council invite Associate Professor Janine Hayward to meet with Councillors at the next committee round to provide information on voting systems.*

Motion carried

Item 3

2014/0959 **Executive Report on Progress.** DCS, 4/7/14

The report described significant activities carried out by the Finance and Corporate sections since the last meeting of the Committee.

Mr Scott explained in response to a question that the change to the Treasury Management Policy had been made to allow cash to be held for longer than 365 days outside of the investment portfolio, which was prudent.

Cr Woodhead moved
Cr Kempton seconded

- (1) *That this report be received.*
- (2) *That the payments and investments summarised and detailed in the tabled schedule, totalling \$17,838,069.93, be endorsed.*
- (3) *That the Treasury Policy be amended (Section 4.6) to remove the statement that “cash held for longer than 365 days is managed as part of the Council’s overall investment portfolio”.*

Motion carried

PART B – ITEMS FOR NOTING

Item 4

2014/1004 **Transport Operations – Update July 2014.** DCS, 11/1/14

The report provided a summary of the agreed variations to several Dunedin City contracts, and advised that the reformatted timetable book was close to completion and distribution.

In response to a question Mr Scott advised that additional contract costs of \$440,000 were estimated at rating time. However there would be no impact on rates because the peaks and troughs were smoothed with use of the transport reserve. He confirmed that the service changes had been discussed with the DCC, but the DCC was not involved in the contract negotiations.

Cr Woodhead moved
Cr Neill seconded

That the report be received.

Motion carried

Item 5

2014/0994 **Insurance Renewals 2014/15.** DCS, 9/7/14

The report noted that the Council's insurances had been reviewed for the 2014/15 year, with a resulting overall decrease of 2.7% in insurance premiums.

Cr Kempton moved
Cr Croot seconded

That the report be received.

Motion carried

PART C - EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

Cr Shepherd moved
Cr Kelliher seconded

That the public be excluded from the following part of the proceedings of the meeting.

The general subject of the matters to be discussed while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

	<i>General subjects to be considered</i>	<i>Reason under LGOIMA for passing this resolution</i>	<i>Grounds under S.48 for the passing of this resolution</i>
<i>Item 6</i>	<i>Claim Resolution</i>	<i>To protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence (S7(2)(c))</i>	<i>S.48(1)(a)(i)</i>

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act or Section 6 or Section 7 or Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as shown above with respect to each item.

Motion carried

Following discussion of Item 6,

Cr Shepherd moved
Cr Neill seconded

That the meeting resume in open session.

Motion carried

The meeting closed at 9.35 am.

Chairperson

REPORT

Document Id: A664599

Report Number: 2014/1243
Prepared For: Finance and Corporate Committee
Prepared By: Corporate Analyst
Date: 20 August 2014

Subject: **Electoral Systems**

1. Précis

The Local Electoral Act 2001 is the legislation under which local elections and polls are held. This legislation sets out the voting systems that may be used, and the processes under which a local authority may change its systems. The Otago Regional Council currently uses the First Past the Post system. If it was of a mind to change to the Single Transferable Vote system for the 2016 elections, such a decision must be made by 12 September 2014.

At its meeting on 24 July 2014, the Finance and Corporate Committee considered a paper on this matter (Report Number 2014/0937), and resolved to invite Associate Professor Janine Hayward to meet with Councillors to provide information on voting systems.

A workshop has been planned before this meeting. The committee is now asked to give consideration as to what electoral system it would like in place for the 2016 and 2019 elections.

2. Electoral Systems

Section 27 of the Local Electoral Act 2001 requires local authorities to make a decision no later than 12 September, if they wish to change the electoral system for the 2016 triennial election. Council does not however, have to make a decision on its electoral system, and where no decision is made, the current system will continue to apply (unless changed as a result of a poll of electors). If no decision is made, Council must still give public notice, by 19 September, of the right of electors to demand a poll on the electoral system to be used at the next two triennial general elections of that Council, i.e., 2016 and 2019.

Two electoral systems are available for use in the local government elections, First Past the Post and Single Transferable Vote. A brief explanation of each system is provided below:

First Past the Post (“FPP”)

Under FPP, each voter has one vote for each vacancy to be filled. The candidate who wins the most votes, regardless of his or her share of the total valid votes cast, wins the position.

Single Transferable Vote (“STV”)

Under STV, each voter has one vote, which is exercised by ranking candidates in order of preference. Voters may rank as many or as few candidates as they wish, so long as they indicate just one first preference and consecutively rank other candidates.

3. Changing Electoral Systems

There are three ways in which the electoral system used by a local authority may change, and these are as follows:

By a Resolution of Council

Section 27 of the Local Electoral Act 2001 provides that a council **may** resolve to change its system, with the resolution having to be made by 12 September 2014. If council does resolve to change the system from FPP to STV, then that system would be in place for two elections, i.e., 2016 and 2019. This is the option resolved on before the 2013 elections.

Elector Demand for Poll

Council must give public notice no later than 19 September 2014, of the right of electors to demand a poll on the electoral system to be used, whether or not a resolution under Section 27 has been passed.

If a resolution has been passed, the public notice must include notice of the resolution, the electoral system to be used and that a poll would be required to countermand the resolution made by Council.

To be successful, a demand for a poll must be signed by at least 5% of the electors enrolled to vote at the previous triennial election. If a valid poll is received prior to 28 February 2015, the poll must be held by 21 May 2015, and the results of the poll will be valid for the next two elections.

If a valid poll is received after 28 February 2015, the poll must be held after 21 May 2015. The results of the poll would then be effective for the 2019 and 2022 elections.

Poll Held on Initiative of Council

Council may resolve that a poll be held on a proposal that a specified electoral system be used for its next two triennial elections. Such a resolution must be made no later than 28 February 2015, and the poll must be held by 21 May 2015.

4. Legislative Timetable for Electoral Systems

Local authorities must comply with the following timeline when deciding which electoral system will be used:

By 12 September 2014	Council may resolve to change the current system
By 19 September 2014	Council must give public notice of the right of electors to demand a poll on the future system to be used for the next two triennial elections, and if a resolution has been made by Council to change the current system.
By 28 February 2015	Council may resolve to undertake a poll of electors on a proposal that a specified system be used for the next two elections.

By 21 May 2015

If a demand has been received to hold a poll prior to 28 February 2015, or resolution has been made to hold a poll, then a poll **must** be held within 82 days

5. Recommendations

1. That this report be received.
2. That the Committee decides whether or not to resolve to change electoral system.

Wayne Scott
Director Corporate Services

REPORT

Document Id: A662873

Report Number: 2014/1211
Prepared For: Finance and Corporate
Prepared By: Corporate Analyst
Date: 15 August 2014

Subject: **Annual Return of Inactive Subsidiaries 2014**

1. Précis

Due to the significance and profile of the Regional Services Business Unit, the Council, solely for name protection purposes, registered the following companies in April 2006:

- Regional Services Limited;
- Regional Pest Services Limited;
- Regional Monitoring Services Limited.

The companies are inactive, and do not have constitutions. The companies are owned 100% by the Otago Regional Council, with a share issue of 100 shares in each company.

Section 214 of the Companies Act 1993 requires that an Annual Return be completed for each of the above companies each year by 30 September. The Annual Return includes providing information on shareholding, auditors and Annual General Meetings.

2. Annual General Meeting

Under the Companies Act each company is to have either an Annual General Meeting, or under Section 122 of the Companies Act the shareholders may pass a special resolution that it shall not be necessary for a company to hold an annual general meeting, if everything required to be done at that meeting is done by resolution.

At an Annual General Meeting, the company must decide whether or not to appoint an auditor. A company need not appoint an auditor if a unanimous resolution is passed by all the shareholders.

Given that the companies are inactive, it is recommended that Council pass two resolutions for each of the companies, the first to not hold an Annual General Meeting, and the second to not appoint auditors.

3. Recommendations

1. That it shall not be necessary for Regional Services Limited to hold an Annual General Meeting under section 120 of the Companies Act 1993.
2. That no auditors be appointed for Regional Services Limited under section 196 (2) of the Companies Act 1993.

3. That it shall not be necessary for Regional Pest Services Limited to hold an Annual General Meeting under section 120 of the Companies Act 1993.
4. That no auditors be appointed for Regional Pest Services Limited under section 196 (2) of the Companies Act 1993.
5. That it shall not be necessary for Regional Monitoring Services Limited to hold an Annual General Meeting under section 120 of the Companies Act 1993.
6. That no auditors be appointed for Regional Monitoring Services Limited under section 196 (2) of the Companies Act 1993.

Wayne Scott
Director Corporate Services

REPORT

Document Id: A663461

Report Number: 2014/1224

Prepared For: Finance and Corporate

Prepared By: Corporate Analyst

Date: 18 August 2014

Subject: **12 Month Review to 30 June 2014**

1. Précis

Formal reviews of progress on all projects are undertaken at four, eight and 12 months, and reported to Council. This report summarises the project progress for the 12 months to 30 June 2014. The full financial position of Council for the year ended 30 June 2014 will be presented in the Annual Report to the Council at its meeting on 17 September 2014.

2. Background

Council's Annual Plans and Long Term Plans include levels of service to be met for the significant activities undertaken by Council, and the "key" performance targets for each of those projects within each significant activity. Progress in achieving those targets is reported against in each year's Annual Report.

A report showing financial and non financial results compared with Annual Plan levels of service, key performance targets and budgets for the 12 months to 30 June 2014 is attached. Note is made that the financial information is preliminary and is still subject to audit.

Queries prior to the meeting are invited in order that any investigation work necessary can be undertaken.

3. Financial Information

Individual financial information for each project is included in the separate report. A summary of the outcome group activity information compared with estimates is scheduled below:

	Actual to June \$000s	Budget to June \$000s	Variance () = unfavourable
Water ¹	7,766	8,914	1,148
Air Quality ²	953	1,452	499
Coast ³	238	339	101
Regional Policy Stmt ⁸	735	498	(237)
Governance & Community ⁴	4,260	3,995	(265)
Flood Protection & Control ⁵	7,341	8,613	1,272
Rivers & Waterway Mgmt	1,031	1,088	57
Biosecurity ⁶	2,017	2,082	65
Environmental Incident Resp. ⁷	770	631	(139)
Natural Hazards ⁸	1,139	1,395	256

Emergency Management	295	378	83
Dam Safety	393	368	(25)
Transport ⁹	8,749	8,606	(143)
Total	35,687	38,359	2,672

Revenue (excluding rates)

	Actual to June \$000s	Budget to June \$000s	Variance () = unfavourable
Water ¹	1,805	2,491	(686)
Air Quality	292	558	(266)
Coast	17	78	(61)
Governance & Community ⁵	310	127	183
Flood Protection & Control	247	348	(101)
River Management	31	53	(22)
Biosecurity ⁷	1,285	1,480	(195)
Environmental Incident Resp. ⁸	121	105	16
Natural Hazards	1	6	(5)
Emergency Management	0	55	(55)
Dam Safety	195	295	(100)
Transport ⁹	5,292	4,296	996
Total	9,596	9,892	(296)

Note 1 - Water

The water activity is under spent by approximately \$1,148,000, and revenue is approximately \$686,000 less than expected. The major variations are discussed below.

The Annual Plan provided for \$1 million of irrigation grants, however no grants were provided during the year.

The Regional Plan: Water project is overspent by approximately \$250,000. This is in relation to substantial work that had been undertaken to resolve the 21 appeals received on Plan Change 6A (Water Quality).

Consent processing is under spent by approximately \$218,000, and this is due to fewer applications being received than budgeted for. This is also reflected in the revenue received from this activity of \$627,000 which is less than the \$1,052,000 expected.

Incidents is under spent by approximately \$85,000. Fewer incidents have occurred than that budgeted for, and this is also reflected in the revenue received of \$169,000 compared to a budget of \$346,000.

Note 2 – Air Quality

The air activity is under spent by approximately \$499,000. Within this activity, the Clean Heat, Clean Air project is under spent by \$406,000. Of the 160 homes budgeted to have new clean heating appliances, 84 were installed during the year. The low activity in this project is reflected in the income received from third parties of \$292,000 compared to the budgeted \$558,000. This is the first year that ORC has operated without the supporting insulation

package. This reduced incentive is likely to have had an effect on the number of people choosing to change their heating appliances.

The Regional Plan: Air is under spent by approximately 129,000. Work on a plan change addressing re-zoning Milton and Lawrence has been deferred until an Air Strategy direction is approved in the 2014/15 year.

Note 3 – Coast

The coast activity is under spent by approximately \$124,000. Of this amount \$94,000 relates to harbour safety. The Annual Plan provided for contracting out the harbour master activity. This was not undertaken during the year, but note is made that discussions are in progress for contracting out this service.

Note 4 – Governance and Community

This activity is over spent by approximately \$265,000. Of this amount \$73,000 is in respect of Council and Committees. The 2013/14 year was an election year, and costs for the election were greater than budgeted for.

The environmental enhancement budget was over spent by approximately \$83,000. This over spend related to the stock truck effluent disposal sites. Some enhancement work was done at these sites that was not budgeted for (concrete bunds), and more costs were incurred in maintaining the Raes Junction site than was budgeted for, as the use of this site is high. Note is made that the 2014/15 Annual Plan provides for the upgrade of this site.

The iwi relationships budget is over spent by approximately \$23,000, but note is made that around \$16,000 has been received from the Otago TA's, as contributions towards this extra spending.

Revenue received includes an amount of approximately \$140,000, and is in respect of marked market valuations of the interest rate swaps associated with the BNZ loan that was taken out for our contribution to the Forsyth Barr Stadium. Note is made that this loan was repaid on 30 June 2014.

Note 5 – Flood Protection and Control Works

Within this activity the Leith flood protection scheme is under spent by approximately \$1,117,000. The under expenditure relates to the delay in commencing the St David Street to Union Street stage of works, which is now 50% – 60% complete. The budget assumed the works would be completed by the year end.

The Lower Clutha budget is under spent by approximately \$233,000, and relates to timing of works. Investigations and design improvements to the Koau right flood bank at Factory road commenced in April. The target to refurbish the Smith Road Pump Station at an estimated cost of \$300,000 has been deferred to the 2014/15 year.

The West Taieri Drainage Scheme budget is over spent by approximately \$188,000. This cost is in relation to the replacement of the F pumps and has carried over from the 2012/13 financial year. Further, the decommissioning of the F2 and F3 pumps has resulted in writing off the remaining book value of these assets at a loss of \$159,000.

Note 6 - Biosecurity

The Biosecurity activity is under spent by approximately \$65,000. Regional Services contracting was under spent by \$130,000 and is due to fewer contracts being entered into than was budgeted for. In line with this, the revenue received on contracts is also lower than budget by \$121,000. Note is made that Regional Services made positive returns for the year on its contracting activity.

Note 7 – Environmental Incident Response

Within this activity, the contaminated sites project is over spent by \$57,000, and revenue received is over budget by \$46,000. These relate to remediation works undertaken on the Oamaru foreshore, which are funded by MfE and the Waitaki District Council.

The incident, compliant and oil spill project is over spent by \$82,000. There has been an increase in the number of incidents being responding to, with 1,405 incidents being responded to during the year, compared to 1,256 last year.

Note 8 – Natural Hazards

This activity is under spent by approximately \$256,000. It had been intended to develop a Regional Plan: Hazards but this work is now being done as part of the Regional Policy Statement work, which is over spent by approximately \$237,000. The work on a hazards plan was budgeted to cost \$170,000.

The public awareness budget for natural hazards is also under spent by approximately \$86,000, mainly as a result of less time being required than budgeted, but also with time being charged to the public awareness and promotion project in governance and community.

