



Our Ref A610586

Committee meetings Wednesday 28 January 2015

Following are the agendas for the Committee meetings to be held on Wednesday 28 January 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 detailed reports referred to in the committee reports are available on the Council website, or by contacting the Committee Secretary – see contact details below.

Committee agendas - Index

	Page Nos.
Communications Committee.....	2 - 14
Policy Committee.....	15 - 21
Regulatory Committee.....	22 - 40
Technical Committee.....	41 - 54

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

Janet Favel
Committee Secretary

Phone: 03 470 7474 (DDI)
Freephone: 0800 474 082
Email: janet.favel@orc.govt.nz

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL

**Agenda for a meeting of the Communications Committee to be held in
the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on
Wednesday 28 January 2015 commencing at 8.30 am**

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 Monday 26 January.

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

PUBLIC FORUM

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2014, having been circulated, for adoption

Matters arising from minutes

FOR NOTING

Item 1

2014/2089 **Stakeholder Engagement Report.** MC, 9/1/15

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 Wednesday 26 November 2014 commencing at 1.21 pm

Present:

Cr Trevor Kempton (Chairperson)
Cr Graeme Bell (Deputy Chairperson)
Cr Doug Brown
Cr Louise Croot MNZM
Cr Michael Deaker (from 1.26 pm)
Cr Gerrard Eckhoff
Cr Gary Kelliher
Cr Gretchen Robertson
Cr Bryan Scott
Cr David Shepherd
Cr Stephen Woodhead

Apologies:

Cr Sam Neill
Cr Deaker (for lateness)
 The apologies were accepted on the motion of Crs Croot and Bell.

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 15 October 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.

FOR NOTING

Item 1

2014/1717 **Stakeholder Engagement Report.** DSE, 30/10/14

The report detailed community, stakeholder and staff engagement activities carried out by Stakeholder Engagement directorate staff since the last meeting.

Peter Taylor, Manager Communications, demonstrated the water quality rules (Plan Change 6A) on the ORC website. The information and Frequently Asked Questions on the website, with other information being prepared, ensured the Water Plan would be well publicised to landowners in the Region. Photos showing good and poor water quality would be added to the page.

Cr Michael Deaker entered the meeting at 1.26 pm.

Mr Taylor circulated the Plan Change 6A information packages that were to be distributed to landowners.

Mrs Leahy advised that pilot awareness visits to landowners had been carried out, and a staff debrief would be held.

In response to a question Mrs Leahy advised that the database of all landholders showing who had been visited, attended roadshows, etc. would be updated as necessary. People who had already attended a workshop would be encouraged to attend public meetings, which was a better use of staff resources.

Mrs Leahy advised in response to a question that visits both casual and scheduled would be piloted to determine which was more effective. She noted that making appointments was a time consuming process, and this could be done more efficiently through a third party.

Cr Kelliher moved

Cr Bell seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

The meeting closed at 1.36

Chairperson

REPORT

Document Id: A716125

Report Number: 2014/2089

Prepared For: Communications Committee

Prepared By: Peter Taylor, Manager Communications

Date: 9 January 2015

Subject: **Stakeholder Engagement Committee – Report January 2015**

This report records stakeholder engagement activity between 1 November 2014 and 9 January 2015.

1. Water quality and quantity

Work has been ongoing in this reporting period to raise farmer awareness of our water quality regulations. We completed a number of activities aimed at ensuring agencies, rural professionals, and other key stakeholders understand the new rules so they can then communicate them clearly to their constituents.

Working with agencies, rural professionals, and key stakeholders

Staff discussed ORC water quality requirements at a DairyNZ North Otago EnviroReady field day with Beef & Lamb NZ, Federated Farmers, and North Otago Irrigation Company.

Staff met with Landcare Kakanui Community Catchment Project representatives to discuss their environmental monitoring programme.

Staff discussed water management issues at a meeting of the Kakanui Water Allocation Committee.

Staff shared approaches to improving water quality at a briefing meeting with Environment Southland and AgResearch staff.

Staff made a presentation on water quality for Waitaki Boys' High School students as part of their stream monitoring project.

Staff discussed river management issues at the Kakanui Form and Function Group meeting.

Staff met the Pathway for the Pomahaka group, (a farmer-led water quality improvement group). Discussion topics included landowner non-compliance with ORC water quality rules and results from the Heriotburn and Wairuna compliance sampling regime. These results are being distributed through the local community. Articles related to this work have been published in the Clutha Leader and Blue Mountain Express.

Staff, in conjunction with the Glenorchy Landcare group, carried out water quality sampling during the 2013/14 growing season within tributaries of Lake Wakatipu, from Greenstone Station around to Closeburn Station near Queenstown.

Testing was carried out for ammonia, nitrates/nitrites, dissolved reactive phosphate, turbidity and *E.coli*. Ammonia, turbidity and phosphate met the water quality limits for all farming tributaries. There were some elevated *E.coli* and Nitrates/nitrites on intensive flat country that will require some farmer follow up. The water quality results provide farmers with the opportunity to identify management practices that could give rise to elevated levels.

This initiative and the information produced will be uploaded to a new community website being developed.

The summer edition of our Waterlines newsletter focussing on water quality regulations was distributed to about 10,000 rural addresses.

The following factsheets for inclusion in the quality information packs being distributed to landowners on the new water quality rules were completed:

- Effluent ponding
- Stock access to waterways
- Silage and compost.
- Working in waterways

Farm visits

During the autumn we plan to distribute the packs mentioned above to all Otago rural landowners (or their on-farm managers) with holdings of 20 hectares or more. Every landowner (or their representative) will receive a pack from staff visiting their farm and be invited to a follow-up drop-in event in their area. A register will be kept of recipients of this information.

The farm visits will act as a catalyst for promoting landholder awareness of the new rules. The focus will be on ensuring that people have enough information in-hand to be able to familiarise themselves with the rules, and then come to the drop-in sessions to discuss them in more detail should they choose to.

All dairy farmers and those receiving ORC compliance audits will receive their 6A water quality packs from ORC staff doing the scheduled dairy inspections.

Pilot visits

Distribution of the information packs has been trialled on 11 farms so staff can gain practical insight on how to best implement this project.

The farmers spoken to generally appreciated the visits, even where they already had a reasonable understanding of the new rules. Rather than just accepting the information pack and allowing the staff visiting to move on relatively quickly, most recipients

wanted a farm walk and discussion as part of the visit, which challenged staff to stay focused on the task at hand. Consequently, some logistical issues were identified during the visits that will be addressed as the project is further developed.

Farmer awareness survey

A brief was completed and following a request for tenders, a contract awarded to Versus Research to survey 600 farmers involved in a range of different land uses on their awareness of the new water quality rules. The results of this survey will act a benchmark to assess the effectiveness of our stakeholder engagement in this area over time. Results will be available in February.

2. Land, biodiversity and biosecurity

Staff answered questions on water quality and other ORC matters at the Waitaki District Council biodiversity strategy and community native plant nursery meeting.

3. Air quality

Nothing to report during this period

4. Hazard and risk mitigation

Twenty people attended a staff presentation in Cromwell on the Upper Clutha flood hazard. Copies of the new report *Flood erosion in the Upper Clutha River/Mata Au* were distributed.

5. Regional Land Transport

The Otago and Southland Regional Transport Committees prepared their draft Regional Land Transport Plan for Otago and Southland. The draft plan will be notified on Wednesday 4 February, after approval from the committees, expected on 26 January.

6. Statutory responsibilities

6.1 Long Term Plan (LTP)

We are developing a communications plan for the LTP that will explain to ratepayers and the public what we are aiming to do between 2015 and 2025 and the impact that the plan for cleaner waterways has on our work.

The consultation document, now required under the Local Government Act, is designed to be more concise and informative than previous documents to enable the community to become more informed about and engaged in the consultative process. We have started work on using infographics to display complex information in a more readable format.

7. Customers and stakeholders

7.1 Customer Services Strategy

A draft strategy is being prepared discussing how our new customer services team might be structured and function following its benchmarking against other similar council units. This will be presented during this quarter to the Executive Management Team and staff for their input.

8. Public communications

Minimum flows and water restrictions

Meetings have been organised with irrigators throughout Otago and other key stakeholders to explain and discuss the steps the council may need to take to restrict water use given that many rivers in the region are experiencing extremely low flows in dry conditions.

Media releases and social media have been used to articulate the council's position and the issue has received wide coverage.

Albert Town hazard risk

Our staff liaised with Queenstown Lakes District Council to communicate with residents during the closure of the Albert Town walking track due to hazard risk. Hazards staff spoke with property owners adjoining the track and distributed copies of the geotechnical report we commissioned for QLDC.

We used social media and media releases to respond to the considerable public and media interest in the track closure and the associated hazard risk.

Opening of the Oamaru office

The new Oamaru field centre is now operating with ORC signage. A media release was distributed to explain that full public access to the centre will be phased in progressively through the 2015-16 Annual Plan process.

Council presentation to Jolyon Manning

A certificate and citation were prepared for presentation to Jolyon Manning and his wife Enny during a council visit to Central Otago in October, acknowledging their long standing environmental work and development of Jolendale Park as NZ's first covenanted semi-arid exotic woodland reserve.

Newsletters and reports

The following newsletters and reports were produced and distributed via distribution lists:

Leaders Brief December issue

ORC Annual Report 2013-14

Shag River/Waihemo catchment science report

Management flows for aquatic ecosystems in the Tuapeka River

Media activity

Nine media releases were prepared and distributed in the period.

Five responses from senior ORC staff were published to Letters to the Editor (all ODT). Two were from the director environmental monitoring and operations (Wanaka water quality and gorse and broom control in Dunedin); two from the manager support services (Leith Valley bus service and GoCard readers), and one by the director corporate services on passenger transport rating.

ORC activity received 107 print media mentions and nine broadcast media mentions, with topics including hazards, North Otago irrigation, and low river flows.

Social media

We posted or linked to 32 items on Facebook. On Twitter we sent out 46 tweets and re-tweeted 27 tweets. The social media activity involved promotion of ORC activities, events, media releases and reports, and job vacancies.

We also highlighted the council's visit to Central Otago, updates on changes or disruptions to bus services, water quality/management issues, the Gigatown campaign won by Dunedin, and promotion of the new Crash Hot Dunedin road safety campaign.

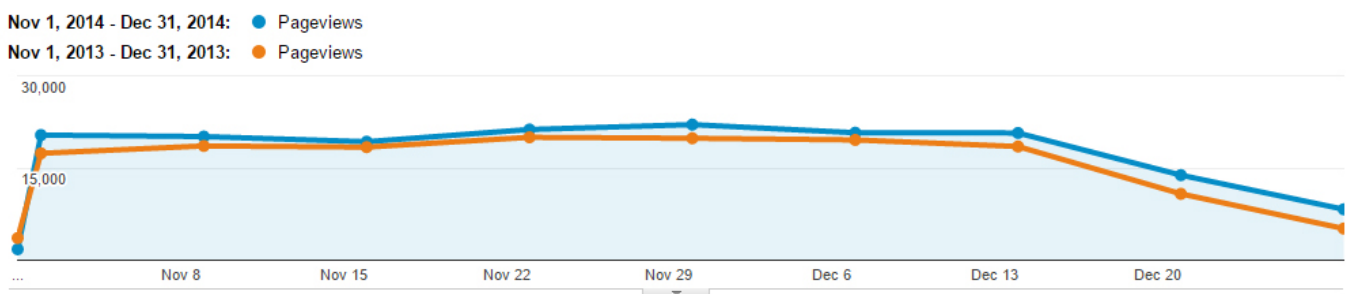
As at January 9 the Facebook page had 93 'likes,' while our Twitter account had 277 followers. We are following 95 organisations or individuals on Twitter.

Promotions

Print media advertising in newspaper summer holiday and boating guides promoted the Check, Clean and Dry waterway protection campaign.

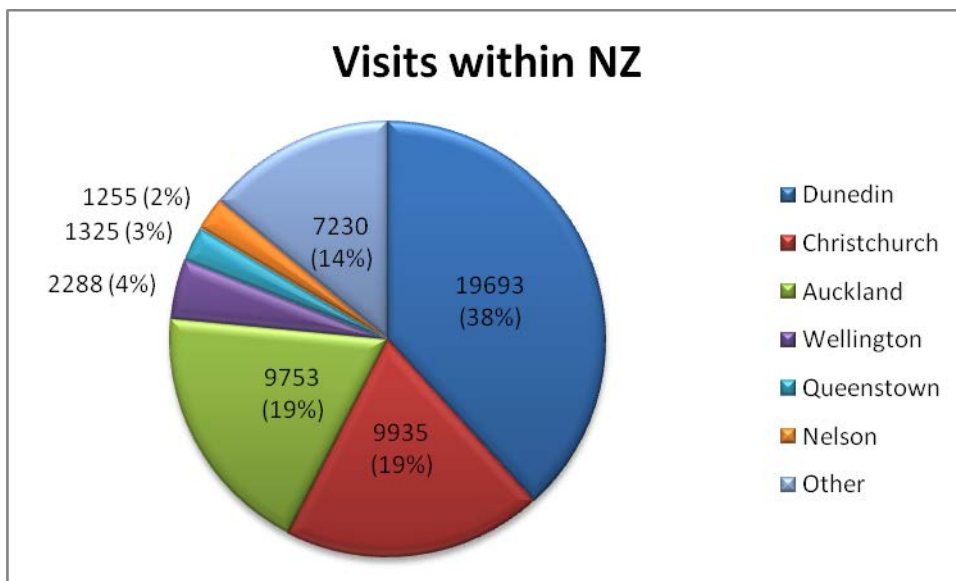
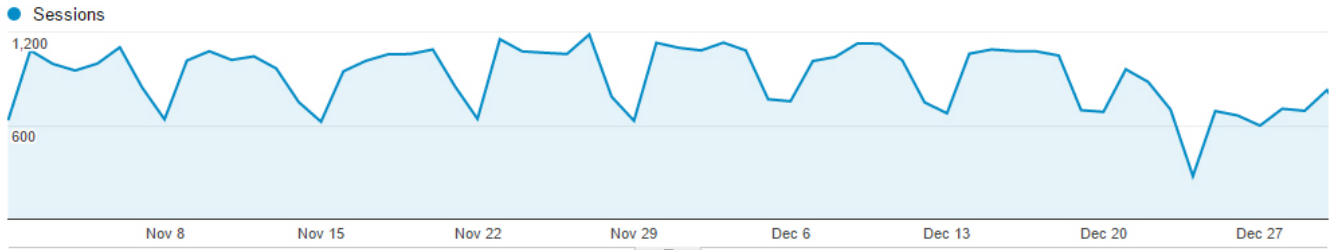
Web development and traffic summary

Updates are made daily to the ORC website. Fifty-six changes were made during this period.