Note 9 - Transport

Within the transport activity, transport planning is over spent by \$337,000. At the request of New Zealand Transport Agency, staff have been working on the development of a regional road safety strategy. This work has cost approximately \$113,000, and was not budgeted for in the 2013/14 Annual Plan.

The revenue for transport is greater than budgeted by approximately \$996,000, and relates mainly to grant income received, greater than that budgeted for. The difference arises because the budget assumed grant funding would not be received on bus contracts tendered in early 2013 for services commencing on 1 July 2013. Resolution of this matter with New Zealand Transport Agency has meant that grant funding has been received on those contracts.

4. Recommendation

1. That this report be received.

Wayne Scott
Director Corporate Services

REPORT

Document Id: A664279

Report Number: 2014/1236

Prepared For: Finance and Corporate

Prepared By: Corporate Analyst

Date: 20 August 2014

Subject: **Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Act 2014**

1. Précis

The Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Bill (No 3), (“the Bill”) was introduced in November 2013. The Bill’s purpose was to implement the Government’s second phase of legislative reform to improve the operation, efficiency and effectiveness of local government. Following consultation, the Bill became the Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Act 2014 (Amendment Act), and came into force on 7 August 2014. Its commencement date is 1 July 2014. Council made a submission on the Bill and this was presented to Council at its meeting on 12 February 2014.

The purpose of this paper is to present the key provisions of the Amendment Act to the Finance and Corporate Committee.

2. Key Provisions of the Amendment Act

The key provisions of the Amendment Act affecting regional councils are presented below.

2.1 Section 14 - Principles relating to local authorities

The principle that local authorities should actively seek to collaborate and co-operate with other local authorities and bodies to improve effectiveness and efficiency has been strengthened.

2.2 Section 15 – Triennial agreements

Triennial agreements are now to include the following:

- protocols for communication and co-ordination between local authorities,
- a statement of the process for how all local authorities will comply with legislation relating to significant new activities proposed by a regional councils, and
- processes and protocols for identifying, delivering, and funding facilities and services of significance to more than one district.

2.3 Section 17 – Transfer of responsibilities

The old provisions of this section required that a transfer of responsibilities could not take place without having the proposal to transfer included in an annual plan or Long Term Plan (LTP), or having been consulted on using the special consultative procedure. Now for a transfer to take place, a local authority only needs to be satisfied, following consultation, that the benefits will outweigh any negative impacts of the proposal. Councils can consult however it wishes.

2.4 Section 17A – Delivery of services

This new section requires a review of the cost-effectiveness of current arrangements for meeting the needs of communities. A review of the delivery of services must be undertaken:

- in conjunction with consideration of any significant change to relevant service levels; and
- within 2 years before the expiry of any contract or binding agreement for delivery of a service; and
- at such times considered desirable, but not later than six years following the last review.

Reviews are not required if the delivery is governed by legislation contract, or if the local authority is satisfied that the potential benefits of undertaking a review do not justify the costs of undertaking the review.

The first review must take place within three years of commencement of the Amendment Act.

2.5 Section 76AA - Significance and engagement policy.

This new section requires every local authority to adopt a policy setting out its approach to significance, and to include in the policy how the local authority will engage the community on decisions relating to specific issues, assets, or other matters, including when use of the special consultative procedure is to be used.

Council must consult under Section 82 (refer 2.6 below), when adopting or amending the policy, unless it considers on reasonable grounds that it has sufficient information about the community interests and preferences to enable the purpose of the policy to be achieved.

Council must adopt this policy no later than 1 December 2014.

2.6 Section 82 – Principles of Consultation

Section 82 allows councils to consult in such a manner as it considers appropriate for the matter to be consulted on.

Matters such as the draft annual plan and transfer of responsibilities may now be consulted on under Section 82, rather than having to use the more prescriptive special consultative procedure.

2.7 Section 83 – Special consultative procedure

The Amendment Act changes the provisions for using the special consultative procedure, and changes include the following:

- a summary document only needs to be prepared when it would be considered useful to enable public understanding,
- public notice is no longer required to be given, and
- any person is allowed to present their views by way of audio link or audiovisual link.

2.8 Section 93 – Long Term Plan

Instead of using a draft LTP and a summary for consultation purposes, a separate consultation document must now be prepared. The draft LTP still needs to be prepared but must not be used as the consultation document. A summary is no longer required.

The consultation document is to provide a fair representation of the matters in the LTP, be presented in a way that explains the overall objectives, how rates, debt and levels of service might be affected, and it is to be readily understood.

The Consultation document cannot have the draft LTP attached to it, but must have an audit opinion. The special consultative procedure must be used for this document.

2.9 Section 95 - Annual Plan

A consultation document is to be prepared that identifies significant or material differences, if any, between the proposed annual plan and the LTP. It must be presented in a concise and simple manner, and not have attached to it a draft annual plan or any substantial information that is unnecessary for the purpose.

Local authorities no longer have to use the special consultative procedure when consulting on the Annual Plan, and may now consult in terms of Section 82 (refer 2.6 above). Consultation is not required if the draft annual plan does not include significant or material differences from the content of the LTP.

If Council is proposing an amendment to an LTP in conjunction with an annual plan process, then one consultation document is to be produced incorporating the amendment and annual plan, and the special consultative procedure is to be used for both.

2.10 Section 101B – Infrastructure strategy

Council now must prepare and adopt, as part of the LTP, an infrastructure strategy for a period of at least 30 years. For ORC, the strategy is required in respect of flood protection and control assets only. Other assets may be included at Council's own discretion.

3. Recommendation

1. That this report be noted.

Wayne Scott
Director Corporate Services

REPORT

Document Id: A666154

Report Number: 2014/1287
Prepared For: Finance and Corporate
Prepared By: Director Corporate Services
Date: 25 August 2014

Subject: **Executive Report - August 2014**

1. 2013/14 Annual Report

The Auditors are on site completing their audit work on the 2013/14 Annual Report and Financial Statements.

2. Rates

Rates for the 2014/15 period are scheduled for posting by mid-September with a due date for payment of 31 October 2014.

3. Draft Regional Public Transport Plan

Submissions on the Draft Regional Public Transport Plan closed on Friday 22 August. Approximately 300 submissions were received.

Numerically there were two main issues; Brockville services (approximately 200), and requests for a service to the Orokonui Ecosanctuary (20).

Hearings for those submitters wishing to present will be held in the week commencing 8 September.

4. Bus Shelters

Consultation with property owners has been undertaken, in conjunction with the Dunedin City Council, in relation to the installation of an additional 22 shelters on Dunedin bus routes. The installation programme is expected to commence early in the New Year.

5. Services

Council implemented changes to a number of services on 1 August, including Corstorphine, Waverley and Ross Creek. It is currently too early to judge the impact of the changes, however we have received a number of positive comments about the changes made to the Corstorphine service. In addition, and prior to the service changes taking effect, a new format timetable was produced and distributed to households throughout Dunedin. The new format and layout was produced considering comments received from a number of community groups and has received a large number of positive comments. In addition to the timetable booklet, approximately 120 on street timetables, the web-based timetable and online journey planner were also updated.

6. Account Payments

Schedules of payments made are referred to the Finance and Corporate Committee for endorsement. The financial commitments and payment authorisation are made in accordance with Council's financial delegations and internal control procedures.

Payment Categories	July 2014
Trade and general payments	3,790,131.13
Payroll	613,273.91
Investments	2,000,000.00
Total	\$6,403,405.04

7. Recommendation

- (1) That this report be received.
- (2) That the payments and investments summarised in the table above and detailed in the tabled schedule, totalling \$6,403,405.04 be endorsed.

Wayne Scott
Director Corporate Services

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL**Agenda for a meeting of the Policy Committee to be held in the
Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on
Thursday 4 September 2014 following the Finance and Corporate
Committee meeting****Membership:**

Cr Gretchen Robertson (Chairperson)
Cr Michael Deaker (Deputy Chairperson)
Cr Graeme Bell
Cr Doug Brown
Cr Louise Croot MNZM
Cr Gerrard Eckhoff
Cr Gary Kelliher
Cr Trevor Kempton
Cr Sam Neill
Cr Bryan Scott
Cr David Shepherd
Cr Stephen Woodhead

Apologies:**Leave of absence:****In attendance:**

Please note that there is an embargo on agenda items until 8.30 am on Tuesday 2 September.

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA**PUBLIC FORUM****MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 July 2014, having been circulated, for adoption

Matters arising from minutes

FOR NOTING

Item 1

2014/1269 **Director's Report on Progress.** DPPRM, 19/8/14

The report gives an overview of significant activities undertaken by the Policy section.

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL**Minutes of a meeting of the Policy Committee held in the
Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on
Thursday 24 July 2014 commencing at 11.53 am**

Present:

Cr Michael Deaker (Chairperson)
Cr Graeme Bell
Cr Doug Brown
Cr Louise Croot MNZM
Cr Gerrard Eckhoff
Cr Gary Kelliher
Cr Trevor Kempton
Cr Sam Neill
Cr Bryan Scott
Cr David Shepherd
Cr Stephen Woodhead

Apologies:

Cr Gretchen Robertson
The apology was accepted on the motion of Crs Deaker and Croot.

In attendance:

Peter Bodeker
Wayne Scott
Jeff Donaldson
Jane Leahy
Fraser McRae
Gavin Palmer
Janet Favel

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 June 2014, having been circulated, were adopted on the motion of Crs Woodhead and Bell.

Matters arising from minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

PART A – RECOMMENDATIONS

Item 1

2014/0903 **Notification of Proposed Plan Change 4C (Groundwater management: Cromwell Terrace Aquifer).** DPPRM, 1/7/14

The report presented a summary of the comments received on the Consultation Draft of Proposed Plan Change 4C (Groundwater management: Cromwell Terrace Aquifer) and recommended the notification of the Proposed Plan Change. The plan change sought to set a maximum allocation volume for the Cromwell Terrace Aquifer. The proposed Plan Change and Section 32 report were circulated with the agenda.

Cr Deaker moved
Cr Scott seconded

1. *That Proposed Plan Change 4C (Groundwater management: Cromwell Terrace Aquifer) and its accompanying Section 32 Evaluation Report be approved for notification in accordance with clause 5, Schedule 1 of the RMA.*
2. *That Proposed Plan Change 4C (Groundwater management: Cromwell Terrace Aquifer) be publicly notified on Saturday 16 August 2014.*
3. *That the Council establish a Hearing Committee to hear and make recommendations relating to Proposed Plan Change 4C (Groundwater management: Cromwell Terrace Aquifer).*
4. *That Proposed Plan Change 4C (Groundwater management: Cromwell Terrace Aquifer) will have immediate legal effect upon notification.*

Motion carried

Item 2

2014/0958 **Notification of Proposed Plan Change 3B (Pomahaka catchment minimum flow).** DPPRM, 4/7/14

The report presented a summary of comments received on the Consultation Draft of Proposed Plan Change 3B (Pomahaka catchment minimum flow), and recommended the notification of the Proposed Plan Change. The Plan change sought to include a minimum flow and allocation regime for the Pomahaka catchment into the Water Plan's Schedule 2 and to identify the Pomahaka Alluvial Ribbon Aquifer. The Plan Change and Section 32 report were circulated with the agenda.

Cr Woodhead moved
Cr Shepherd seconded

1. *That Proposed Plan Change 3B (Pomahaka catchment minimum flow) and its accompanying Section 32 Evaluation Report be approved for notification in accordance with clause 5, Schedule 1 of the RMA.*
2. *That Proposed Plan Change 3B (Pomahaka catchment minimum flow) be publicly notified on Saturday 16 August 2014.*
3. *That the Council establish a Hearing Committee to hear and make recommendations relating to Proposed Plan Change 3B (Pomahaka catchment minimum flow).*
4. *That Proposed Plan Change 3B (Pomahaka catchment minimum flow) will have immediate legal effect upon notification.*

Motion carried

PART B - ITEMS FOR NOTING

Item 3

2014/0942 **Director's Report on Progress.** DPPRM, 4/7/14

The report gave an overview of significant activities undertaken by the Policy, Consents and Transport sections.

Mr McRae advised that ORC had met with MfE staff to discuss the National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management. The meeting was very productive, and had given MfE a better understanding of issues facing regional councils in relation to water quantity and quality.

Cr Deaker moved
Cr Neill seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

The meeting closed at 11.58 am.

Motion carried

REPORT

Document Id: A665275

Report Number: 2014/1269

Prepared For: Policy Committee

Prepared By: Policy Team

Date: 19 August 2014

Subject: **Director's Report on Progress**

1. Policy

1.1 Responses – National Policies, Strategies and Plans

In the seven weeks ending 22 August July 2014, the following were received:

Agency	Number Received	Details
Maritime New Zealand	1	Draft New Zealand Marine Oil Spill Response Strategy 2014
Ministry for the Environment	1	National Policy Direction on Pest Management Plans

The following responses were made over the seven week period:

Document	Response Type	Details
National Policy Direction on Pest Management Plans (MfE)	Written Feedback	Support for proposed amendments to assessment criteria for developing pest management plans.
National Statement on Science Investment (MBI&E)	Submission – Support	Support for investment in science and integrated application across disciplines to inform work of regional councils developing and implementing science-based solutions to problems.

1.2 Responses - Territorial Authority and Regional Authority Plan Changes and Resource Consent Applications

In the seven weeks ending 4 July 2014, the following were received:

Document	Number Received	Details
Consent applications	3	Queenstown Lakes District Council

Consent applications	1	Central Otago District Council
Consent applications	6	Dunedin City Council

The following responses were made over the seven week period:

Proposal	Response Type	Issues
DCC – CJ Wilson [Subdivision and building platform establishment]	Submission – Oppose	Requested the application provide more information to the consent authority on natural hazards, particularly assessing flooding risk and provision for wastewater disposal.
DCC – J S Menzies [subdivision and building platform establishment]	Submission – Oppose	Requested the applicant provide more information on land stability issues and waste water disposal for site.
DCC – Cutlers Investments Ltd [construction of residential units]	Submission – Oppose	Requested the applicant identify mitigation options for mapped flooding risk. Noted support in respect to the proposal intensifying residential accommodation in an area where use would be made of existing transport infrastructure, consistent with the Regional Land Transport Strategy.
DCC – Urban Co-housing Development Otepoti Ltd	Submission – Support	Noted support in respect to the proposal intensifying residential accommodation in an area where use would be made of existing transport infrastructure, consistent with the Regional Land Transport Strategy.
Environment Canterbury – Plan Change 3 Waitaki Catchment Water Allocation Regional Plan	Submission – Oppose	Requested that before a decision is made ECan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake further work to determine the relationship of surface flows in the Waitaki River and the Lower Waitaki Plains Aquifer; and • Consider effects on water quality through increasing risk of didymo growth, a scenario that would likely be at odds with the National Policy Statement Freshwater Management 2014.

2. Resource Management Act: Policy Plans and Strategies

2.1 Review of Regional Policy Statement for Otago

The first version of the Consultation Draft for the reviewed Regional Policy Statement for Otago is now being prepared. A councillor workshop is planned for 17 September to discuss the policy framework proposed, and workshops will follow with local authority staff, and then all local authority elected representatives.

A separate meeting is being organised for Maori landowners throughout Otago, with the list of invitees now being finalised with Ngai Tahu Maori Law Centre. Other informal meetings are being held with stakeholders, at their request.

2.2 Regional Plan: Water for Otago

Proposed Plan Change 4B (Groundwater Allocation)

The proposed plan change was notified on Saturday 17 May 2014. Submissions closed on Tuesday 17 June 2014, with 14 submissions received in time, and 2 late submissions. The Summary of Decisions Requested and Call for Further Submissions was publicly notified on Saturday 28 June 2014, with further submissions closing on Friday 11 July 2014. Eight further submissions have been received. The hearing is scheduled for Tuesday 16 September. The Officers' Report on Decisions Requested is being prepared, and, together with the hearing schedule, will be circulated to submitters at least 10 days ahead of the hearing.