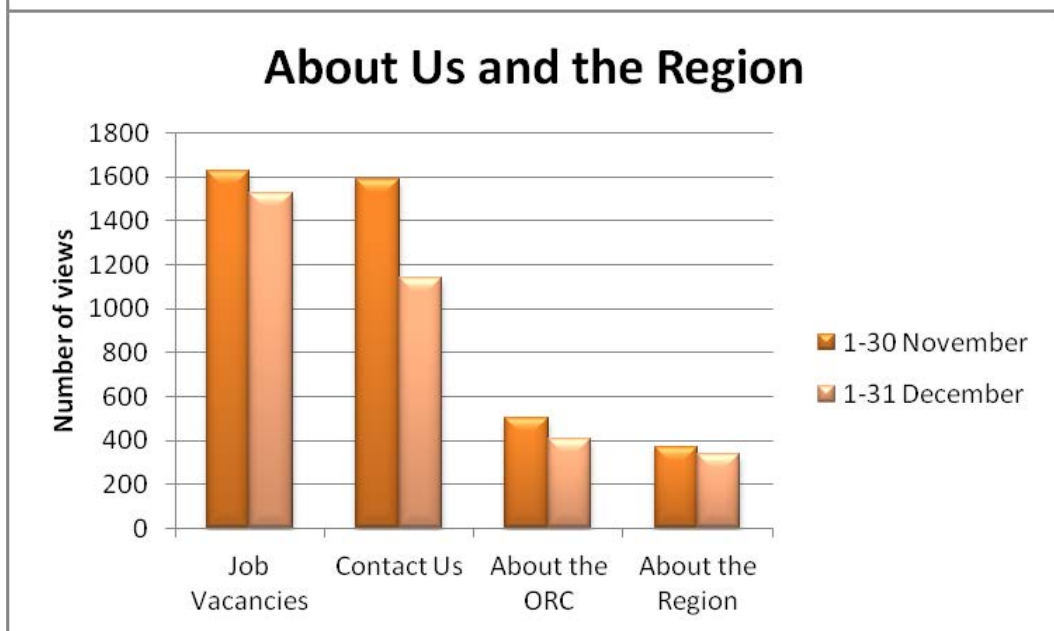
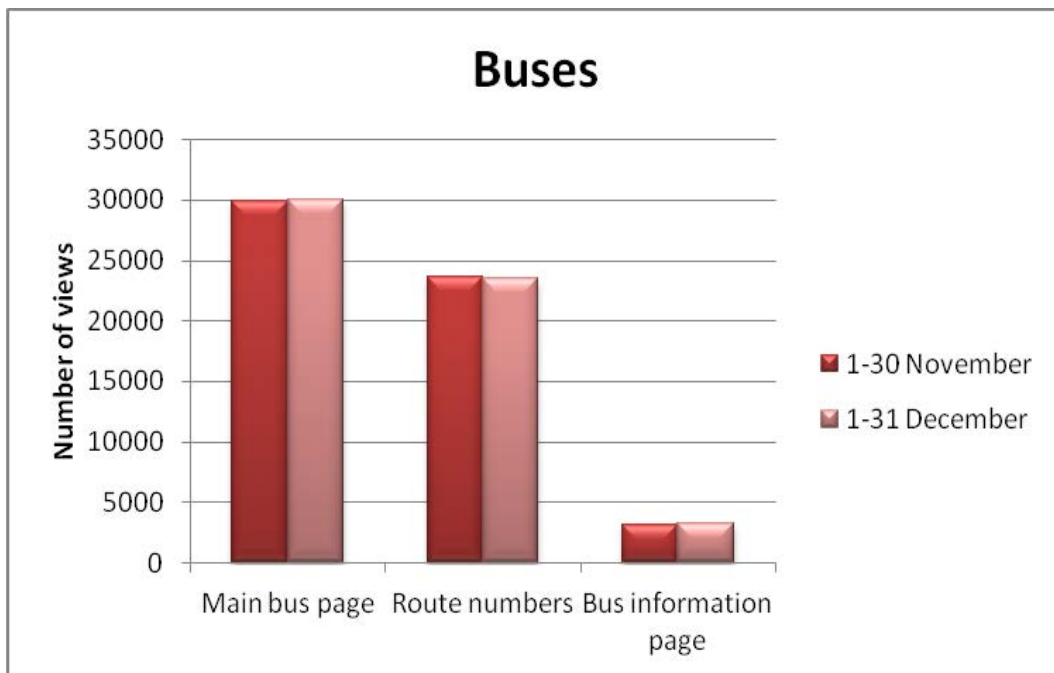
Daily visits to the ORC Website

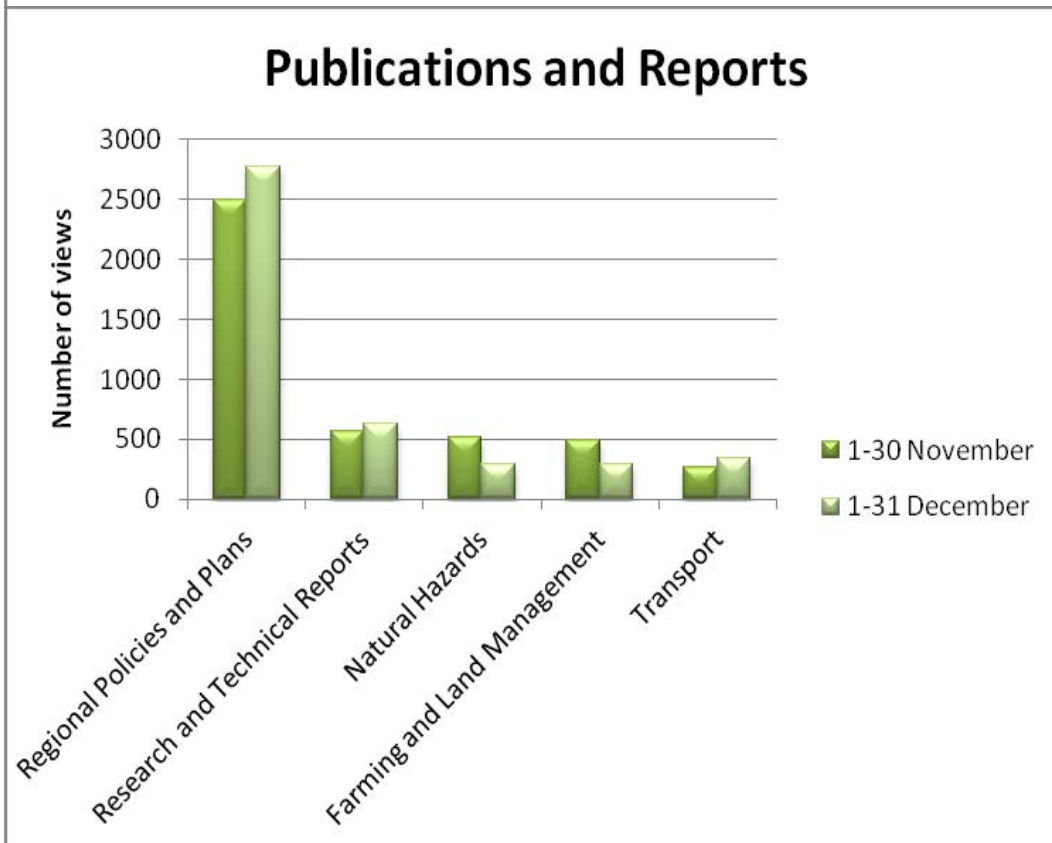
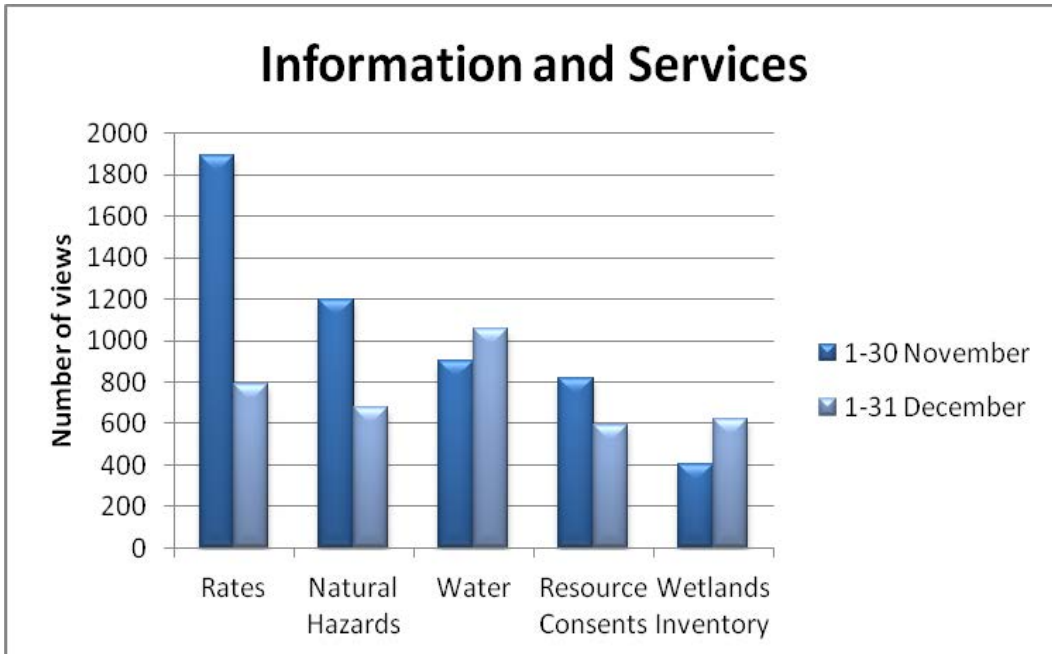
During this period there were 51,479 visits to the ORC website from New Zealand, 1,079 from Australia, and 774 from the United States.

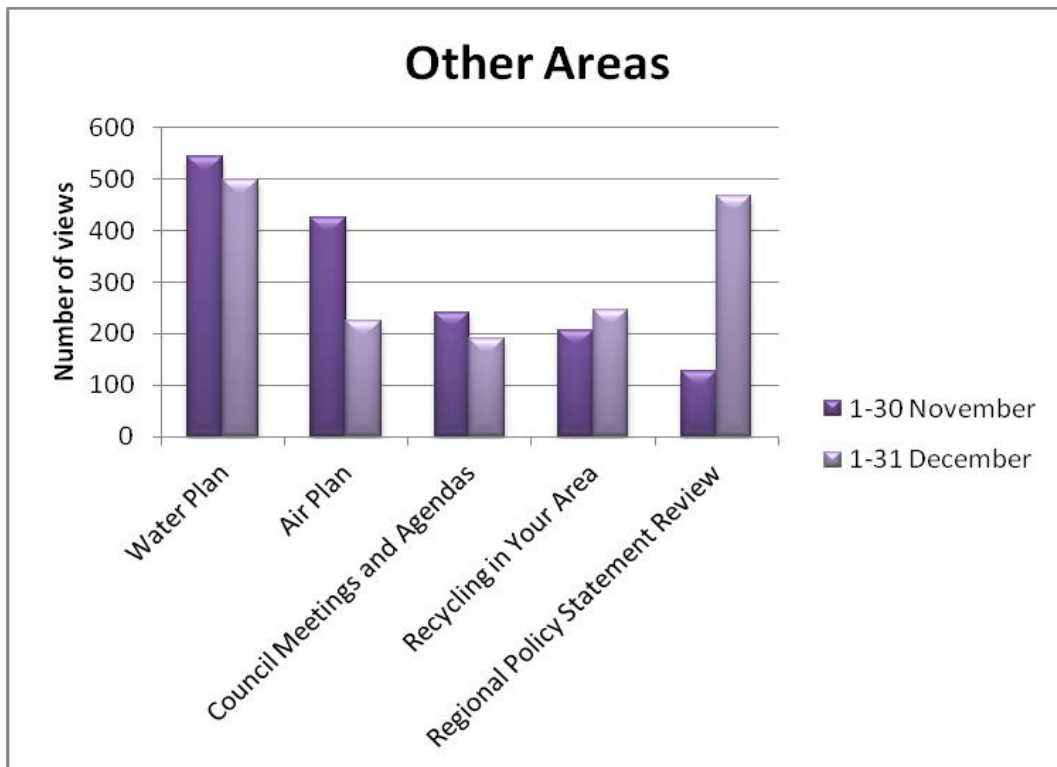


Average number of page views per visit was 3.03 and the top two downloads were the new bus timetable (3,690) and the Regional Policy Statement (272).

Analysis of webpages viewed







9. Recommendation

That this report is noted.

Peter Bodeker
Chief Executive

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL**Agenda for a meeting of the Policy Committee to be held in the
Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on
Wednesday 28 January 2015 following the Communications
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 Monday 26 January.

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

PUBLIC FORUM

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2014, having been circulated, for adoption

Matters arising from minutes

FOR NOTING

Item 1

2014/2052 **Director's Report on Progress.** DPPRM, 23/12/14

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 Wednesday 26 November 2014 commencing at 1.38 pm

Present:

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 Bryan Scott
Cr David Shepherd
Cr Stephen Woodhead

Apologies:

Cr Sam Neill
 The apology was accepted on the motion of Crs Robertson and Kelliher.

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 15 October 2014, having been circulated, were adopted on the motion of Crs Croot and Deaker.

Matters arising from minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

PART A – RECOMMENDATIONS

Item 1

2014/1838 Consultation Draft of Proposed Review of the Regional Policy Statement for Otago. DPPRM, 14/11/14

The Consultation Draft of the Proposed Regional Policy Statement for Otago (RPS) was re-presented to Council, to release for consultation in accordance with clause 3, Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991. The Consultation Draft was circulated separately with the agenda.

Mr McRae explained that the Consultation Draft was the result of collective work between regional and district councillors and staff and other stakeholders in Otago, and was now ready to go forward to formal consultation with the parties listed in the RMA. The timeline was tight, but was based on discussion with district councils, some of which were well progressed with their district plans. The content of the RPS reflected the breadth of input received to date, and he noted some stylistic changes were needed.

Councillors asked that their thanks and congratulations be passed on to staff for their extensive work to get the RPS to this point.

In response to a question Mr McRae advised that the RPS would have a life of 10 years, and there was a limited range of people/organisations who could initiate a change to the plan.

Cr Deaker moved
Cr Shepherd seconded

That the consultation draft of the Proposed Regional Policy Statement be released for consultation, as required under clause 3, Schedule 1 of the RMA.

Motion carried

Item 2

2014/1784 Notifying Proposed Plan Change 3C (Waiwera catchment minimum flow). DPPRM, 7/11/14

The report presented a summary of comments received on the Consultation Draft of Proposed Plan Change 3C (Waiwera catchment minimum flow), and recommended the notification of the Proposed Plan Change. The change sought to include a minimum flow and allocation regime for the Waiwera catchment into the Water Plan Schedule 2. A summary of the comments, Section 32 report, and the proposed Plan Change were circulated with the agenda.

Mr McRae noted that the Plan Change was part of the project to complete minimum flows on rivers before 2021. He commented that there was general support from the rural community to look after in-stream values.

Cr Woodhead moved

Cr Kempton seconded

1. *That Proposed Plan Change 3C (Waiwera 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 3C (Waiwera catchment minimum flow) be publicly notified on Saturday 13 December 2014.*
3. *That Proposed Plan Change 3C (Waiwera catchment minimum flow) have legal effect upon notification.*

Motion carried

PART B - FOR NOTING

Item 3

2014/1746 **Director's Report on Progress.** DPPRM, 7/11/14

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

Mr McRae noted that a submission on natural hazard and flooding issues had been made on the Otago Racing Club's application to subdivide their land at Wingatui. He commented that the application had been declined and the Racing Club had appealed the decision.

Mr McRae noted that a representative from Schlumberger had provided an update on the company's offshore survey programme for the first quarter of 2015 covering the area from Oamaru through the Great South Basin to Pegasus.

Cr Croot moved

Cr Scott seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

The meeting closed at 1.53 pm.

Chairperson

REPORT

Document Id: A707416

Report Number: 2014/2052
 Prepared For: Policy Committee
 Prepared By: Director Policy, Planning and Resource Management
 Date: 23 December 2014

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

1. Policy Responses

1.1 Responses – National Policies, Strategies and Plans

In the seven week period ending 24 December 2014, the following were received:

Agency	Number Received	Details
Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment	1	Proposed Block Offer 2015 (Petroleum exploration)

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

In the seven weeks ending 24 December 2014, the following were received:

Agency	Number Received	Document
Queenstown Lakes District Council	3	Consent applications
Dunedin City Council	4	Consent applications

The following responses were made over the seven week period:

Proposal	Response Type	Issues
Land for Housing Inquiry (New Zealand Productivity Commission)	Submission	The report is Auckland focused and needs to consider the issues, drivers and effects for other areas of the country.
Block Offer 2015 (Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment)	Feedback	That ORC's plans need to be considered by potential permit holders for support activities to petroleum exploration.