Proposed Plan Change 3B (Pomahaka Catchment Minimum Flow)

This proposed plan change was notified on Saturday 16 August 2014, with submissions closing on Friday 12 September 2014. No submissions have yet been received.

Proposed Plan Change 4C (Groundwater Management: Cromwell Terrace Aquifer)

This proposed plan change was notified on Saturday 16 August 2014, with submissions closing on Friday 12 September 2014. No submissions have yet been received.

Minimum flow and aquifer allocation proposals

Minimum flow and allocation regimes are being developed for a number of catchments and aquifers.

The following progress has been made over the past 7 weeks:

Catchment/Aquifer	Action
Waikouaiti River	The Consultation Draft is being finalised. There has been a delay as a consent application is currently being mediated.
Waiwera River	No action has been taken over the past 7 weeks.
Benger Burn and Ettrick Basin aquifer	No action has been taken over the past 7 weeks.
Lindis River and connected aquifers	As a result of feedback on the Consultation Draft, the proposed minimum flow regime is being revised. A

	meeting is being arranged with some affected landowners to check information about river flows and how recent consents are being used. Any revised proposed will be presented back to a Council workshop before a further public meeting is held. Notification has been deferred in the interim.
Cardrona River and Wanaka Basin Cardrona Aquifer	No action has been taken over the past 7 weeks. A community workshop will be arranged later in 2014.
Manuherikia River and connected aquifers	No action has been taken over the past 7 weeks. The first workshop on community values will be organised once the Manuherikia Water Strategy group have indicated that they are ready to meet with the wider community.
Earnsclough Aquifer	No action has been taken over the past 7 weeks.
Hawea Basin Aquifer	A community workshop is planned for Wednesday 27 August to discuss community values and aquifer modelling already undertaken.
Maniototo Aquifer	A community workshop was held on Thursday 21 August 2014, discussing aquifer values and seeking involvement from the community in undertaking the scientific study of the aquifer over the coming months. Nine people attended, and there was good support for undertaking the aquifer study over the coming summer.
Pisa Aquifer	A community workshop is planned for Thursday 28 August 2014 to discuss aquifer values and seek involvement from the community in undertaking the scientific study of the aquifer over the coming months.
Roxburgh Aquifer	A community workshop is planned for Wednesday 27 August 2014 to discuss aquifer values and seek involvement from the community in undertaking the scientific study of the aquifer over the coming months.

4. Recommendation

That this report is noted.

Fraser McRae
Director Policy Planning and Resource Management

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL**Agenda for a meeting of the Regulatory Committee to be held in the
Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on Thursday
4 September 2014 following the Policy Committee meeting**

Membership:

Cr Sam Neill (Chairperson)
Cr Gerrard Eckhoff (Deputy Chairperson)
Cr Graeme Bell
Cr Doug Brown
Cr Louise Croot MNZM
Cr Michael Deaker
Cr Gary Kelliher
Cr Trevor Kempton
Cr Gretchen Robertson
Cr Bryan Scott
Cr David Shepherd
Cr Stephen Woodhead

Apologies:

Leave of Absence:

In attendance:

**Please note that there is an embargo on agenda items until 8.30 am on Thursday 2
September.**

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

PUBLIC FORUM

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 July 2014, having been
circulated, for adoption

Matters arising from minutes

PART A - RECOMMENDATIONS

- Item 1
2014/1196 **Septic Tank Investigation.** Demo, 14/8/14

The report models and explores the density, distribution, and risk of groundwater contamination by septic tanks in the Otago Region using a GIS-based approach, and by applying the DRASTIC model. Potential problems with enforcement policies are also briefly examined. The full technical report is circulated separately with the agenda.

PART B - ITEMS FOR NOTING

- Item 2
2014/0847 **Summary of Dairy Farm Inspections for 2013/14.** DEMO, 6/8/14

Describing the findings of the 2013/14 annual inspections of dairy farms in the Otago Region.

- Item 3
2014/1126 **Annual Compliance Summary 2013/14.** DEMO, 8/8/14

The report summarises the compliance activities and consent conditions for the 2013/14 year for all major consent holders and permitted activities.

- Item 4
2014/1110 **Biosecurity and RMA Monitoring Report.** DEMO, 22/8/14

Reporting on water, air, pest, and contaminated site environmental monitoring and incidents for the period 13 July to 25 July 2014.

- Item 5
2014/1256 **Consent processing, consent administration and Building Control Authority update.** DPPRM, 22/8/14

Detailing consent processing, consent administration and building control authority activity for the period 1 July to 15 August 2014.

Item 6
2014/1160

RMA, Biosecurity Act and Building Act Enforcement Activities.
DPPRM, 12/8/14

Detailing Resource Management Act 1991, Biosecurity Act 1993 and Building Act 2004 enforcement activities undertaken by the Otago Regional Council for the period 1 July to 12 August.

Item 7
2014/1191

Appointment of Hearing Commissioners August 2014.
DPPRM, 14/8/14

Listing hearing commissioners appointed for the period to 14 August 2014.

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Regulatory Committee held in the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on Thursday 24 July 2014 commencing at 12.45 pm

Present:

Cr Sam Neill (Chairperson)
 Cr Gerrard Eckhoff (Deputy Chairperson)
 Cr Graeme Bell
 Cr Doug Brown
 Cr Louise Croot MNZM
 Cr Michael Deaker
 Cr Gary Kelliher
 Cr Trevor Kempton
 Cr Bryan Scott
 Cr David Shepherd
 Cr Stephen Woodhead

Apologies:

Cr Gretchen Robertson
 The apology was accepted on the motion of Crs Neill and Deaker.

In attendance:

Peter Bodeker
 Wayne Scott
 Jeff Donaldson
 Jane Leahy
 Fraser McRae
 Gavin Palmer
 Janet Favel

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 June 2014, having been circulated, were adopted on the motion of Crs Croot and Shepherd.

Matters arising from minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

ITEMS FOR NOTING

Item 1

2014/0917 **Biosecurity and RMA Monitoring Report.** DEMO, 10/7/14

The report detailed water, air, pest, and contaminated site environmental monitoring and incidents for the period 1 May to 12 June 2014.

In response to a question Mr Donaldson explained that Recommendations for Enforcement Action in relation to water metering were considered by a staff panel of the Chief Executive, Legal Counsel, and Manager Environmental Services, who made the decision whether or not to proceed with legal action. Abatement notices would take effect on 1 August which gave people time to make their system compliant for the next irrigation season.

Mr Donaldson advised that the Environmental Monitoring and Operations section had assisted Canterbury farmers with rabbit poisoning operations after an accident to a land holder had left them short staffed. It was required that a qualified contractor be employed and ORC was the only contractor available with the proper equipment.

In response to a question Mr Donaldson noted that the review of the Pest Management Strategy was being carried out a year earlier than necessary, but work on a combined strategy with Southland, West Coast, Canterbury and Marlborough regions was under way. The draft generic strategy was due in August. Mr Donaldson further explained that the lists of the 20 main pests from each authority had been amalgamated into one list of 20 for the whole of the South Island. There were implications with regard to wilding trees, possums and feral deer.

Mr Donaldson explained that one more pest control operation was needed to complete the three year rabbit trial project with Landcare Research and the Ministry of Primary Industries.

In response to a question about feral pigs, Mr Donaldson explained that there was difficulty in sourcing appropriate control tools. There was concern about feral pigs and wallabies now being identified in increasing numbers in areas of Otago.

Cr Kempton moved
Cr Kelliher seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

- Item 2
2014/0945 **Consent processing, consent administration and Building Control Authority update.** DPPRM, 4/7/14

The report detailed consent processing, consent administration and building control authority activity for the period 19 May to 30 June 2014.

Cr Croot moved
Cr Scott seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

- Item 3
2014/0936 **RMA, Biosecurity Act and Building Act Enforcement Activities.** DPPRM, 3/7/14

The report detailed Resource Management Act 1991, Biosecurity Act 1993 and Building Act 2004 enforcement activities undertaken by the Otago Regional Council for the period 14 May to 30 June 2014.

Cr Bell moved
Cr Woodhead seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

- Item 4
2014/1005 **Objection hearing – Strath Taieri Irrigation Group (2007.310).** DPPRM, 11/1/14

The report noted the outcome of the Objections Committee hearing of the objection on costs lodged by the Strath Taieri Irrigation Group (STIG).

Mr Bodeker advised that ORC engagement with STIG as recommended by the Hearings Committee had commenced and the first meeting would be held on Wednesday 30 July.

Cr Kelliher moved
Cr Scott seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

The meeting closed at 1.06 pm

Chairman

REPORT

Document Id: A662422

Report Number: 2014/1196
Prepared For: Regulatory Committee
Prepared By: Sean Leslie, Resource Management Analyst
Date: 14 August 2014

Subject: **Septic Tank Investigation**

1. Précis

This paper models and explores the density, distribution, and risk of groundwater contamination by septic tanks in the Otago Region using a GIS-based approach, and by applying the DRASTIC model. Potential problems with enforcement policies are also briefly examined.

This paper finds that although the overall risk of groundwater contamination within Otago falls into the Low and Medium categories, the current approach to enforcement of the Permitted Activity rules may prove inadequate.

2. Method

After discussion with the Otago Regional Council I.T. Department and the various TLAs in the Otago Region, it was decided that the most efficient and effective approach would be to contact the I.T. Department of each TLA and obtain from them maps showing where the various TLA-owned assets were located.

Starting with the Otago Regional Councils GIS property database, a series of simplifying assumptions was made to eliminate properties that did not meet various criteria. The number of properties that remained per km² were counted and mapped. Details of the results are attached.

Risk of groundwater contamination by septic tanks was calculated using the DRASTIC model developed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The DRASTIC model takes into account soil and aquifer properties, and assigns these properties a score. The scores of all of the properties are summed to calculate the DRASTIC index, which can then be mapped.

The DRASTIC modelling was carried out with the Otago Regional Councils GIS tools, using combined information from GrowOtago and Resource Science reports. DRASTIC mapping has been completed for all aquifers on which the necessary information is available or can be inferred. A contribution for septic tanks was also included; full details are included in the attached report.

3. Discussion

3.1 Septic Tank Density and Distribution

The information discussed in this section necessarily excludes Waitaki District, because the data used to assemble this model were unavailable within Waitaki District.

USEPA guidelines divide septic tank densities into three categories according to the risk posed. 'Low-Density' is defined as less than 3.8 septic tanks per km², 'Medium-Density' as between 3.8 and 15 septic tanks per km², and 'High-Density' as more than 15 septic tanks per km².

The method outlined in the attached report suggests that there are likely to be 14,641 septic tanks within the Otago Region (excluding Waitaki District). The modelling also indicates the following:

Density?	Dunedin		Central Otago		Clutha		Queenstown-Lakes		All Otago	
<3	644	11%	742	23%	1674	54%	205	8%	3265	22%
3 to 15	1816	32%	1112	34%	790	25%	801	32%	4519	31%
>15	3225	57%	1428	44%	683	22%	1521	60%	6857	47%
>100	1202	21%	713	22%	29	1%	780	31%	2178	19%
>200	269	5%	699	21%	0	0%	377	15%	1345	9%
>300	0	0%	546	17%	0	0%	0	0%	546	4%
Totals	5685	39%	3282	22%	3147	21%	2527	17%	14641	

Within Dunedin and Queenstown-Lakes, the majority of the septic tanks are located in high-density areas.

Within Central Otago, the plurality of septic tanks are in high density areas, however, Central Otago shows the most even split among high-, medium-, and low-densities.

Within Clutha, the majority of septic tanks are in low-density areas, with the remainder split almost evenly among medium- and high-density areas.

Dunedin, Central Otago, and Queenstown-Lakes all show more than 20% of septic tanks in areas with densities >100 /km², however, only Central Otago townships reach densities of >300 /km².

When considering these data, it should be remembered that the approach taken will tend to overestimate the number of septic tanks, because not all properties that have address points associated with them necessarily have a house on them. It includes, for example, undeveloped subsections.

3.2 DRASTIC Index Modelling

The DRASTIC model was developed by the USEPA as a risk management model. DRASTIC characterizes the risk of groundwater contamination by considering seven factors:

- Depth to groundwater
- Recharge rate
- Aquifer type

- Soil type
- Topography
- Impact of the vadose zone
- Conductivity of the aquifer

Each of these properties is assigned a weight and a score. The scores are multiplied by the weight, and then summed across all seven properties to give the DRASTIC index, which can then be mapped.

Further details of the process and the way it was applied can be found in the attached technical report; however, the modelling that has been carried out indicates that the majority of Aquifers in Otago are at low- or medium-risk of contamination.

Category	Negligible	Low		Medium		High		Extreme
Index	<80	80 to 100	100 to 120	120 to 140	140 to 160	160 to 180	180 to 200	>200
km ²	1.1	251	879	1291	1430	320	0	0

According to the modelling that has been done, the areas at the highest risk of contamination are the Pomahaka, Lower Taieri, Wakatipu Basin, and those parts of the Wanaka-Cardrona aquifer and of the Hawea Flats aquifer where the groundwater is close to the surface. The modelling also suggests that different factors are important in different aquifers, for example, in Kingston it is topography, in Cardrona it is groundwater depth, in the Pomahaka it is soil type, in the Wakatipu Basin it is recharge rate, but in the Dunstan Flats there is no clear single factor.

The DRASTIC modelling, combined with the septic tank density modelling, also indicates that in some parts of Otago, for example, Kingston and Clyde, the hydraulic loading from septic tanks may be sufficient to increase the risk of groundwater contamination when considered as part of the net aquifer recharge.

The largest sources of uncertainty come from the assumptions required to determine the depth to groundwater, or from the assumptions required to determine the contribution of septic tanks to the net recharge rate of the aquifer. These assumptions may be able to be refined to improve the modelling.

4. Enforcement

The Otago Regional Council has historically managed small-scale discharges from septic tanks and long drops using permitted activity rules 12.6.1.1 to 12.6.1.4, which allow discharges without a resource consent provided certain conditions are met, with those conditions varying depending on whether the discharge predates or postdates 28 February 1998. Enforcement of these permitted activity rules has typically been reactive rather than proactive and relied upon the Council receiving complaints from members of the public.

The current reactive approach, however, may be inadequate. A study done by the Gold Coast City Council (GCC) found that 70% of the septic tanks examined by them were in need of immediate sludge removal. Within New Zealand inspections have revealed failure rates ranging from as low as 3% to as high as 77%, with the MFE stating in their 2008 NES discussion document, "Failure rates of on-site systems for different communities are estimated to range from 15 to 50 percent".

The GCC study also suggests that an end-of-pipe or distribution-box standard may be insufficient to capture problematic septic tanks. If a septic tank is sufficiently filled with sludge, effluent will have almost zero retention time. No retention means that unless the distribution box is sampled while a slug is passing through it, it may appear to be compliant because the peak loading simply passes through the tank, and out the pipe, to be discharged to the land with no treatment. What is then left in the distribution box is effectively grey water. This then leads to the impression that the septic tank is compliant or even performing well, when the reality is that it is discharging untreated effluent.

Three approaches to enforcement were examined.

Inspections: The biggest factor in determining the effectiveness of a septic tank and the quality of its discharge is sludge depth. As a natural result of their daily operations, septic tanks require to be pumped out regularly, introducing a natural opportunity to perform an inspection. Doing so may prove onerous on ratepayers, and would require a workload comparable to Dairy Farm inspections.

SoE Monitoring: The information generated for this technical report suggests areas of high density where monitoring may be beneficial. Monitoring can only reasonably be expected to identify communities where septic tanks are failing. Additionally, monitoring may miss failing septic tanks entirely because of the structure of the aquifer, the properties of its flow, or both.

Permitted Activity Rule Change: A permitted activity rule change could be formulated with the intent of managing contamination risk by using zones derived from septic tank densities and groundwater contamination risk. These zones could be used to encourage the use of advanced wastewater treatment systems, cluster treatment systems and TLA reticulation.

5. Recommendations

1. That the Septic Tank Report be noted.
2. That a prioritized approach based on DRASTIC risk modelling and septic tank density modelling be adopted.
3. That the Otago Regional Council adopt a plan change covering septic tanks, using Plan Change 6A and the information contained in the attached.

Fraser McRae
Director Policy Planning and Resource Management

REPORT

File: A632291

Report No.: 2014/847

Prepared For: Regulatory Committee

Prepared by: Martin King, Manager Environmental Services and
Richard Lord, Team Leader Environmental Compliance

Date: 6 August 2014

Subject: Summary of Dairy Farm Inspections for 2013/2014

1. Précis

This report describes the findings of the 2013/2014 annual inspection of dairy farms in the Otago Region.

2. Introduction

There are currently 435 operating dairy sheds in Otago. As farm dairy effluent discharges have the potential to adversely affect water quality when managed poorly, all farms have been inspected annually since 2001. These inspections are in addition to investigations from any complaints that may be received about discharges from farms.

The purpose of the annual inspections is to determine that farms were meeting the existing permitted activity rules for discharge of effluent to land. The permitted activity rule conditions that are assessed include:

- (a) Any collection or storage system is sealed so as to prevent any contamination of water in any water body, drain, or water race; and
- (b) The discharge occurs more than 50 metres from any surface water body or mean high water springs; and
- (c) The discharge occurs more than 50 metres from any bore used to supply water for domestic purposes or drinking water for livestock; and
- (d) The discharge does not occur on saturated soils; and
- (e) There is no direct discharge of animal waste to water in any drain, or water race, or to groundwater; and
- (f) Effluent from the discharge does not runoff onto any other person's property; and
- (g) Ponding of animal waste from the discharge does not occur; and
- (h) The discharge does not cause flooding of any other person's property, erosion, land instability, sedimentation or property damage; and
- (i) The Nitrogen loading due to the discharge does not exceed 150 kg N per hectare per year (75 kg N per hectare per year in a groundwater protection zone).

It should be noted that this is the last year of the current dairy inspection regime. For the 2014/15 dairy inspections will be carried out in accordance with the Plan Change 6A compliance strategy that was presented to Council.

The 2013/2014 dairy inspections and any follow up visits were carried out between September 2013 and April 2014 by RMA warranted Environmental Monitoring staff.

During the visit the farm is visually inspected for compliance with the above conditions, the irrigation system assessed and a series of questions asked of the farm owner, manager or share-milker.

Any identified breaches of the rules are noted, with photographic evidence taken of any serious ponding or discharges to water. If there is evidence of discharge to water, water samples may be taken for laboratory analysis of faecal coliforms and nutrients. Where problems have been identified, a follow-up visit is arranged with the farmer to ensure that remedial measures have been put in place.

Where there have been non-compliances identified the Enforcement Decision Group determines whether enforcement action is warranted.

3. Results of the 2013/2014 Annual Dairy Inspections

A total of 435 dairy sheds were operating during the season. During the summer milking season it was found that 407 (representing 93.5%) of the farms were compliant with the permitted activity rules.

A total of 28 dairy farms (6.5%) were found to have one or more breaches of the permitted activity rule that were considered to have the potential to result in adverse effects on the environment. A total of 10 out of the 28 non-compliant dairy farms were identified to have serious non-compliance with the permitted activity rules. This resulted in the Council initiating 8 prosecutions with the Court and the issuing of 4 infringement notices.

The reasons for the drop in prosecution actions can in part be attributed with the 2007/08 and 2008/09 seasons enforcement action when 46 dairy farms were prosecuted. As a result of this there is a greater awareness of the Council's enforcement regime by the dairy farming industry. Fonterra are also active in undertaking inspections of their own, and have expanded their inspection process to include effluent systems.

While the Council policy of enforcing gross and wilful discharges continues, (e.g. any discharge to water, irrigation on saturated soils) staff have also worked with a number of farm owners on minor and accidental issues.

In a number of situations where minor non-compliance, or a combination of minor non-compliance or pure accidental discharges occurred, the owner/sharemilker was advised to immediately remedy the situation and a further site inspection was carried out on a cost recovery basis.

The compliance grading remained in place as a true record of what was observed on the day. The Officer also asked that a programme of effluent management and staff training be put in place to ensure similar situations did not happen again, upgrade of infrastructure where appropriate, and in some situations riparian management around our waterways.

Staff have also noted that a number of farms have significantly upgraded their effluent management infrastructure by installing effluent storage systems, installing gatorbuddies (electronic sensor systems in the event of irrigator failure e.g. hose disconnecting from the travelling irrigator) on the irrigator systems and upgraded to K-line or centre pivot irrigation systems.

A summary of the prosecution cases can be found in Table 1.

Table 1. Prosecutions for 2013/14 by Area

Location	Offence
North Otago	Discharge to land that may enter water.
Taieri	Discharge to land that may enter water
Clutha	Discharge to land that may enter water
South Otago	Discharge to land that may enter water and ponding of effluent
South Otago	Discharge to land that may enter water
South Otago	Discharge to land that may enter water
South Otago	Discharge to land that may enter water
West Otago	Discharge to land that may enter water

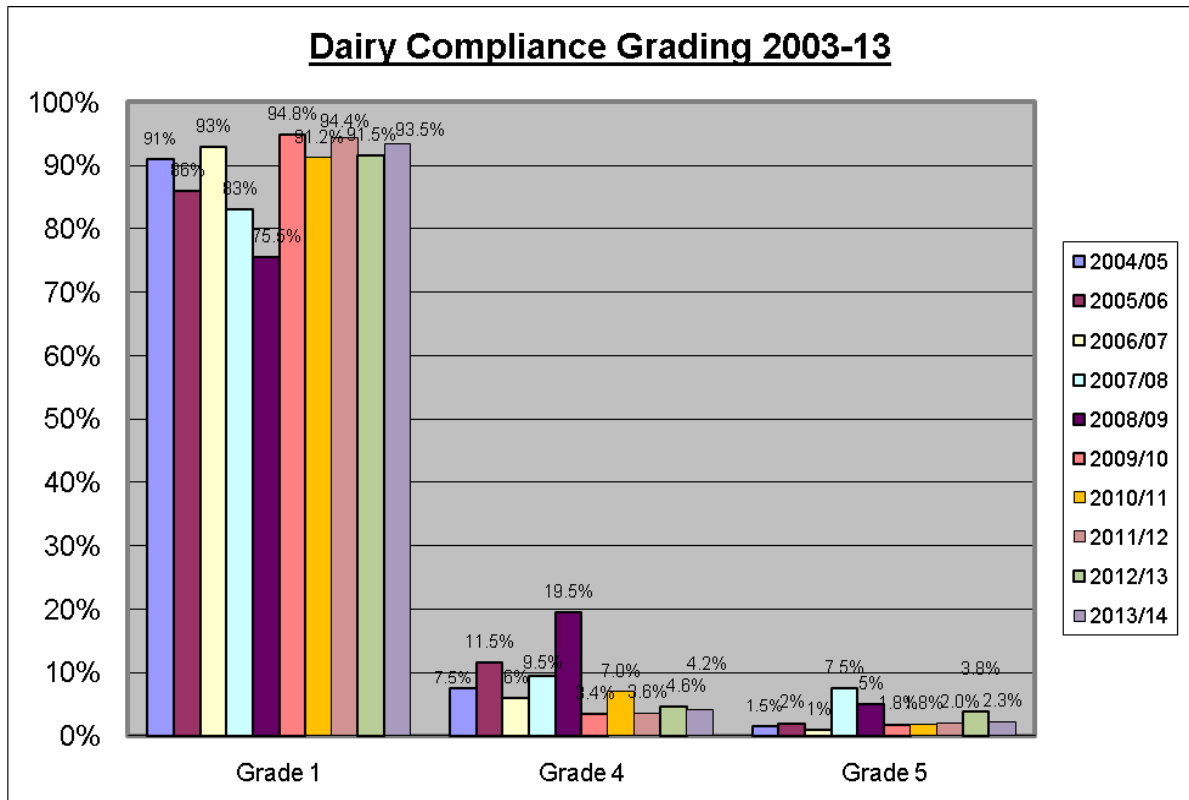
3.1 Comparison with Previous Inspections

A total of 413 dairy farms were milking during the 2012/13 season. During the summer milking season it was found that 378 (representing 91.5%) of the farms were compliant with the permitted activity rules.

A total of 35 dairy farms (8.5%) were found to have one or more breaches of the permitted activity rule that were considered to have the potential to result in adverse effects on the environment. A total of 16 out of the 35 non-compliant dairy farms were identified to have serious non-compliance with the permitted activity rules. This resulted in the Council initiating five prosecutions with the Court and the issuing of 12 infringement notices.

Figure 1 shows a breakdown in dairy farm compliance since 2003

Figure 1 Dairy compliance by grade since 2003/04



The Council operates a grading system that is consistent with national reporting standards for dairy farming in New Zealand. The grading system is:

- Grade 1** Full compliance found.
- Grade 4** Non-compliance and minor adverse environmental effects observed (e.g. minor ponding around the sump, minor ponding found around the travelling irrigator).
- Grade 5** Non-compliance and significant adverse environmental effects observed (e.g. discharges to water, significant ponding from the travelling irrigator on land, irrigation on saturated soils).

Since 2003 a total of 67 infringement fines have been issued and 90 prosecutions initiated (88 since 2007/08). Table 2 provides a breakdown of enforcement actions since 2003.

Table 2. Enforcement Actions Since 2003

Year	Infringements	Prosecutions
2003/04	13	1
2004/05	5	1
2005/06	2	
2006/07	5	
2007/08	18	25
2008/09	4	21
2009/10	1	11
2010/11	4	5
2011/12	7	10
2012/13	4	8
2013/14	4	8
Totals	67	90

4 Changes under Plan Change 6A

As previously reported to Council, changes to the dairy inspection regime will occur for the 2014/15 year. The new changes will result in a shift from the annual dairy inspection for every farm to a risk management approach.

Every farm will be assessed on environmental risk and inspection assigned based on that risk. The risk matrix incorporates:

1. Whether the dairy farm is in a degraded river catchment;
2. Whether the dairy farm has adopted best infrastructure management for their area; and
3. Whether there are drainage risks (eg tiles, mole drains that lead to waterways) on the property.

If the dairy farm change their infrastructure and reduces their environmental risks, the number of inspections will decrease. When water quality also improves in the degraded catchments, inspection frequency will also reduce further.

The objective is to have every farm compliant, to adopt best practice in their area and to ensure water quality improves and meets Plan Change 6A schedule 15 and 16 standards.

4. Recommendations

1. That this report be noted.

Jeff Donaldson
Director Regional Services

REPORT

File: A660119

Report No.: 2014/1126

Prepared for: Regulatory Committee

Prepared by: Martin King, Manager Environmental Services, Environmental Monitoring & Operations

Date: 8 August 2014

Subject: Consents Compliance Monitoring and Incident Summary Report for the 2013/14 Year

1. Précis

This report summarises the compliance activities and consent conditions for the 2013/14 year for all major consent holders and permitted activities. The Council undertook 909 audits/inspections relating to 742 activities and reviewed 3802 consent conditions for performance monitoring during the year, which related to 1172 consents.

2. Background

Consent compliance monitoring involves performance monitoring and auditing of consents and is carried out by the Data Management and Environmental Monitoring staff of Council.

Performance Monitoring

This is reporting provided by the consent holder to Council. Depending on the activity, reporting requirements in consents range from supply of information (e.g. bore logs, site photographs or operation manuals) through to periodic supply of data (e.g. water take amounts, biological studies, water quality data relating to discharges and upstream and downstream receiving waters).

The frequency and complexity of the reporting vary widely depending on the activity and the potential impacts of the activity on the receiving environment. When reporting is received it is reviewed by Data and/or Environmental Monitoring staff against the consent conditions and a grade awarded.

Auditing

For many consents it is considered relevant for there to be periodic and active audit inspections by Council staff. The purpose of the audit inspection is to undertake a detailed assessment of compliance against all conditions of the consent. The audit monitoring involves a site inspection, sampling where necessary, assessment of consent holder technical reports, and a discussion of the consent requirements with the consent holder.

Once all data and photographs relating to the audit are collated, an audit report is prepared and an overall compliance grade is awarded. The frequency of auditing varies depending on the intensity of the activity and the potential environmental risk.

The grades that may be awarded include:

- Grade I Compliant
- Grade II Non Compliant - Minor (no actual or potential adverse effects)
- Grade III Non Compliant - Significant (no actual or potential adverse effects)
- Grade IV Non Compliant - Minor (actual or potential adverse effects)
- Grade V Non Compliant - Significant (actual or potential adverse effects more than minor)

The key consent holders are the Territorial Local Authorities (TLAs) (primarily for water, wastewater and landfills), and major industrial sites including contaminated sites with consents.

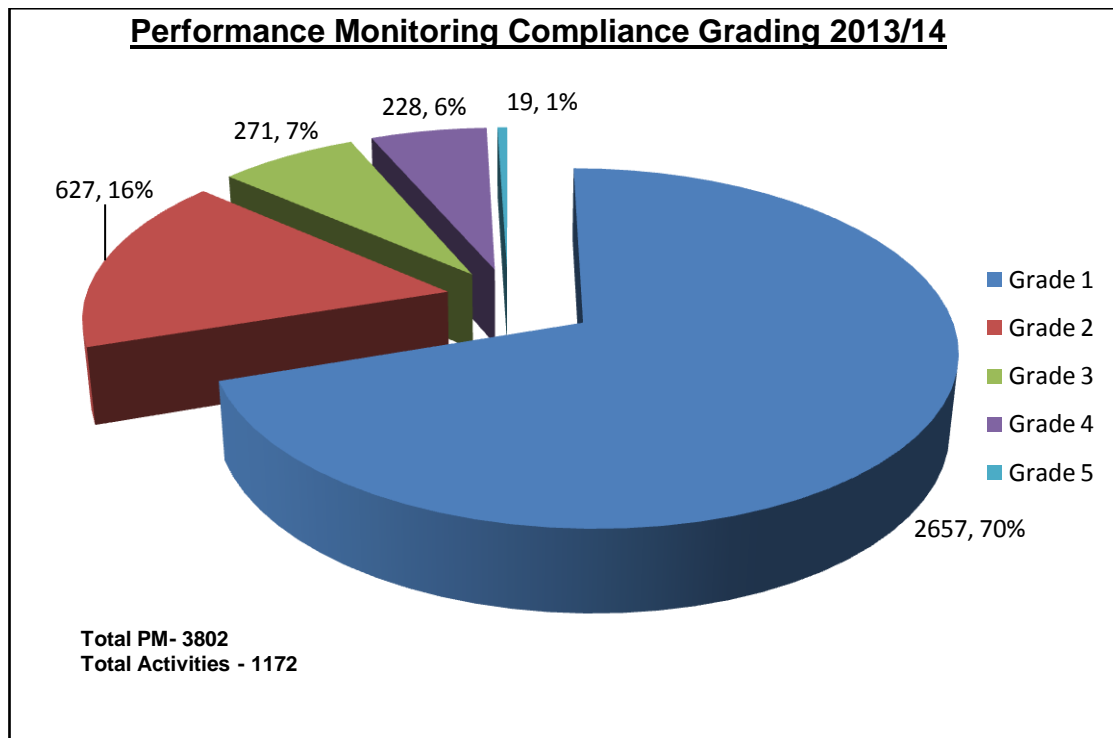
3. Summary of Compliance

3.1 Performance Monitoring

During the 2013/14 year performance monitoring information relating to 3802 conditions (1172 consented activities) was received. Of these, 2657 (70%) were fully compliant and awarded grade 1, a further 898 (23%) had non-compliances, but were not expected to have any actual environmental effects as the return data had not been received on time or some data was missing (grade 2 and 3).