Plan Review Discussion Document (Central Otago District Council)	Submission	<p>ORC provided comment on the documents discussion on possible directions for issues around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban and rural areas, • Indigenous biodiversity • Heritage • Natural Hazards
NPS Freshwater (FW) Management 2014 Draft Implementation Guide (Ministry for the Environment)	Feedback	<p>Comments provided on aspects of the proposed guide that may adversely affect Otago's FW management regime, specifically around;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting quantifiable contaminant limits • Loading vs concentrations of contaminants • Climate Change • Accounting for FW takes and contaminant effects
Closeknit Ltd	Submission – Opposition	That proposed subdivision development adheres to ORC air plan rules for domestic heating due to small size of lots.

2. Resource Management Act: Policy Plans and Strategies

Review of Regional Policy Statement

Forty-three responses have been received on the Consultation Draft of the Proposed Regional Policy Statement (RPS) to date.

A summary of comments received, together with possible amendments to the proposal and methods for giving it affect, will be presented to a Council workshop on 28 January 2015. From this workshop, the amended proposal will be distributed to each city and district council for consideration and comment. Workshops are being arranged with each council in mid-late February 2015 to enable them to discuss the proposal, and suggest further improvements, prior to notification.

A workshop to finalise the reviewed RPS will be held on 11 March 2015. It is intended to notify the Proposed RPS at the end of March.

3. 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 Wednesday 28
January 2015 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 Monday 26 January.

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

PUBLIC FORUM

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2014, having been circulated, for adoption

Matters arising from minutes

ITEMS FOR NOTING

Item 1

2014/2053 **Biosecurity and RMA Monitoring Report.** DEMO, 13/1/15

Reporting on water, air, pest, and contaminated site environmental monitoring and incidents for the period 18 October to 31 December 2014.

Item 2

2015/0609 **Consent processing, consent administration and Building Control Authority update.** RMPP and MC, 14/1/15

Detailing consent processing, consent administration and building control authority activity for the period 10 November 2014 to 9 January 2015.

Item 3

2015/0577 **RMA, Biosecurity Act and Building Act Enforcement Activities.** DPPRM, 8/1/15

Detailing Resource Management Act 1991, Biosecurity Act 1993 and Building Act 2004 enforcement activities undertaken by the Otago Regional Council for the period 8 November 2014 to 8 January 2015.

Item 4

2015/0614 **Appointment of Hearing Commissioners.** DPPRM, 14/1/15

Listing hearing commissioners appointed for the period to 14 January 2015.

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Regulatory Committee held in the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on Wednesday 26 November 2014 commencing at 1.55 pm

Present:

Cr Gerrard Eckhoff (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:

Cr Sam Neill
 The apology was accepted on the motion of Crs Eckhoff
 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 15 October 2014, having been circulated, were adopted on the motion of Crs Bell and Robertson.

Matters arising from minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

ITEMS FOR NOTING

Item 1

2014/1734 **Biosecurity and RMA Monitoring Report.** DEMO, 30/10/14

The report detailed water, air, pest, and contaminated site environmental monitoring and incidents for the period 5 September to 17 October 2014.

Audit Monitoring – Mr Donaldson explained that the non compliant grades referred to failure to provide information, not to environmental issues.

Dairy Farm Effluent Inspections – six instances of major non compliance in South and West Otago were noted, and Mr Donaldson and Mr Bodeker were to meet with farming leaders in Balclutha on 1 December to discuss options for those landowners. The aim was to achieve changes in farming practice, with one concern being sharemilkers moving onto a new property and having to deal with a full effluent pond.

Pest Management - Wallabies – the report noted that bait stations had been placed in the area with the most sign of wallaby. If this was not effective, staff would carry out a helicopter flyover at the first snow. In response to a question about rabbit control in the Maniototo, Mr Donaldson explained that night shooting was carried out by Maniototo Pest Management, and poisoning was assisted by Regional Services.

Landfills – In response to a question Mr Donaldson explained that the main problem for the Victoria Flats landfill site was wet effluent from Wanaka, and it was anticipated that this would cease with the development in Luggate.

Cr Deaker moved
Cr Croot seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

Item 2

2014/1795 **Consent processing, consent administration and Building Control Authority update.** DPPRM, 10/11/14

The report detailed consent processing, consent administration and building control authority activity for the period 27 September to 7 November 2014.

Cr Woodhead moved
Cr Deaker seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

Item 3
2014/1760

RMA, Biosecurity Act and Building Act Enforcement Activities.
DPPRM, 7/11/14

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 26 September to 7 November 2014.

Cr Croot moved
Cr Shepherd seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

Item 4
2014/1848

Appointment of Hearing Commissioners. DPPRM, 17/11/14

The report listed hearing commissioners appointed for the period to 20 November 2014.

Reference was made to the appointment of Crs Shepherd (Chair), Neill and Kempton (Reserve) to the panel to hear ORC application RM14.230. Because of the unavailability of all panel members on the hearing day, Cr Croot was appointed by the Commissioner Appointment Subcommittee to join Cr Shepherd on the panel.

Cr Croot moved
Cr Woodhead seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

The meeting closed at 2.08 pm.

Chairperson

REPORT

Document Id: A708586

Report Number: 2014/2053

Prepared For: Regulatory Committee

Prepared By: Director Environmental Monitoring and Operations

Date: 13 January 2015

Subject: **Biosecurity & RMA Monitoring Report for the period 18 October to 31 December 2014**

1. Water Quality and Quantity

1.1 Regional Plan: Water and Resource Consent Monitoring

1.1.1 Audit Monitoring

Audits were conducted on 99 consents over this reporting period. The majority of consents audited were non-compliant – minor (no effects).

Thirty consents were fully compliant with no follow up action required.

1.1.2 Water Metering

Currently, 68% of consent holders have installed water recording equipment for takes greater than 20 litres per second. 19% are progressing with installations. A number of installations appear to have stalled and these consent holders are being recommended for enforcement action. Nine Abatement Notices have been issued to date where consent holders have failed to meet the requirements of either their consent or the Regulations.

Compliance with the Regulations for takes between 10-20 litres per second was 10th November 2014. Currently 52% of consent holders are compliant with either their consent or the Regulations. A further 17% have contacted the Council and are making progress. 16% have yet to contact the Council to advise progress, and these consent holders are being followed up. Some of these water takes are old water rights and need further investigation and site visits to confirm use and ownership.

2. Pest Management Strategy Implementation and Biosecurity Compliance

2.1 Animal Pests

2.1.1 Rabbits

Post poison operation and MAL inspection follow up, which includes an audit of management plans has been completed for approximately 130 properties.

Winter poison operations have shown good results however a very good breeding season has developed, with favourable dry conditions persisting. This has led to rabbit numbers showing a larger than normal seasonal increase.

2.1.2 Wallabies

Wallaby were sighted late in 2014 in the Naseby area, and this was confirmed by staff who observed “sign” in the area. Bait stations were laid and two pre-feeds have occurred. A camera has also been set up to further confirm visually the presence of wallaby and potentially the number of wallaby in this area.

Once confirmed numbers are identified, poison and/or shooting will occur in an attempt to remove the population.

2.2 Plant Pests

2.2.1 Gorse and Broom Surveillance

Aerial survey of Area 2 - from Dansey’s Pass through to Wanaka taking in the Hawkdun and Dunstan Ranges - was completed during December 2014. A high level of compliance has been found. Aerial control was evident on these properties. Some increases in infestations were found on Crown-administered land, mainly marginal strips along the Lindis River, and in the Manuherikia catchment along roadways. Non-compliance is being followed up.