There were 228 (6%) occurrences of non-compliance where minor environmental effects were encountered (grade 4) and only 19 (1%) occurrences where grade 5 was awarded, where effects on the environment had the potential to be significant. Figure 1 outlines the overall compliance grading for self monitoring return data.

Figure 1. Breakdown of Performance Monitoring Compliance Grading 20013/14



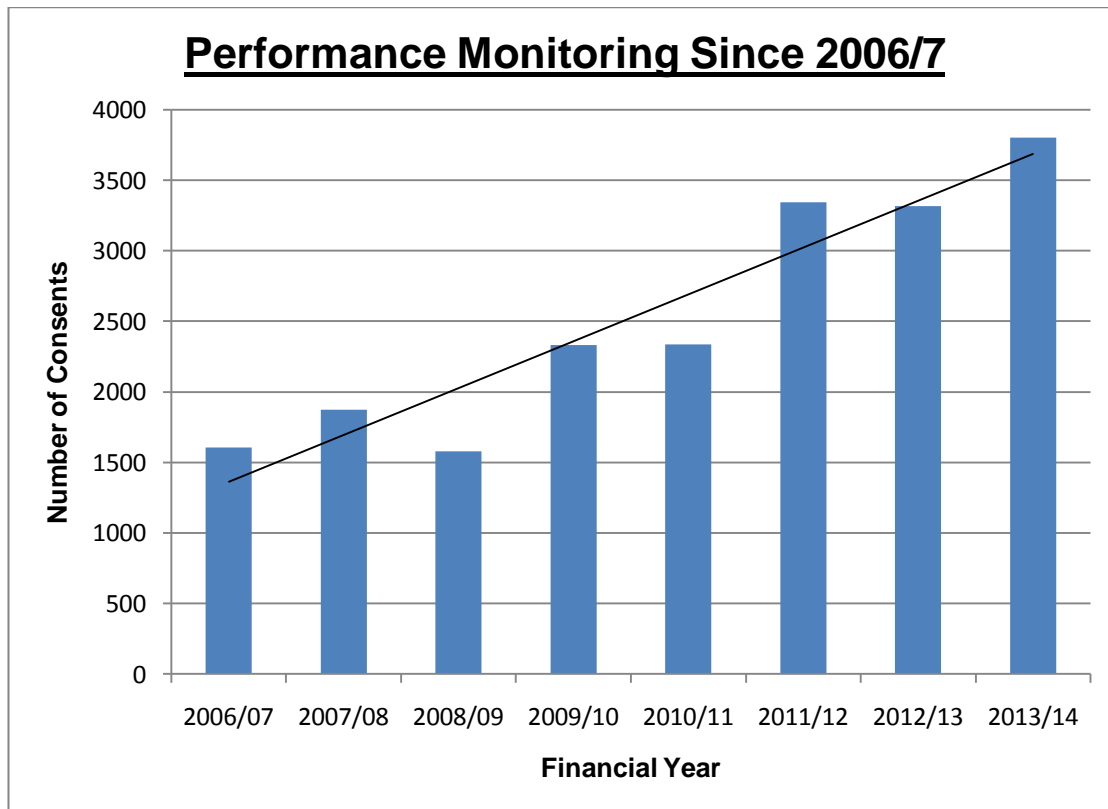
Where grade 4 and 5 non-compliance has been found, staff in the first instance have required written explanations from the consent holder explaining the breach of consent conditions, including how they propose to comply in the future.

The level of compliance and compliance percentage was up from the previous year. Table 1 shows a breakdown of compliance history. Of note is the relative steady state of grade 2 and 3 late return of performance monitoring information and the decrease in grade 4 minor environmental effects observed figures which is pleasing to see..

Table 1. Performance Monitoring History

Year	Grade 1		Grade 2		Grade 3		Grade 4		Grade 5	
2006/07	1067	67%	416	26%	51	3%	54	3%	18	1%
2007/08	1286	68%	384	21%	65	3%	88	5%	49	3%
2008/09	1012	64%	380	24%	50	3%	93	6%	42	3%
2009/10	1496	64%	701	30%	111	5%	23	1%	2	0%
2010/11	1723	74%	404	17%	176	8%	27	1%	5	0%
2011/12	1831	55%	791	24%	278	8%	436	13%	10	0%
2012/13	2149	65%	604	18%	210	6%	332	10%	22	1%
2013/14	2657	70%	627	16%	271	7%	228	6%	19	1%

More significantly it should be noted that performance monitoring returns to Council has more than doubled since the 2006/7 year. Part of this can be attributed to having a dedicated Environmental Monitoring data team processing, and following up on the performance monitoring returns, water metering regulations that require as mandatory metering of water takes, and staff undertaking a program of auditing of resource consents. It is anticipated that performance monitoring returns will continue to increase.



3.2 Auditing

Auditing of sites has been prioritised, based on environmental risk and LTCCP objectives, and organised as a project management structure.

Over the 2013/14 year, a total of 742 activities, involving 909 consents and permitted activities, were audited (for all types of activities), compared to 1225 consents/permitted activities in 2012/13. Of these, 652 consents/permitted activities (72%) were awarded with grade 1, fully compliant. A further 140 consents/permitted activities (15%) were awarded grades 2 and 3 due to performance monitoring being late, or not received at all and/or requests for information were not received on time.

A total of 64 consents/permitted activities (7%) were graded 4, and minor effects were either noted, or had the potential to have, adverse effects on the receiving environment. A further 53 consents/permitted activities (6%) were graded 5 due to significant non-compliance with consent or permitted activity conditions.

Figure 2 outlines the overall audit grades awarded and Figure 3 details auditing by activity type.

Figure 2. Breakdown of Total Audit Monitoring Compliance Grades 2011/12

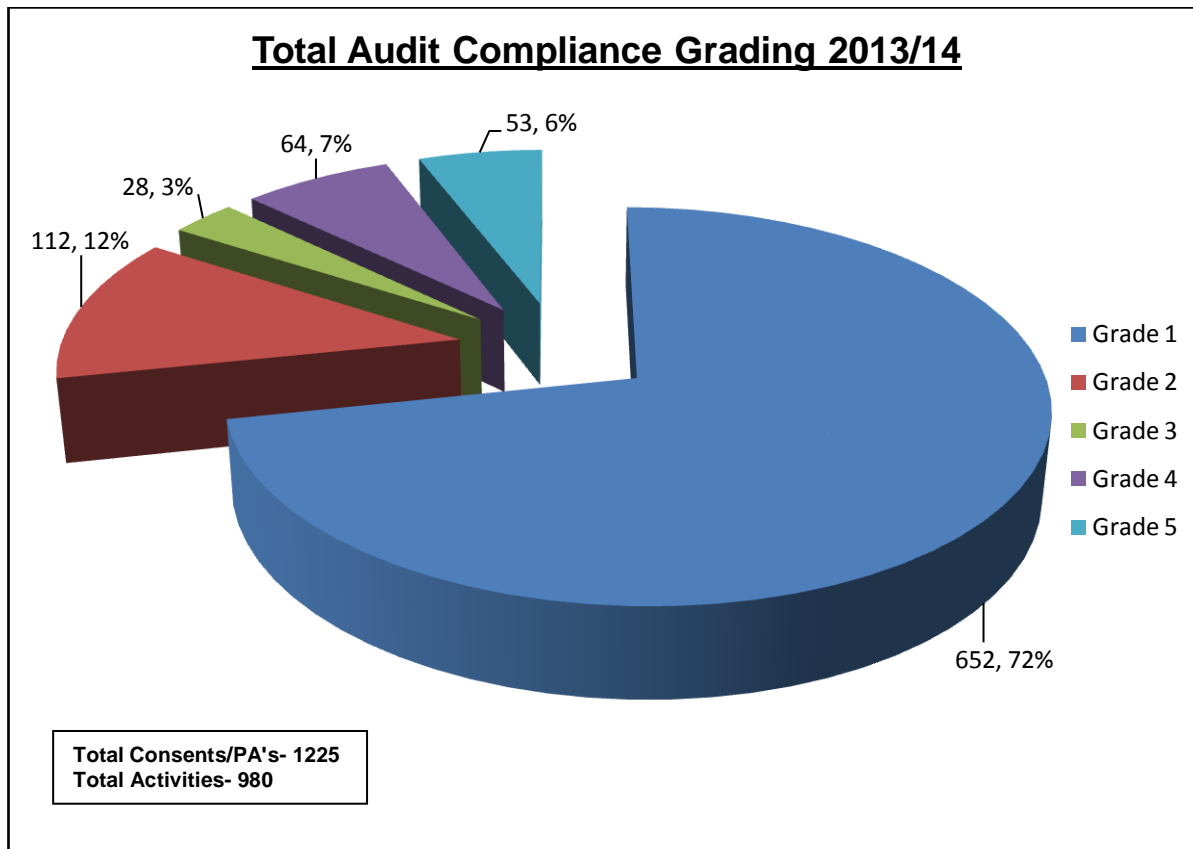
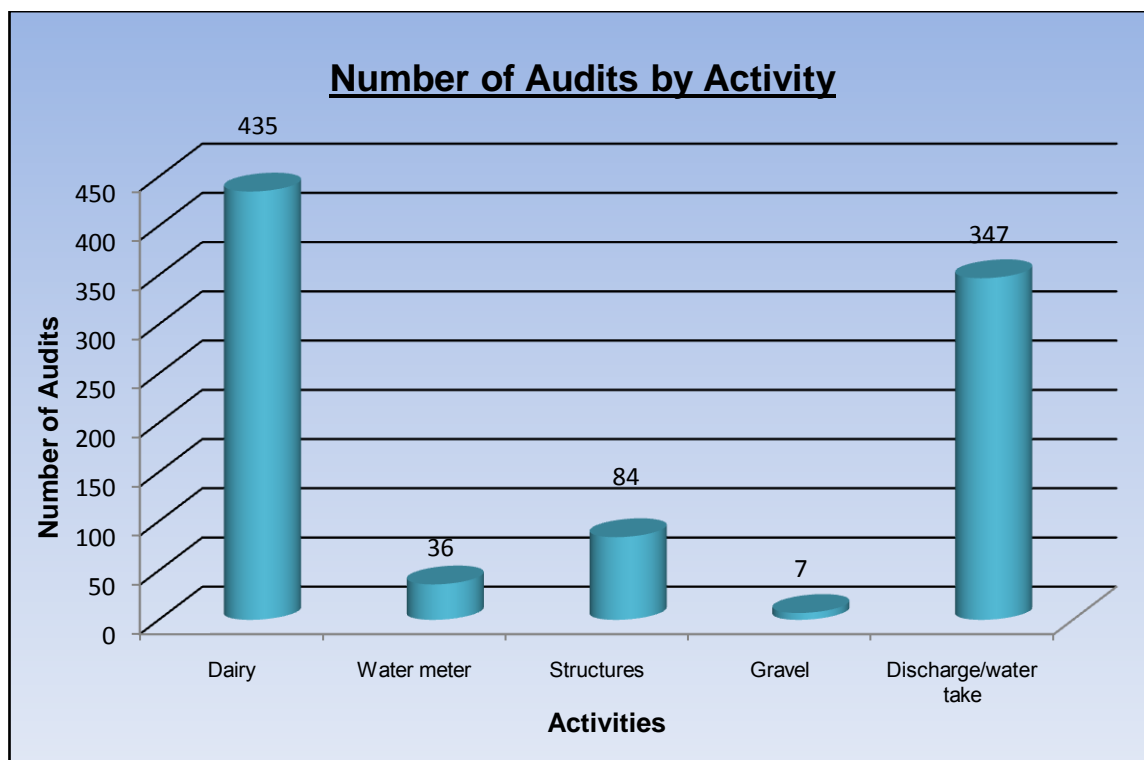


Figure 3. Breakdown by Audit Type



Where grade 5 has been awarded, Council staff, in the first instance have contacted the consent holder advising them of the non-compliance. Many discussions have been held with consent holders to work through the issue and explanations have been sought for the non-compliance. In these instances, compliance staff have formally written to consent holders requiring compliance by a due date.

The level of compliance has increased from the last financial year by 10%. This in part can be attributed to the decrease in the amount of auditing undertaken in the discharge and water take projects during 2013/14, and the high level of compliance found during the dairy monitoring project which gives the fully compliance grading a skewed weighting.

Table 2 shows the breakdown of compliance grading and percentage.

Table 2. Audit Monitoring History

Year	Grade 1		Grade 2		Grade 3		Grade 4		Grade 5	
2006/07	957	72%	32	2%	20	1%	181	14%	150	11%
2007/08	747	74%	51	5%	13	1%	126	12%	82	8%
2008/09	668	71%	45	5%	22	2%	140	15%	65	7%
2009/10	752	70%	62	6%	81	7%	147	14%	33	3%
2010/11	544	67%	79	10%	59	7%	109	14%	19	2%
2011/12	856	67%	114	9%	69	6%	193	15%	43	3%
2012/13	756	62%	181	15%	42	3%	113	9%	133	11%
2013/14	652	72%	112	12%	28	3%	64	7%	53	6%

3.3 Summary of Audit Compliance by Activity

Figure 4 shows a summary of compliance grading for the dairy permitted activity monitoring. This has been reported to Council in a separate report.

Figure 4. Dairy Farm Compliance Grading

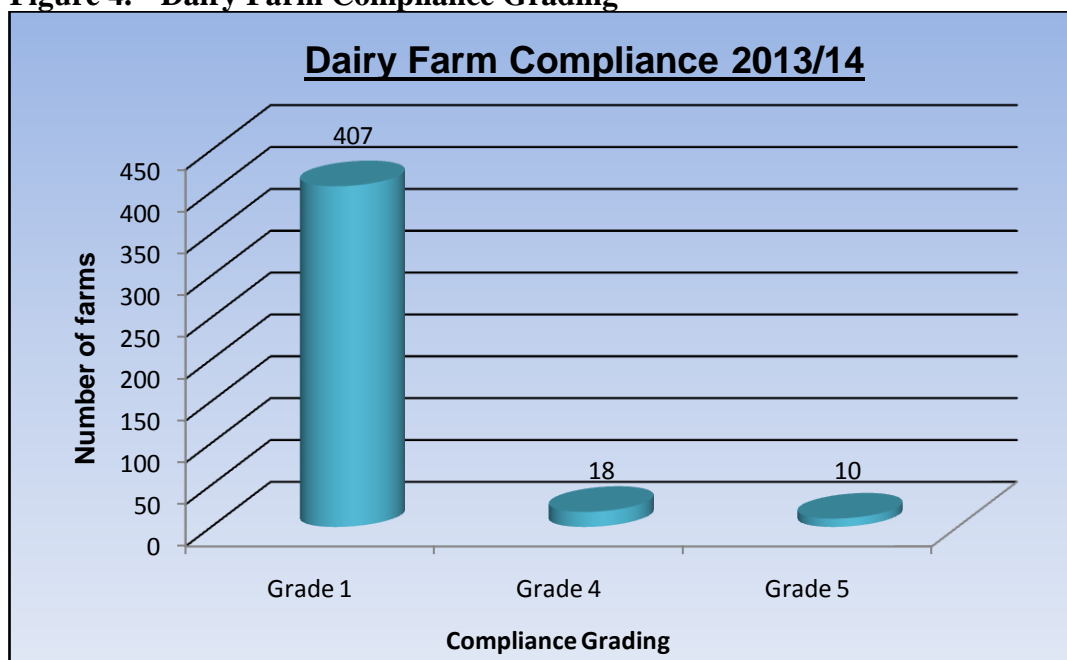


Figure 5 and 6 show the compliance levels found for our water metering installation and structures monitoring programme. It was of some concern that staff found that some meters had not been installed correctly so that they had the potential to record the volume of water taken incorrectly, and a number of consent holders did not send in their water metering installation certification on time. The consent holders were advised of the findings and asked to rectify the matter with their installer.

A high level of compliance has been found with the structures monitoring project. Structures include bridges, culverts, bores, etc. On 10 occasions non-compliance was observed as a result of very late performance monitoring being received. Two consents received a grade 5 non-compliance due to concerns about the construction of the structures. This was resolved by the consent holder rectifying the matter.

Figure 5. Water Meter Installation Compliance Grading

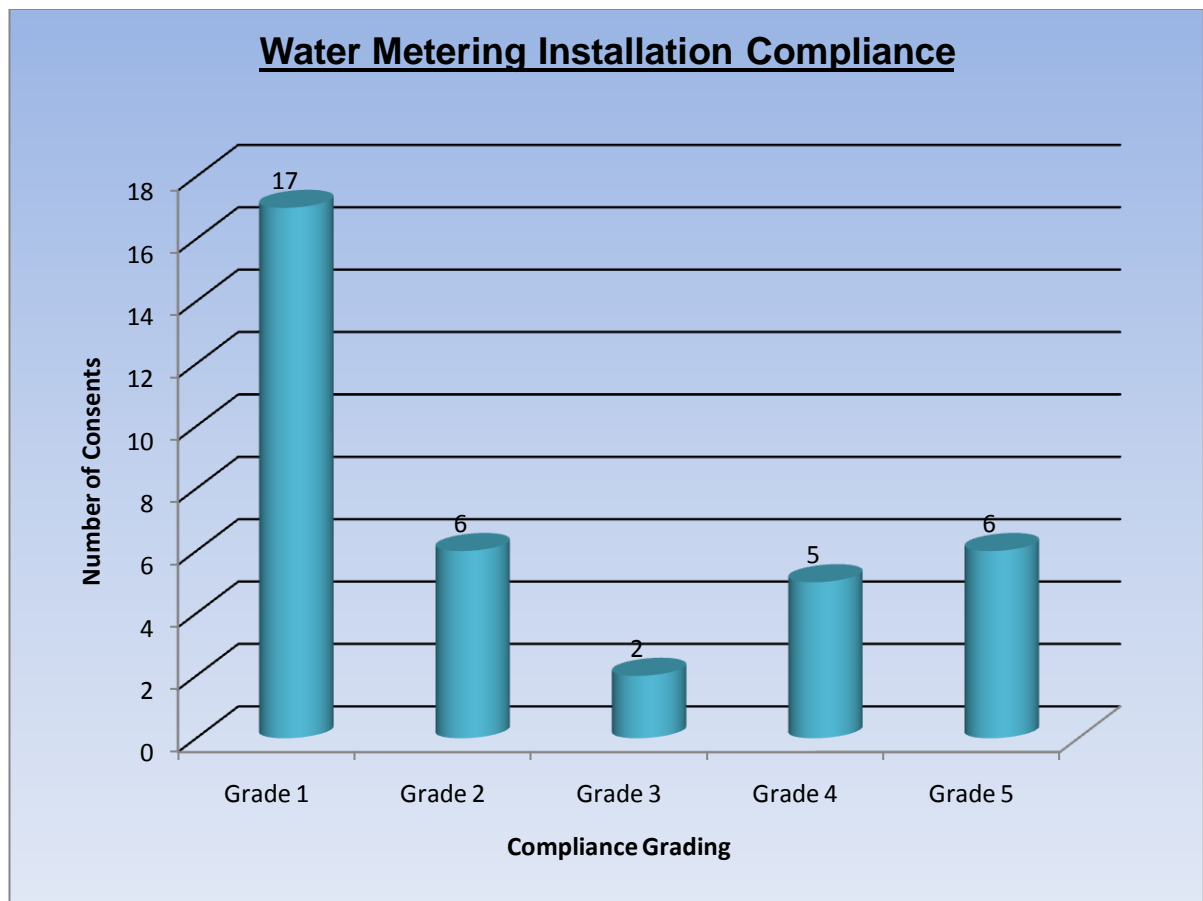


Figure 6. Structures Compliance Grading

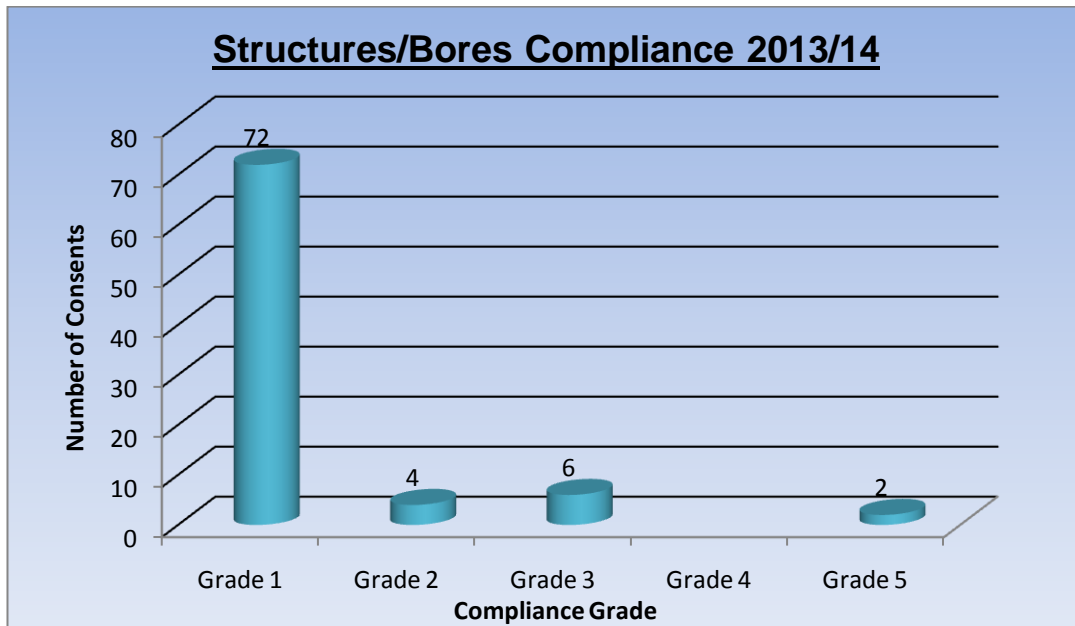


Figure 7 shows gravel inspection compliance observed during the year. A total of 5 inspections (involving 7 consents) were carried out and all were compliant with their consent conditions.

Figure 7. Gravel Inspection Compliance Grading

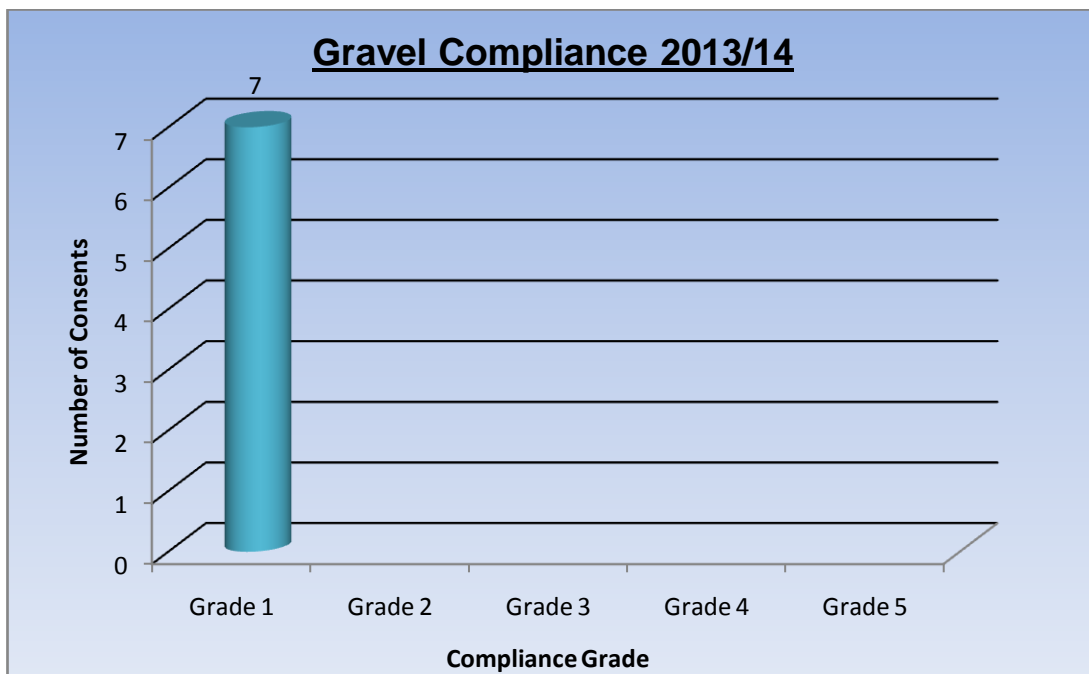
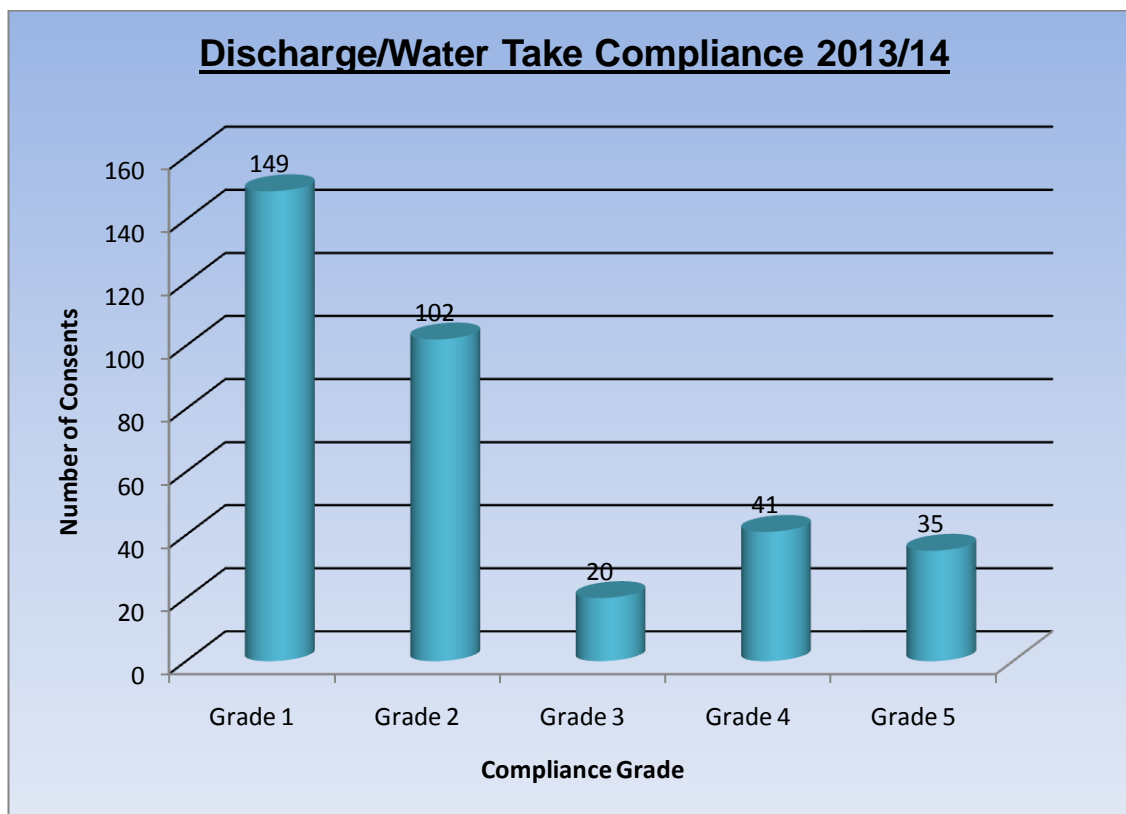


Figure 8 shows the compliance levels found for activities that relate to discharges and water takes. Discharge activities include discharges to land, air and water, including private septic tanks to large industrial type activities.

Figure 8. Discharge and Water Take Compliance Grading



A total of 347 (compared to 614 in 2012/13) consents were monitored and the level of full compliance found was 42.9%. A total of 181 (35.1%) consents were awarded either grade 2 or 3 due to performance monitoring information being sent into the Council late. A total of 76 consents (22%) received grade 4 and 5 non-compliance and environmental effects observed..

Non-compliance observed in the field related to:

- Poor performance of effluent systems e.g. disposal bed failures;
- Poor effluent quality from commercial wastewater system;
- Poor effluent quality into the receiving environment from Industrial discharges;
- Air discharge quality parameters not being met;
- Offensive and objectionable odour beyond the boundary; and
- Water takes outside of consented grid reference/data not being received and devices not installed correctly.

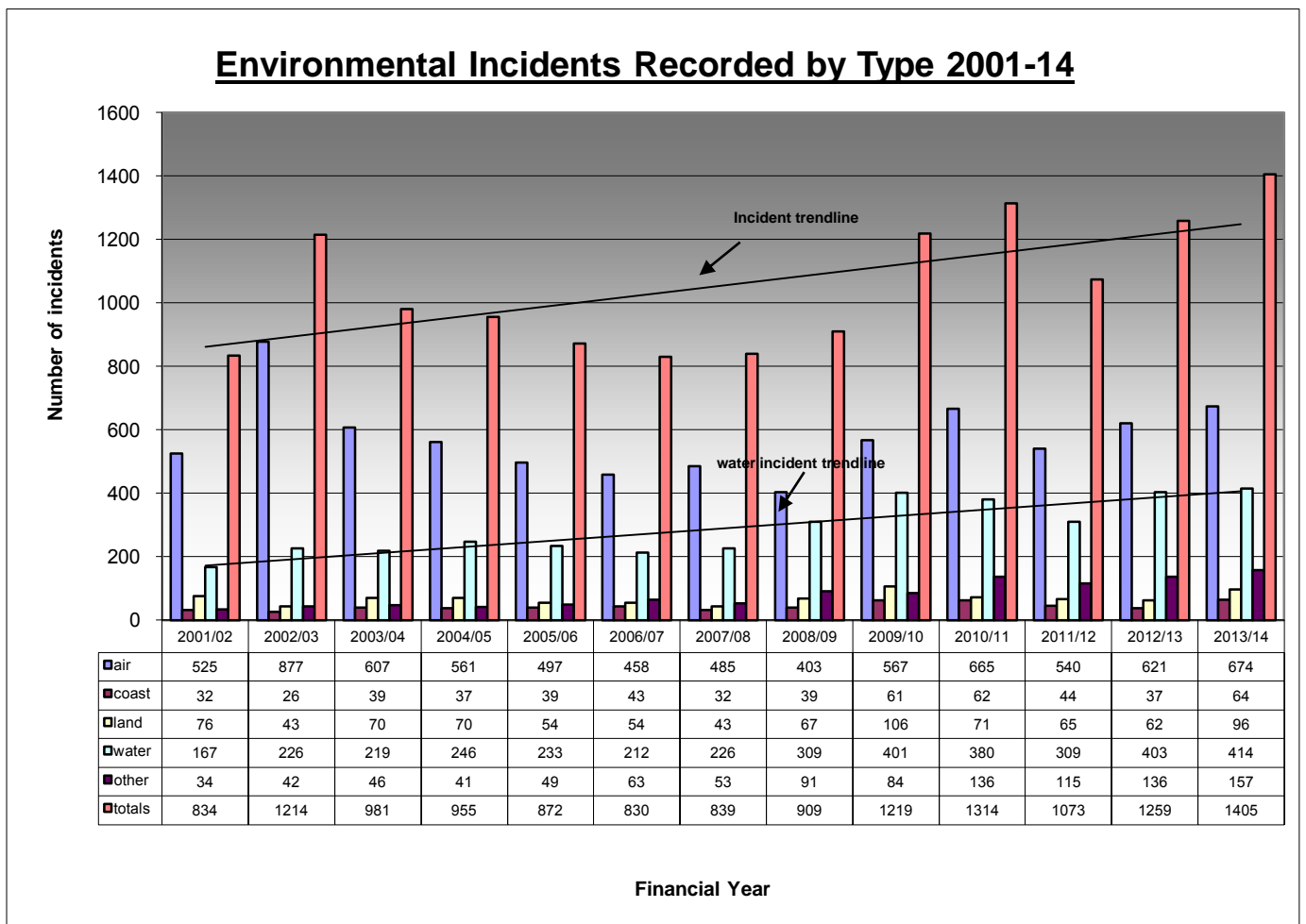
In all situations where grades 4 and 5 have been awarded written explanations have been sought from the consent holder, including remedial action plans where appropriate.