2.2.2 Pinus Contorta

Contorta compliance has been carried out on 30 properties in the Upper Clutha. Significant stands of contorta at the outlet of Lake Hawea and in the Kawarau gorge have been felled. Seedling infestations in adjacent properties are under inspection. One property is still under enforcement at Swiftburn.

2.2.3 Nassella Tussock

As a result of notification from Environment Canterbury that they had observed Nassella Tussock on a property in the Awamoko area, a sample was collected which was confirmed by Landcare Research at Lincoln.

Nassella was found in 3 areas along Macauley Road adjacent to the shelter belts on the east and west side of the road. The owner was spoken to and advised of the finding

A more detailed search over the entire area in early 2015 is programmed to establish if there are infestations outside what has been observed.

2.2.4 Low incident plants

Boneseed

23 known sites where Boneseed has been found in the past were inspected. 13 sites were found to be fully compliant at the time of inspection. 9 sites were found with minor non compliance, with small scale control work completed at the time of inspection.

3. Environmental Incident Response

3.1 Contaminated Sites

Liaison with Territorial authority planning managers has continued regarding the development of a shared register for contaminated land information. Feedback from all five Territorial authorities was summarised and distributed to each council. The next steps are to meet with planning managers in February to discuss the proposal in more detail.

Sixty-six public enquiries regarding the land-use history or contamination status of specific properties were received. The increasing number of enquiries highlights the need for a coordinated approach to contaminated land information management.

3.1.1 Investigations

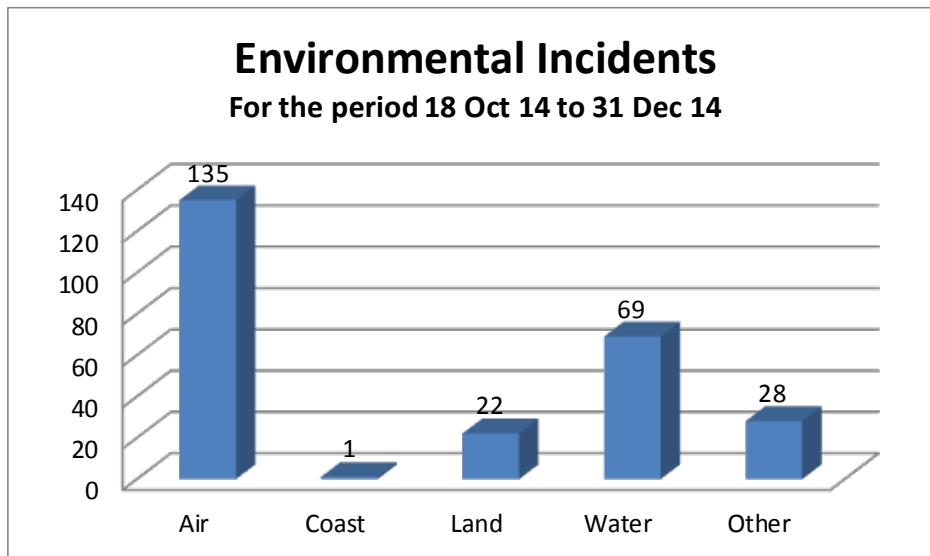
Stormwater and sediment sampling was completed at two timber treatment sites in South Otago where off-site discharge of contaminants had been identified historically. The purpose of the sampling was to confirm that site management practices have been successful in mitigating these discharges. Analysis of results is currently being completed.

3.1.2 Landfills

Dunedin City Council's consented closed landfills were inspected during the reporting period. Generally the results were satisfactory, with targeted custodial maintenance required at some sites. The culvert through the Forrester Park landfill, in particular, requires significant maintenance.

3.2 Environmental Incidents

A total of 256 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 burnings. Odour and back yard burnings were tied for the second most prevalent forms of air pollution. The only coastal incident was in regard to marine pollution. The land incidents were from land contamination. Concerns about fresh water pollution were the cause of the majority of water investigations. The majority of the other incidents were of the type to be resolved by other agencies.

4. Engineering Field Operations

The spray programme in all drainage schemes is well advanced due to the fine weather and relatively low water table. The mechanical drain cleaning programme has also commenced as has the willow control programme. A number of sites require channelisation works and the planning for these, including statutory notifications, commenced this reporting period.

5. Pest Operations

Three TBfreeNZ possum control contracts were completed this reporting period. Two private possum control projects for biodiversity outcomes are underway in the Dunedin area, and material support (traps) has been loaned to the Diamond Lake Trust (Wanaka).

6. Recommendation

That this report be noted

Jeff Donaldson

Director Environmental Monitoring and Operations

Summary of RMA Incident Complaints (General Location)

General location		Air							Coast					Land				Water					Other		
	Row summary	Backyard burning	Burning	Domestic chimneys	Dust	Industrial discharge	Odour	Spray drift	Coastal structures	Marine oil spill	Marine pollution	Reclamation	Removal	Deposit	Disturbance	Land contamination	Mining	Abstraction	Damming	Diversions	Fresh water quality	Storm water	Noise	Other	Staff performance
Catlins	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
Central Otago	36	2	0	3	5	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	2	6	0	0	7	0
Clutha Plains	14	1	3	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Dn - Abbots/Green Is	19	1	1	5	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0
Dn - Coast North	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dn - Coast South	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0
Dn - Inner City	41	6	2	8	0	2	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	6	0
Dn - Mosgiel	6	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Dn - Otago Harbour	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
Dn - Peninsula	7	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Dn - West Harbour	6	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
East Otago Uplands	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Lakes	53	3	31	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	10	0	0	2	0
Maniototo	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
North Otago	30	1	1	0	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	5	1	4	7	0	0	2	0
Roxburgh	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	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	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	0
Taieri Plains	15	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	2	0
TOTALS	256	27	39	21	8	3	27	10	0	1	0	0	0	5	7	10	0	7	3	9	50	0	0	28	0

REPORT

Document Id: A720937

Report Number: 2015/0609

Prepared For: Regulatory Committee

Prepared By: Marian Weaver and Chris Shaw

Date: 14 January 2015

Subject: **Consent Processing and Building Authority Activity Update
10 November 2014 to 9 January 2015**

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.

Notified Applications

1.2 Publicly Notified Applications

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 was heard by independent commissioners on 10-12 December and adjourned until 26 January with the 27th reserved. During the adjournment the applicant supplied further information which has been distributed to those who attended the hearing.

1.3 Limited Notified Applications

RM14.230 – Otago Regional Council

Application to formalise diversions within Lovells Stream and Stoney Creek, which form part of the Lake Tuakitoto wetland complex. Consent sought for a one year term of consent whilst a long term proposal to address flooding and management of the lake is sought. A decision granting the permit was given by Councillors on 3 December and the appeal period closes on 15 January. To date no appeal has been received.

2. Appeals to Environment Court / Objections

RM14.251 Central Machine Hire Limited. This is an objection to an application to take gravel from the Cardrona River being rejected. After a meeting to discuss various issues the objection was withdrawn and the application has been resubmitted.

3. 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
2013/14 Year total	450	30	42	13	410	53	72
1 July to 15 Aug 14	29	5	1	1	35	5	11
18 Aug to 26 Sept 14	45	8	1	2	50	4	1
27 Sept to 7 Nov 14	48	6	5	1	57	6	5
10 Nov 14 to 9 Jan 15	70	0	5	4	50	5	3
14/15 year total to date	192	19	12	8	192	20	19

4. Consent Administration

Table 2. Consent Administration Statistics

Reporting Period	Transfers Received	Transfers Issued	S417 Certs Received	S417 Certs Issued
2013/2014 Year Total	208	215	16	3
1 July 14 to 15 Aug 14	15	11	0	2
18 Aug to 26 Sept 14	25	17	0	2
27 Sept to 7 Nov 14	13	23	1	0
10 Nov 14 to 9 Jan 15	23	30	0	0
14/15 year to date	76	81	1	4

5. Building Consent Authority (BCA) Administration In Progress

Dam Building Consents	5
Code Compliance Certificates	2
PIM	0
Certificate of Acceptance	1

6. Public Enquiries

Appendix 2 shows that 322 enquiries were received by the Consents Unit during the reporting period.