4. Summary of Environmental Incidents

For the 2013/14 year, the Council received a record total of 1405 incidents (up 146 incidents from the 2012/13 year). Approximately 47.9% of the incidents related to air issues (odour 180 incidents, burning/domestic heat systems 336 incidents, and backyard burning 90 incidents featuring strongly) and 29.5% relating to water issues (355 fresh water pollution, the majority of incidents).

Figure 9 provides a trend analysis of the incidents that Council received during the period 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2014.

Figure 9. Environmental Incidents between 1 July 2001 and 30 June 2014



Incident response over the last five years has remained at an elevated level. Reasons for the sharp increase in incidents since the 2008/09 year can in part be attributed to the increase in calls that the Council has received. There seems to be an awareness and appreciation from members of the public that any perceived environmental harm is no longer acceptable.

Of interest in the trends in incidents, is the continuation of the ongoing rise in received water pollution incidents staff have responded to and the increase in burning and domestic smokey chimney incidents.

5. Recommendations

That this report be noted.

Jeff Donaldson
Director Regional Services

REPORT

Document Id: A658883

Report Number: 2014/1110

Prepared For: Regulatory Committee

Prepared By: Martin King, Manager Environmental Services
Scott Maclean, Manager Operations
Sarah Ibbotson, Manager Environmental Data and Planning

Date: 22 August 2014

Subject: **Biosecurity & RMA Report for the period 13 June to 25 July 2014**

1. Water Quality and Quantity

1.1 Regional Plan: Water and Resource Consent Monitoring

1.1.1 Audit Monitoring

Medium scale wastewater treatment plants at Waipori Falls and Hawksbury Village were inspected during the reporting period.

1.1.2 Water Metering

Water metering and recording installations continued to progress steadily. The formal warnings issued over the previous reporting period have had the desired response with most consent holders taking positive action to meet the requirements of the regulations and/or their consent conditions. Seven abatement notices were issued to consent holders requiring them to install measuring and recording devices.

There are still 40 consent holders who are yet to make a commitment to install measuring and recording devices and are being followed up with for enforcement action.

Compliance with the water measuring regulations for takes between 10-20 litres per second is by 10 November 2014. Currently 206 consents fall into this category. It has been confirmed that 82 consents meet the requirements.

1.1.3 Oceana Gold (NZ) Ltd

A number of consent monitoring requirements have been reviewed, incorporating geotechnical tailings dam monitoring and environmental monitoring. Water management activities have been on going on site since April's flood event. Due to high rainfall and commissioning of the new tailings dam, higher than anticipated ponded water volumes have been recorded within the embankment. Oceana Gold have provided monthly summaries of water levels and available freeboard within the dam, and will continue to provide this data on a monthly basis while the water volume remains high. Damwatch Engineering Ltd has reviewed the data provided and is satisfied the high water level is not of concern in regard to the embankment stability.

The new Coronation Pit and Waste Rock Stack development consents were exercised which has required a number of reports to be submitted to the ORC prior to the commencement of construction

1.2 State of Environment Monitoring

Rivers throughout the region remained at normal winter flow levels during the period with the exception of the Cardrona and Shotover Rivers, which responded to localised heavy rain on the 25th June. NIWA have handed the Cardrona at Mt. Barker and Pomahaka at Burkes Ford sites over to ORC control. Data is coming directly to ORC, and ORC is now responsible for all gauging and site maintenance.

Two new groundwater monitoring bores in the Hawea basin were added to the SOE network. Continuous water level monitoring equipment has been installed at both sites. The Loach Road site at Hawea Flat is also telemetered.

Watercare Services were the successful tenderer for Council's water quality laboratory services. The new provider took over from Hills Laboratories on 1st August 2014.

NIWA carried out an audit of ORC field stations and practice on 22nd July. The report concluded field practices are of a high standard. Some minor maintenance work was identified at stations.

2. Air Quality

2.1 State of the Environment Monitoring

A replacement monitor was installed at the North Balclutha site on 26th June. All other monitors operated continuously over the period.

2.2 Clean Heat Clean Air project

9 heating retrofits completed for Milton and 17 across the Central Otago Air Zone 1 towns during this reporting period. Currently chairing the Greater Dunedin Cosy Homes Programme to assist with the EECA insulation subsidised component and also the development of the Cosy Homes Trust.

3. Pest Management Strategy Implementation and Biosecurity Compliance

3.1 Animal Pests

3.1.1 Rabbits

Inspections for compliance with the Pest Management Strategy maximum allowable level (MAL) for rabbits have been drawing to a close for this period and the annual season leading up to poison programs. This has seen environmental officers ensuring rabbit control programs are being implemented in accordance with the rabbit control programs submitted to Council though this period.

This period 865ha have been inspected covering 38 properties. Of the 38 properties inspected, 32 were identified as having areas that breached the MAL and only 6 were fully compliant, indicating there are high levels of non-compliance with only 10% of total area meeting compliance requirement of the Pest Management Strategy

A total of 38 rabbit control programs have been requested, return rates have been good with 32 plans being returned and others still within the acceptable written requirement period. Two notices of direction were issued during this period.

Winter poison programmes are under way with many being completed in this period. Completed programs will be evaluated for effectiveness beginning in September to identify if the control programs have met the requirements of the rules set out in the Pest Management Strategy.

3.2 Plant Pests

3.2.1 Nassella Tussock Control

Three field days were held in the Roxburgh area over this reporting period. These field days were well attended with up to 20 local farmers and their staff in attendance on each of the days. Roxburgh farmers are proactive with their surveillance and control of Nassella tussock, which is to be commended and encouraged.

Both mature and seedling plants were identified and grubbed out during these field days and no significant new areas of Nassella tussock were identified. An average of 34.5% of plants grubbed over the three field days were mature.

3.2.2 Gorse and Broom Surveillance

This year focus is on an area stretching from Haast Pass through to the Lindis and Danseys Passes. A total of 25 landowners have been visited and made aware of their obligations.

A recent aerial inspection in conjunction with Boffa-Miskell (contracted by LINZ) of LINZ administered riverbed of the lower Dart, Rees, Greenstone and Lochy rivers revealed no gorse or broom within the Wakatipu Gorse and Broom Free area boundaries.

3.2.3 Contorta Pine

Landholders are questioned as to whether they have wilding conifers and whether a programme is in place for their control. It is explained that under the Pest Management Strategy for Otago they are only obligated to control Contorta pine however it is also prudent to control other conifer species if they are seen to be spreading. It is apparent there is a general lack of knowledge of new techniques and chemicals available for wilding conifer control. To this ends a field afternoon is being organized at Naseby to provide landholders with this relevant information. A fact sheet for Contorta has been created.

A meeting with a representative of the Wakatipu wilding conifer control group has shown several properties of concern for them. Two of these properties are under notice of direction and another large property has yet to be inspected. In the Wakatipu/Wanaka/Alexandra areas several properties have been inspected and a request made for trees to be removed.

4. Operations

4.1 Contract Management

One TBfreeNZ contract (Silverpeaks Stage 1) was completed and successfully performance monitored this reporting period. Numerous rabbit control contracts were completed including small block ground control operations through to large scale aerial control operations. Rabbit control was primarily in the Upper Clutha basin with a small number of ground control operations in Coastal Otago.

4.1.2 Engineering Field Operations

Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage

The pump from Kaitangata was swapped with the pump from the Alexandra scheme during this reporting period. All pumps within the scheme have been operating almost continuously over the past couple of weeks due to the very wet weather.

Debris build up was removed from the culverts at the top end of Robsons Lagoon. The Puerua outfall was repaired and set in concrete. Further work is planned during the drier months. All flood valves were inspected and maintained as necessary during this reporting period.

West Taieri Drainage

Routine maintenance of the pump stations was carried out. Approximately 50% of the drainage network was inspected and maintenance issue identified.

Planning for the West scheme mechanical drain cleaning programme has been completed.

East Taieri Drainage

Approximately 80% of the East scheme drains have been inspected over this reporting period and maintenance issues identified and prioritised. Predominant issue is occasional slumping of drain batters as in the west scheme. These will be repaired over the summer once the water table recedes.

A large number of trees and debris dams were removed from the Silverstream this period. A mowing contract was let to Delta for the mowing of the Silverstream banks between Gordon Road and Gladfield Roads.

Lower Taieri Flood Protection

All floodbanks were inspected and minor maintenance carried out. This was predominantly for repair of rabbit holes. Some fencing repairs were undertaken as necessary. Night shooting for rabbits and hares is programmed.

River management

In-stream river works during this reporting period has been limited to the removal of debris dams where necessary.

5. Environmental Incident Response

5.1 Contaminated Sites

5.1.1. Remediation Projects

Discussions with the owner of a timber treatment site previously identified as contaminated with Copper, Chromium and Arsenic in Central Otago were resumed.

5.1.2. Investigations

One underground petroleum storage system (UPSS) removal report was received during the reporting period. Because the UPSS was located on a confirmed contaminated site, consents for the disturbance of land were obtained by the oil company prior to the removal.

Seven site investigation reports were received. At three sites, contaminant concentrations were confirmed as acceptable. Four of the sites would require further investigation to confirm their contamination status.

A site audit took place at the Young Brother's timber treatment site in Mosgiel. The site continues to operate in accordance with consent conditions and the site management plan.

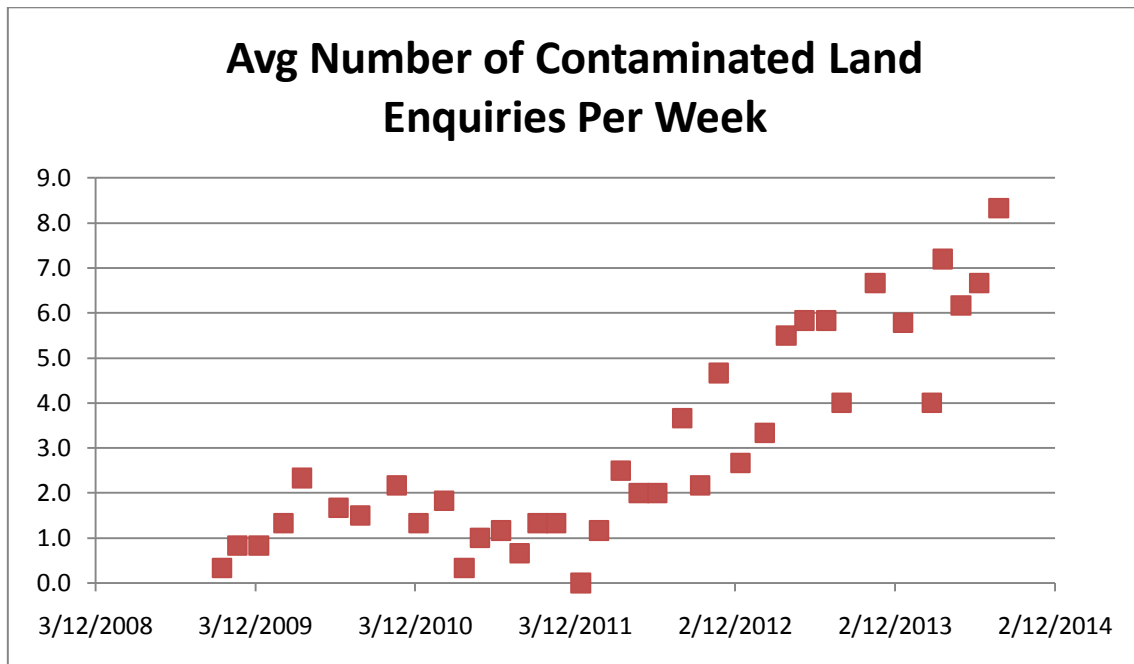
5.1.3. Landfills

Waitaki District Council's active landfills at Palmerston and Oamaru were inspected during the reporting period. Palmerston Landfill was generally found to be well managed. A non-compliant grade was given at Oamaru Landfill, where significant remedial works to control contaminated stormwater were required.

Waitaki District Council's closed landfill at Hampden was inspected. Additional gorse and broom control is necessary, after which a series topographic surveys are required to establish that landfill has stabilised following extensive work completed in 2009.

5.1.4 Other Actions

Fifty public enquiries regarding the contamination status or land-use history of specific properties were received and responded to within ten working days. The number of contaminated land enquiries has continued to increase following the introduction of the National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human in 2012.



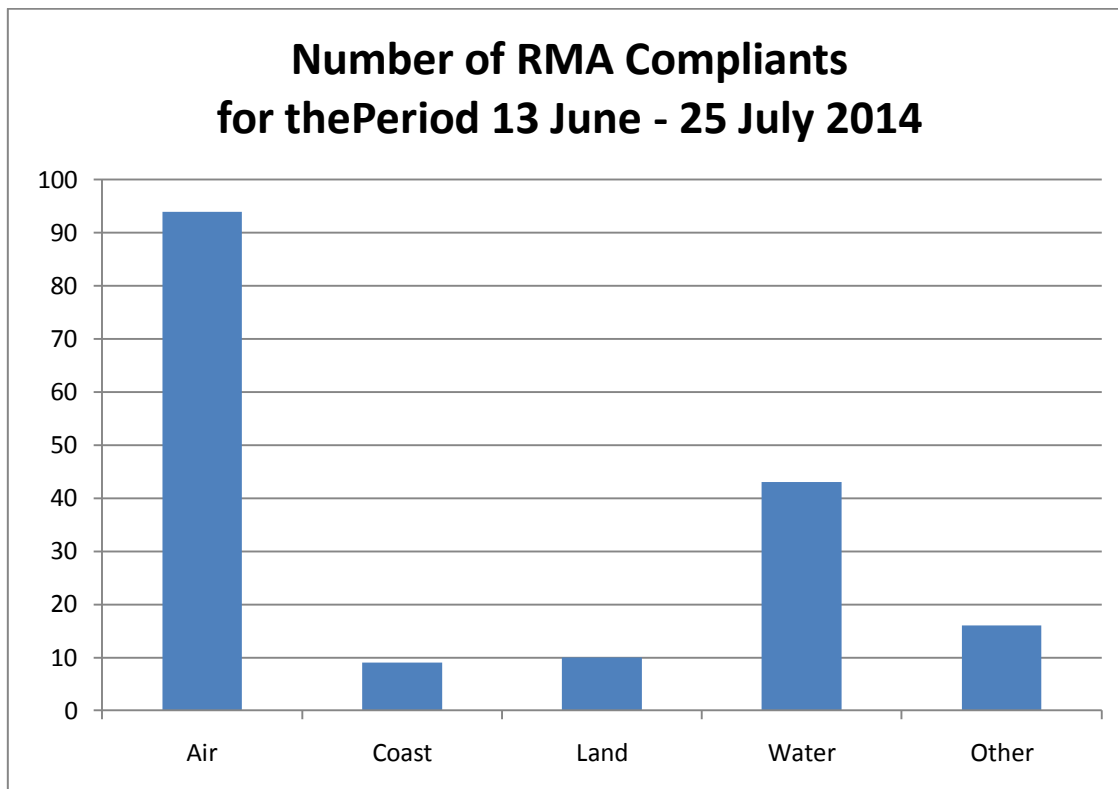
5.2 Oil Spill Management

Both the On Scene Commander (J Donaldson) and the Alternate (M Goldsmith) have been reconfirmed for a further 12 months.