Table 3. Public Enquiries Statistics

Period	Number of Enquiries
2013/2014 year	1490
1 July to 15 Aug 14	180
18 Aug to 26 Sept 14	148
27 Sept to 7 Nov 14	238
10 Nov 14 to 9 Jan 15	322
YTD 14/15	888

7. Legislation

The 2013 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. As there has been no Order in Council the amendment is enacted in March 2015.

8. 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

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 2013 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 2013 but was postponed while the applicant continues to negotiate with submitters. The Hearing Panel did a site visit on 22 August 2013. Since then the applicant has decided to reconsider the treatment options available and the application remains on hold.

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.

RM14.106 Southern Clams Limited

To undertake aquaculture activities within Otago Harbour. Activities to include occupation, disturbance and placement of structures within the coastal marine area. The application is on hold pending further information (sent 14 August 2014), including an assessment of any visual effects.

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.

Appendix 2 Summary of Public Enquires

Total Number of Enquiries **322**

Enquiry Type	No.	% of Total
Current Consents	121	37.6 %
Mining Privileges	2	0.6 %
Other	48	14.9 %
Permitted Activities	62	19.3 %
Pre-application	54	16.8 %
Property Enquiries	23	7.1 %
TLA Enquiries	1	0.3 %
Transfers	11	3.4 %

Enquiry Location	No.	% of Total
Central Otago District Council	86	26.7 %
Clutha District Council	28	8.7 %
Dunedin City Council	41	12.7 %
Outside Otago	3	0.9 %
Queenstown Lakes District Council	40	12.4 %
Throughout Otago	7	2.2 %
Unspecified	64	19.9 %
Waitaki District Council	53	16.5 %

Enquiry Method	No.	% of Total
Counter	21	6.5 %
Email	137	42.5 %
Fax	2	0.6 %
Letter	5	1.6 %
Telephone	157	48.8 %

REPORT

Document Id: A718129

Report Number: 2015/0577

Prepared For: Regulatory Committee

Prepared By: Peter Kelliher, Legal Counsel

Date: 8/1/2015

Subject: **Resource Management Act 1991, Biosecurity Act 1993 and Building Act 2004 Enforcement Activities from 8 November 2014 to 8 January 2015**

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 8 November 2014 to 8 January 2015.

2. Enforcement Action under the Resource Management Act 1991

a) Consent Auditing

No enforcement action taken.

b) Consent Performance Monitoring

Table 1. Abatement Notices

Details	Period – 8 November 2014 to 8 January 2015	Total – from 1 July 2014
To cease taking water in breach of water meter regulations	1	2
TOTAL	1	2

c) Permitted Activity Rules - Inspections

Table 2. Infringement Notices

Details	Period – 8 November 2014 to 8 January 2015	Total – from 1 July 2014
Discharge of contaminants to land in breach of a regional rule - effluent	2	2
TOTAL	2	2

Table 3. Authorised Legal Proceedings

Details	Period – 8 November 2014 to 8 January 2015	Total – from 1 July 2014
Discharge of contaminants to land in breach of a regional rule - effluent	1	1
TOTAL	1	1

d) Incidents**Table 4. Infringement Notices**

Details	Period – 8 November 2014 to 8 January 2015	Total – from 1 July 2014
Discharge of contaminants to air – outdoor burning	0	3
Discharge of contaminants to air – burning prohibited materials	0	2
TOTAL	0	5

Table 5. Authorised Legal Proceedings

Details	Period – 8 November 2014 to 8 January 2015	Total – from 1 July 2014
Discharge of contaminants to land in breach of a regional rule - effluent	0	1
Discharge of contaminants to air – burning prohibited materials	0	4
Disturbing the bed of a river – pugging	1	1
(1) Disturbing the bed of a river – pugging; and (2) Discharge of contaminants in breach of a regional rule - sediment	1	1
TOTAL	2	7

3. Biosecurity Act 1993

No enforcement action taken during the period.

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: A721421

Report Number: 2015/0614

Prepared For: Regulatory Committee

Prepared By: Director Policy, Planning and Resource Management

Date: 14 January 2015

Subject: **Appointment of Hearing Commissioners to 14 January 2015**

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 21 November 2014 (by email)

Present	Crs Woodhead and Robertson
Applicant	ORC
Appn. No	RM14.230
Activity	To divert Lovell's Stream and Stony Creek for the purpose of flood control, Lovell's Flat, South Otago
Note	Crs Shepherd and Neill, with Cr Kempton as reserve, were appointed to this panel on 14-15 November. Crs Neill and Kempton were unavailable on the agreed hearing date, and a replacement panel member was appointed at the 21 November meeting.
Motion	Moved Cr Woodhead, seconded Cr Robertson
Appointment	Crs Shepherd (Chair) and Croot

3. Recommendation

That the report be noted.

Fraser McRae

Director Policy Planning and Resource Management

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL**Agenda for a meeting of the Technical Committee to be held
in the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin
on Wednesday 28 January 2015 following the
Regulatory Committee meeting****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 Monday 26 January.

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

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 October 2014, having been circulated, for adoption.

Matters arising from minutes

ITEMS FOR NOTING

Item 1

2014/1952 **Management Flows for Aquatic Ecosystems in Twelve Mile Creek.**
DEHS, 3/12/14

The report discusses the results of modelling carried out to determine how changes in flow affect habitat for the fish species present in Twelve Mile Creek. The full report *Management Flows for Aquatic Ecosystems in Twelve Mile Creek* is circulated separately with the agenda.

Item 2

2014/2006 **Director's Report on Progress.** DEHS, 13/1/15

Topics covered in the report are: the current low flow situation, the Lakes Overseer validation project, MfE's national *Airshed Progress Report 2012*, work on the Leith Flood Protection Scheme, and Albert Town riverbank instability.

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Technical Committee held in the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on Wednesday 15 October 2014 commencing at 12.37 pm

Present:

- Cr Bryan Scott (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 Doug Brown
- Cr Gretchen Robertson

The apologies were accepted on the motion of Crs Scott and Croot.

In attendance:

- Peter Bodeker
- Wayne Scott
- Jeff Donaldson
- Jane Leahy
- Fraser McRae
- Gavin Palmer
- Deborah Mills for Item 1
- Janet Favel

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

MINUTES

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

Matters arising from minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

ITEMS FOR NOTING

Item 1
2014/1364 **2014 Air Quality Results.** DEHS, 1/10/14

The report described the results of ambient air quality monitoring of PM₁₀ carried out at nine sites throughout Otago.

Comment was made that after much discussion and work over a number of years, barely measurable progress had been made, and although the trends were in the right direction, they were not significant. Council should look at more radical solutions, and also consider a higher level of investment in education in relation to air quality.

Dr Palmer advised that a new air quality strategy would be presented to a Council workshop next month, and Ms Mills noted that Councillors' comments had been taken into account.

Cr Neill moved
Cr Woodhead seconded

1. *That the report be received.*
2. *That the state of air quality in Otago be noted.*

Motion carried

Item 2
2014/1448 **Director's Report on Progress.** DEHS, 2/10/14

The report described work on the Leith Flood Protection Scheme, Totara flooding, riparian margins in Dunedin City, and riverbank instability in Albert Town.

Dr Palmer advised that through a value engineering exercise, action had been identified which would reduce the cost and complexity of work on the Dundas Street-St David Street reach. As a result of this the start of the work had been delayed, but enabling works would commence soon.

In response to a question about riverbank instability in Albert Town, Dr Palmer advised that there was no causal relationship between the recently identified ground movement and the work carried out downstream of the site by the ORC in 2003.

Cr Shepherd moved
Cr Bell seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

The meeting closed at 12.48 pm.