Staff are currently reviewing our Regional Oil Spill Response Plan with further work required on identifying sensitive areas.

5.3 Environmental Incidents

A total of 172 incidents were reported for this period. The following is a summary of the incidents received by activity type.



The majority of the air incidents can be attributed to domestic chimneys. Burning and Backyard Burning complaints were the second most prevalent form of air pollution. The coastal incidents were in regard to reclamation of the Coastal Marine Area and Marine Oil Spill. The majority of land incidents were from deposits on land followed by land contamination. Concerns about fresh water pollution were the cause of the majority of water investigations. The other types of incidents were varied and included issues like pest plants, discharges onto land and rubbish on private land.

6. Recommendation

That this report be noted

Jeff Donaldson
Director Environmental Monitoring and Operation

Summary of RMA Incident Complaints (General Location)

the six weeks from 13-Jun-14 to 25-Jul-14

General Location	Row Summary	AIR							COAST					LAND				WATER					OTHER		
		Backyard Burning	Burning	Domestic chimneys	Dust	Industrial Air discharge	Odour	Spray Drift	Coastal structures	Marine Oil spill	Reclamation	Removal	Marine	Deposit	Disturbance	Land contamination	Mining	Abstraction	Damming	Diversions	Fresh Water pollution	Storm water	Noise	Other	Staff performance
Catlins	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Central Otago	20	2	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	0	3	0
Clutha Plains	21	0	3	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	
Dn - Abbots/Green Is	10	2	1	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	
Dn - Coast North	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	
Dn - Coast South	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
Dn - Inner City	29	4	0	10	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	2	0	
Dn - Mosgiel	8	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
Dn - Otago Harbour	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	
Dn - Peninsula	5	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	
Dn - West Harbour	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
East Otago Uplands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Lakes	40	1	1	14	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	2	1	5	0	
Maniototo	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
North Otago	12	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	0	
Roxburgh	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
South West Otago	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
Strath	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Taieri Plains	5	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	
TOTALS	172	14	18	52	0	6	2	1	0	3	5	0	1	5	2	3	0	0	1	2	38	2	1	15	0

REPORT

Document Id: A665077

Report Number: 2014/1256
 Prepared For: Regulatory
 Prepared By: Marian Weaver and Chris Shaw
 Date: 22 August 2014

Subject: **Consent Processing, Administration and Building Permit update 1 July to 15 August 2014**

1. Project E.1 – Resource Consent Application Processing

- 1.1 Consent applications and objections where status has not changed since the last report are summarised in Appendix 1.

Applications

1.2 Publicly Notified Applications

RM13.474 Fulton Hogan Limited

To discharge contaminants, namely odour, to air for the purpose of operating a solar sludge drying facility 2 km from Luggate. The sludge is from the Wanaka sewage treatment plant. This is a joint process with the QLDC and the applicant requested public notification and it was notified on 26 March with submissions closing on 28 April. Eight submissions have been received; 7 in opposition and 1 in support. The hearing is set down for 17-19 September and will be heard by independent commissioners.

1.3 Limited Notified Applications

RM14.043 - Fish & Game - to dam water on the Takittoa Swamp

Fish and Game applied to place a structure and dam water on the Takittoa Swamp, which is a Schedule 9 Regionally Significant Wetland under Plan Change (PC) 2. Application was withdrawn and a new application lodged - RM14.043. Application limited notified to neighbouring landowners. No submissions received and consent will be processed shortly.

RM14.128 – John Charles Perriam

To take and use groundwater from the Bendigo-Tarras Aquifer and to take and use surface water from the Clutha River. Application was been limited notified to Contact Energy Ltd for consideration against effects on electrical generation. The consent has been granted subject to conditions agreed with Contact Energy and there was no appeal.

RM13.401 - R & M Borrie Limited

To take and use groundwater from the Big Hill Zone of the Papakaio Aquifer by R& M Borrie for the purpose of irrigation, Enfield, North Otago. Application has been limited notified to groundwater users R H Bosomworth and D M Bosomworth as well as Elderslie Holdings Limited. Submissions close 26 August.

RM12.543 - Andrew Haulage 2011 Limited

To extract up to 5,000 cubic metres per year of gravel from the true right bank of the Koau Branch of the Clutha River/Mata-Au, adjacent to Station Beach, Balclutha. The application was limited notified to the Otago Regional Council, due to the potential effect on Council's flood control infrastructure. It is proposed that the application be heard by an independent commissioner in early September.

1.4 Applications of Interest

North Otago Gravel Applications

Council has currently 6 applications received for the extraction of gravel from the dry bed of rivers located within the Waitaki District. Two applications are for the extraction from the Waianakarua River and the remaining four applications are to extract gravel from the Kakanui River. Five of the applications have been made by Road Metals Ltd.

Though all are on hold, concerns have been raised by Council staff regarding the overall volume of gravel available to be taken from these catchments and delays have occurred due to the lack of site specific geomorphological information provided by the applicants to support their applications. A meeting is anticipated with Road Metals Limited to discuss outstanding issues

Recent progress has been made regarding the processing of North Otago applications: application 2009.480 – Whitestone Ltd has been withdrawn and applications RM11.114, RM13.357 and RM13.457 – Road Metals Ltd have been granted. A draft recommending report will be forwarded to G R Booth Limited – RM13.471 shortly.

2. Objections

There are currently no objections.

3. Appeals to Environment Court

RM13.299 – Pacific View Limited

To transfer the point of take and amalgamate two permits to take and use water from the Waikouaiti River. A hearing was held 14 February and the decision to grant was given. The applicant and Otago Fish and Game have appealed the decision and the Kati Huirapa Runaka ki Puketeraki has joined the appeal. Mediation with an Environment Court commissioner occurred on 4 June 2014 and there was agreement that the applicant would provide more information about the effects on their farm viability of various residual flows. Parties are seeking further mediation and a timetable for evidence exchange should there be a Court hearing.

RM13.452 – Oceana Gold Limited

Various consents associated with the Tipperary Freshwater Dam. Application was limited notified with no submissions. Consents granted 20 May 2014; applicant appealed the decision. A mediation meeting was held on 4 July 2014 and Oceana staff have been looking for natural fish barriers in McCormack's creek that might satisfy ORCs concerns. We have yet to hear back on what they have found.

Consent Statistics

Table 1. Consents Statistics Summary

Reporting Period	Lodged			Rejected	Decision Given		
	Consents	Variations			Consents	Variations	
		Regular	Water reporting date			Regular	Water reporting date
2012/2013 Year Total	473	57	303	22	461	31	368
2013/14 Year total	450	30	42	13	410	53	72
1 July to 15 Aug 2014	29	5	1	1	35	5	11

Applicants to change the date for reporting water use on existing water permits were invited to comply with the water measuring regulations.

5. Consent Administration

Table 2. Consent Administration Statistics

Reporting Period	Transfers Received	Transfers Issued	S417 Certs Received	S417 Certs Issued
2012/2013 Year Total	182	171	3	0
2013/2014 Year Total	208	215	16	3
1 July 14 to 15 Aug 14	15	11	0	2

6. Building Consent Authority (BCA) Administration

In Progress

Dam Building Consents	2
Code Compliance Certificates	3
PIM	0
Certificate of Acceptance	5

7. Public Enquiries

Appendix 2 shows that 180 enquiries were received by the Consents Units during the reporting period.

Table 3. Public Enquiries Statistics

Period	Number of Enquiries
2012/2013 year	1778
2013/2014 year	1490
1 July to 15 Aug 2014	180
YTD 14/15	180

8. Legislation

The amendment to the RMA that is to be enacted when there is an order in Council has not been enacted yet. Most of these amendments relate to consent processing. If there is no Order in Council the amendment is enacted in May 2015.

The Building Act dam safety scheme was expected to become operative on 1 July 2014 (having been delayed twice by the government). In March the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) advised that the scheme had been delayed until 31 March 2015 and then on 25 June advised it had been further delayed until 1 July 2015. MBIE has advised that this will provide time for further work on the dam safety regulations and has asked regional authorities to provide information on the role resource consents play in dam safety.

9. Recommendation

That this report is noted.

Fraser McRae
Director Policy Planning and Resource Management

Appendix 1: Summary of applications that have not changed since the last report to the Committee

Applications

RM12.095 – Clifford MacKay Blaikie

Application to discharge treated wastewater from the Dunstan Hotel to the Clutha River/Mata-Au. Public Health South and Kai Tahu Ki Otago were served the applications, as written approval could not be obtained from these parties. The submission period closed on Monday 3rd March. Public Health South opposes the application. A request for further information has been answered. The application is on hold for the draft report and consent document to be completed and circulated to the applicant and submitter for consideration

RM14.026 Lakes Marina Projects Limited

The applications are for the construction of a 195 berth marina, and are sought to: disturb, reclaim, remove and place structures and deposit material on, over or under the bed of Lake Wakatipu and Marina Creek; discharge sediment; and divert Marina Creek. The applications were jointly notified along with the QLDC application on February 19th. When submissions closed on March 19th, 36 submissions were received (32 in support and 4 in opposition) This is a joint process with the ORC as lead agency. The application is on hold for further information requested by the QLDC.

RM13.215 - Queenstown Lakes District Council

The applications are for the discharge of odour to air, and treated effluent to the Shotover River and then later, to land from the Queenstown waste water treatment plant in the Shotover delta. QLDC already holds permits for these activities but wishes to change the timing and method of disposal to land. The applications were lodged on 17 May and publicly notified on 1 June 2013. When submissions closed on 28 June there were four submissions; one in support and three opposed. A hearing was set down for 28/29 August but has been postponed while the applicant continues to negotiate with submitters. The Hearing Panel did a site visit on 22 August 2013.

RM12.066 – Environment Canterbury - to undertake erosion protection works in the Lower Waitaki River.

Environment Canterbury has applied for consents to allow them to undertake erosion protection works in the Lower Waitaki River. Numerous erosion protection measures are proposed over a 3 km stretch of river. DoC, Iwi, Fish and Game and owners of land on which the works are to take place are all considered to be affected parties. The application is on hold while other affected parties are identified. A decision on notification is pending.

Pending Applications of Interest

RM13.423 – Manuherikia Catchment Water Strategy Group (MCWSG)

A working party has been established comprising MCWSG, Golder Associates and ORC staff. The aim of the working party is to develop a consenting strategy giving regard to existing mining privileges, individual water takes and irrigation options within the Manuherikia catchment.

RM13.428 – Dunedin City Council – Ocean Beach erosion protection

Pre-application discussions have been held with DCC and their consultants to discuss consent requirements for proposed coastal protection works and the potential disturbance of a contaminated site at Ocean Beach

Appendix 2 Public Enquiries



Resource Consent Public Enquiry Report

For period from 01 July 2014 to 15 August 2014

Report generated on 27 August 2014 at 12:51:50 p.m.

**Total Number of
Enquiries** **180**

Enquiry Type	No.	% of Total
Current Consents	98	54.4 %
Other	12	6.7 %
Permitted Activities	42	23.3 %
Pre-application	16	8.9 %
Property Enquiries	10	5.6 %
Students	1	0.6 %
Transfers	1	0.6 %

Enquiry Location	No.	% of Total
Central Otago District Council	58	32.2 %
Clutha District Council	10	5.6 %
Dunedin City Council	20	11.1 %
Outside Otago	2	1.1 %
Queenstown Lakes District Council	32	17.8 %
Throughout Otago	5	2.8 %
Unspecified	36	20 %
Waitaki District Council	17	9.4 %

Enquiry Method	No.	% of Total
Counter	6	3.3 %
Email	100	55.6 %
Fax	2	1.1 %
Letter	1	0.6 %
Telephone	71	39.4 %

REPORT

Document Id: A661476

Report Number: 2014/1160

Prepared For: Regulatory Committee

Prepared By: Peter Kelliher, Legal Counsel

Date: 12/08/2014

Subject: **Resource Management Act 1991, Biosecurity Act 1993 and Building Act 2004 Enforcement Activities from 1 July 2014 to 12 August 2014**

1. Précis

This report details Resource Management Act 1991, Biosecurity Act 1993 and Building Act 2004 enforcement activities undertaken by the Otago Regional Council during the period 1 July 2014 to 12 August 2014.

2. Enforcement Action under the Resource Management Act 1991

a) Consent Auditing

No enforcement action taken.

b) Consent Performance Monitoring

No enforcement action taken.

c) Permitted Activity Rules - Inspections

No enforcement action taken.

d) Incidents

Table 1. Infringement Notices

Details	Period – 1 July 2014 to 12 August 2014	Total – from 1 July 2014
Discharge of contaminants to air – outdoor burning	2	2
Discharge of contaminants to air – burning prohibited materials	1	1
TOTAL	3	3

Table 2. Authorised Legal Proceedings

Details	Period – 1 July 2014 to 12 August 2014	Total – from 1 July 2014
Discharge of contaminants to land in breach of a regional rule - effluent	1	1
TOTAL	1	1

3. Biosecurity Act 1993

One Notice of Direction was issued on a land occupier during the period. The Notice required rabbits on the occupiers property be destroyed.

4. Building Act 2004

No enforcement action taken during the period.

5. Recommendation

That this report be noted.

Fraser McRae

Director Policy Planning and Resource Management

REPORT

Document Id: A662071

Report Number: 2014/1191

Prepared For: Regulatory Committee

Prepared By: Director Policy, Planning and Resource Management

Date: 14 August 2014

Subject: **Appointment of Hearing Commissioners August 2014**

1. Précis

Under the Resource Management Act, consent hearing commissioners must be appointed by the Council. The Commissioner Appointment Subcommittee has this function and reports to the Regulatory Committee. The appointments made in this reporting period are set out in this report.

2. Meeting 12-14 August 2014 (by email)

Present	Crs Croot, Woodhead and Robertson, and Mr Bodeker
Applicant	Fulton Hogan Ltd
Appn. No	RM13.474
Activity	To discharge contaminants, namely odour, to air for the purpose of operating a solar sludge drying facility.
Motion	Moved Cr Woodhead, seconded Mr Bodeker
Appointment/ Ratification	Joint hearing, ORC is lead agency Kevin Rolfe (Chair, ORC appointee), David Whitney (QLDC appointee), John Lumsden (QLDC appointee)

3. Meeting 21-25 August (by email)

Present	Crs Croot, Woodhead and Robertson, Mr Bodeker
Applicant	Andrew Haulage 2011 Ltd
Appn. No	RM12.543
Activity	To disturb the bed of the Clutha River/Mata-Au for the purpose of extracting up to 5000 m ³ of gravel per year..
Note	The applicant requested a panel of ORC Councillors. Fraser McRae, Director Policy Planning and Resource Management, considers that for transparency it is appropriate to appoint an independent commissioner, as ORC is the only submitter, and is asset owner/operator under the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Act. ORC will pay the commissioner's expenses.
Motion	Moved Cr Croot, seconded Cr Robertson
Appointment	John Lumsden

4. Recommendation

That the report be noted.

Fraser McRae
Director Policy, Planning and Resource Management