Chairperson

REPORT

Document Id: A702016

Report Number: 2014/1952

Prepared For: Technical Committee

Prepared By: Dean Olsen, Water Resource Scientist

Date: 3 December 2014

Subject: **Management Flows for Aquatic Ecosystems in Twelve Mile Creek**

1. Précis

Twelve Mile Creek is a tributary of Lake Wakatipu and drains a small, steep mountainous catchment at the southern end of the Richardson Mountains. Twelve Mile Creek supports at least two native fish species, with upland bully and koaro recorded from sites in the catchment. Koaro are classified as “at risk, declining” in the most threat classification by the Department of Conservation. Twelve Mile Creek also provides spawning habitat for brown and rainbow trout and whilst it provides limited angling, it is likely to contribute to recruitment to the nationally significant trout fishery in Lake Wakatipu. Water allocation is currently very low but there is the potential for future development in the vicinity, with the Twelve Mile Creek catchment being a likely water supply for such development. It is desirable to have technical information on aquatic ecosystems available to the public to inform future discussions on the setting of a minimum flow.

A management flow report (“Management Flows for Aquatic Ecosystems in Twelve Mile Creek”) has been prepared presenting hydrological information and assessing the ecological flow requirements for Twelve Mile Creek. This assessment was informed by work undertaken for ORC by the National Institute for Water and Atmospheric research (NIWA). NIWA carried out in-stream habitat modelling in Twelve Mile Creek along with several other catchments. The results of this modelling are presented in Jowett (2005).

In-stream habitat modelling was conducted to determine how changes in flow affect habitat for the fish species present in Twelve Mile Creek. It is suggested that a flow of 105 l/s during the period December-April will maintain an appropriate level of habitat for juvenile and adult trout and koaro, while a flow of 120 l/s is suggested to protect trout spawning habitat over the period May-November.

The results from the technical report should be used as part of community consultation on the potential future setting of a minimum flow for Twelve Mile Creek and should inform any future resource consent assessments (e.g. residual flow conditions).

2. Recommendation

That this report and the technical report 'Management flows for Aquatic Ecosystems in Twelve Mile Creek' are received and noted.

Gavin Palmer
Director Engineering, Hazards and Science

REPORT

Document Id: A703973

Report No: 2014/2006

Prepared For: Technical Committee

Prepared By: Matt Hickey, Manager Resource Science
Michael Goldsmith, Manager Natural Hazards
Gavin Palmer, Director Engineering, Hazards and Science

Date: 15 January 2015

Subject: Director's Report on progress**1. Low flows**

Low flows have hit North Otago and the Taieri River catchment with most rivers at or below the minimum flows specified in the Regional Plan:Water. Investigation work into the hydrology of the Taieri River between Paerau and Sutton to help determine the effects of water takes on the recorded flows throughout the catchment has been undertaken (Figure 1). Extra flow level recorders were deployed at four mainstem sites to help determine travel times in different river reaches and the information gathered has been used to inform community water rostering.



Figure 1: ORC staff gauging the Taieri River at Cogen's Bridge near Patearoa on 13 January 2015

At this stage the flows recorded are comparable to the 1999 drought and with no significant rain in the forecast; flows are expected to drop through summer. Table 1 provides a comparison of flows to the 1999 and 2003/04 low flow events.

Table 1: Current River flows relative to those recorded in the 1999 and 2003/04 droughts.

Flow site	Min flow (l/s)	Current flow 21/1/2015 (l/s)	Lowest '99 flow (l/s)	Lowest '04 flow (l/s)
Taieri at Canadian Flat		1,087	473	515
Taieri at Waipiata	1,000	925	677	828
Kye Burn at Scotts Lane	NA	166	NA	NA
Taieri at Tiroiti	1,100	1,152	755	670
Taieri at Sutton	1,250	1,124	789	922
Taieri at Outram	2,500	3,586	983	1,192
Kakanui at Clifton Falls	NA	499	291	287
Kakanui at Mil Dam	250	369	188	226
Kakanui at McCones	250	344	NA	213
Waianakarua at Browns Pump	200	213	NA	NA
Trotters Creek at Mathesons Weir	10	< 5	NA	NA
Shag at Craig Rd	150	88	19	13
Waikouaiti DS of Confluence	NA	219	NA	NA
Dunstan Creek at Beattie Rd	NA	263	NA	48
Manuherikia at Ophir	820	2,008	718	1,537
Manuherikia at Campground	NA	946	NA	NA
Luggate Creek at SH8 Bridge	180		NA	NA
Waitahuna River at Tweeds Bridge	450	1,945	432	417
Pomahaka at Burkes Ford	4300*	5,985	2,026	2,138

2. Lakes Overseer™ validation project

The Lakes Overseer validation project is well underway now with 310 suction cup lysimeters installed to measure N and P losses below the root zone. Two types of lysimeter are used, with ceramic cups used for N loss and Teflon lysimeters for P loss (Figure 2). Leaching from a crop paddock, pasture paddock and native bush is being measured to allow comparison between high and low loss systems (Figure 3). Also nine groundwater bores have been drilled around the study site to allow the effect of the measured leaching from the root zone on groundwater quality to be determined (Figure 4).

This Overseer project is being conducted in a high rainfall, shallow stony soil environment under extensive sheep and beef landuse. The purpose of this project is to:

- Further build and understanding of the use of Overseer in managing to limits in the high country lakes catchments;
- Lessen the uncertainty of N-loss prediction by Overseer in this environment by considering the role of shallow soils in N loss and examining the influence of very high rainfall (over 1800mm year).

The work is part-funded by the Ministry of the Environment's Community Environment Fund.



Figure 2. A teflon and ceramic suction cup lysimeter about to be deployed in to the crop paddock.



Figure 3. Lysimeters being installed in the pasture and crop paddocks.



Figure 4. Drilling rig installing groundwater monitoring bores.

3. National air quality

The Ministry for the Environment (MfE) released its *Airshed Progress Report 2012* on 18 December. This report is a high-level compilation of air quality data and information supplied to MfE by regional councils and unitary authorities. The purpose of the report is to provide a national review of regional air quality status and trends for the period 2006-2012. Key points from the report include:

1. Most councils identify domestic heating as the main source of PM10 emissions; this is true for Otago.
2. Eight of the ten airsheds that record the highest number of exceedances of the National Environmental Standard for Air Quality (NESAQ) limit are in the South Island. Otago Airshed 1 (Alexandra, Arrowtown, Clyde, and Cromwell) regularly records the highest number of exceedances of the standard.
3. National air quality, as measured by exceedances and maximum one-day PM10 values, has improved from 2008-2012. Improvements in all Otago airsheds contributed to this overall reduction of PM10.
4. Improvements are generally seen where councils have implemented fully integrated programmes including: more stringent rules than found in the NESAQ, incentive schemes for cleaner heat, education efforts, and enforcement regimes.

The report does not present any information on the situation expected in 2016 or 2020 in relation to compliance with the NESAQ.

4. Leith Flood Protection Scheme

Works to the St David Street to Union Street reach are substantially complete (Figure 5).



Figure 5. St David to Union Street reach of the Water of Leith.

Enabling works in the Dundas Street to St David Street (Montgomery Avenue) reach will get underway shortly. The works are being undertaken by Clearwaters Otago Ltd and will be completed in March. Details of the flood mitigation works in this reach are being finalised with those works to be undertaken during 2015/16.

5. Albert Town riverbank instability

The geotechnical assessment of the landslide upstream of ORC's rockwork and a landslide immediately downstream of the SH6 Bridge was completed in December and based on that information QLDC reopened the riverside walkway. Copies of the assessment report were provided to owners of adjacent land. ORC is taking further advice on the preventative measures that could be taken to stabilise the landslides and on a contingency plan for the situation.



Figure 6. Perimeter scarp of the upstream landslide, which produces an abrupt step in the QLDC cycle track (October 2014).



Figure 7. Aerial view showing extent of the ORC's rockwork, and the location of the upstream landslide (taken during a period of high flows in the Clutha River, January 2013).

6. Recommendation

That this report is noted.

Gavin Palmer
Director Engineering, Hazards and Science