



# COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE AGENDA

## Wednesday, 12 June 2019

10:00 am, Council Chamber  
Level 2 Philip Laing House, 144 Rattray Street, Dunedin

### **Membership**

Cr Michael Deaker	<i>(Chairperson)</i>
Cr Carmen Hope	<i>(Deputy Chairperson)</i>
Cr Graeme Bell	
Cr Doug Brown	
Cr Trevor Kempton	
Cr Michael Laws	
Cr Ella Lawton	
Cr Sam Neill	
Cr Andrew Noone	
Cr Gretchen Robertson	
Cr Bryan Scott	
Cr Stephen Woodhead	

### **Disclaimer**

Please note that there is an embargo on agenda items until 48 hours prior to the meeting. Reports and recommendations contained in this agenda are not to be considered as Council policy until adopted.

*For our future*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Apologies.....	3
2. Leave of Absence .....	3
3. Attendance.....	3
4. Confirmation of Agenda.....	3
5. Conflict of Interest .....	3
6. Public Forum .....	3
7. Presentations .....	3
8. Confirmation of Minutes.....	3
9. Actions .....	3
10. Matters for Council Decision.....	4
10.1. ECO Fund Applications: 1-20 May 2019 Funding Round .....	4
11. Matters for Noting .....	7
11.1. General Manager's Report on Progress.....	7
12. Notices of Motion .....	12
13. Closure .....	12

## 1. APOLOGIES

No apologies have been notified.

## 2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

No leaves of absence have been requested.

## 3. ATTENDANCE

## 4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

*Note: Any additions must be approved by resolution with an explanation as to why they cannot be delayed until a future meeting.*

## 5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

*Members are reminded of the need to stand aside from decision-making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected representative and any private or other external interest they might have.*

## 6. PUBLIC FORUM

No requests to address the Committee Members have been made.

## 7. PRESENTATIONS

No presentations have been scheduled.

## 8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

### 8.1. Minutes

#### Recommendation

*That the minutes of the meeting held on 1 May 2019 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record.*

#### Attachments

1. Minutes - Communications 20190501 **[8.1.1]**

## 9. ACTIONS

### Status report on the resolutions of the Communications Committee

SHE1841 ECO Fund Decision Panel	01/05/2019	Contact designated Councillors to start process for ECO Fund Round 3	IN PROGRESS
SHE1841 GM Report	01/05/2019	GM to contact ECan for information on Youth Council Programme	COMPLETE
SHE1840 GM Report	01/05/2019	Review website search function and indexing	ASSIGNED

## 10. MATTERS FOR COUNCIL DECISION

### 10.1. ECO Fund Applications: 1-20 May 2019 Funding Round

**Prepared for:** Communications Committee  
**Report No.** SHE1844  
**Activity:** Governance Report  
**Author:** Lisa Gloag, Manager Communications and Engagement  
**Endorsed by:** Sally Giddens, General Manager People, Culture and Communications  
**Date:** 31 May 2019

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#### PURPOSE

[1] The Report to Council to approve recommendations for ECO Fund applications for the funding round 1 - 20 May 2019. <https://www.orc.govt.nz/our-council-our-region/eco-fund>

[2] The ECO Fund Vision, Purpose and Objectives are:



**Vision:**

ECO Fund will support work that protects and enhances Otago's environment.

**Purpose:**

To support community-driven environmental activities

**Objectives:**

To support administration costs, align with ORC environmental strategies, support both small and large projects, encourage community collaborations/partnerships, and promote ORC's profile within the community.

#### RECOMMENDATION

*That the Council:*

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Approves** the funding recommendations of the ECO Fund decision panel for the following applications to a value of \$73,666 as per attached summary sheet of projects):

**Applications under \$5,000**

*Control of Weed Species in and around lakes and wetlands*

*Creek Project*

*45th Parallel Project*

*Predator Free Wye Creek*

*Satellite Monitored Live Predator Trapping (No More Bad Cats)*

*Waiwera Kaihiku Farmer-led Watercare Group*

*Water Testing*

**Applications over \$5,000**

*Bring Back the Seabirds- Sandymount Titi colony protection*

*Environmental Monitoring and restoration of Matinaka Hawksbury Lagoon*

*Makarora Catchment Threatened Species Project  
Wakatipu Reforestation Trust Staff Costs*

**BACKGROUND**

- [3] The third round of ECO Fund applications closed on 20 May 2019. 25 applications were received:

Category	Applications	Total requested
Over \$5,000	12	\$282,490.64
Under \$5,000	13	\$49,240.70
Total Funds Requested:		\$331,731.34
Total Funds Available*:		\$73,666.00

*\*Please note \$9,667 was pre-allocated to the Clutha Water Project in the September 2018 round*

- [4] It has been pleasing to again see a diverse range of applications from around the region.
- [5] All applications have been made available for Councillors to view prior to the Communications Committee.
- [6] The ECO Fund Decision Panel met on 30 May 2019 to review and decide which applications are recommended to receive funding.
- [7] Some application names below have been simplified from full names given on applications.

**Applications under \$5,000**

Project Name	Decision	Amount
Creek Project	Yes	\$2,309.60
45th Parallel Project	Yes	\$4,232.00
Control of Weed Species in and around lakes and wetlands	Yes	\$1,363.90
Predator Free Wye Creek	Yes	\$4,993.00
Satellite Monitored Live Predator Trapping (No More Bad Cats)	Yes	\$4,950.00
Waiwera Kaihiku Farmer-led Watercare Group	Yes	\$2,517.00
Water Testing	Yes	\$704.25
Alpine Retreat Trapping Group	No	
Catchment Keepers	No	
Glenfalloch Nature Walk	No	
Predator Free Gibbston	No	
School Creek Restoration Group	No	
Wakatipu High School Native Planting Project	No	
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$21,069.75</b>

**Applications over \$5,000**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Decision</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Clutha Water Project	Yes	\$9,667 x3 (September 2018 / January 2019 / May 2019)
Bring Back the Seabirds- Sandymount Titi colony protection	Yes	\$5,568.26
Environmental Monitoring and restoration of Matinaka Hawksbury Lagoon	Yes	\$22,296.20
Makarora Catchment Threatened Species Project	Yes	\$6,100.00
Wakatipu Reforestation Trust Staff Costs	Yes	\$18,631.79
Admin/Volunteer Coordinator/ Marketing Assistant (Haehaeata Natural Heritage Trust)	No	
Coastal Forest Reforestation	No	
Milton Glass Crusher Pilot	No	
Granton Creek Restoration Project	No	
Invasive Weed Control at Te Nohoaka o Tukiauau/ Sinclair Wetlands	No	
New Strands of Evidence: Double Stranded RNA	No	
Project Bruce Sustainability Projects Coordinator Position	No	
West Harbour Sycamore Control Program	No	
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$62,263 .25</b>

**Total funds allocated: \$83,333**

### **PROGRESS REPORTS**

[8] Clutha Water Project progress report has been received and is attached to this report.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. 2019-05-10- ORCECO Fund Report - Clutha Water Project **[10.1.1]**

## 11. MATTERS FOR NOTING

### 11.1. General Manager's Report on Progress

<b>Prepared for:</b>	Communications Committee
<b>Report No.</b>	SHE1843
<b>Activity:</b>	Governance Report
<b>Endorser:</b>	Sally Giddens, General Manager People, Culture & Communication
<b>Date:</b>	29 May 2019

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#### PURPOSE

- [1] This report provides a summary of Communications Engagement activity between 18 April 2019 and 29 May 2019, and upcoming activity for the June-July period.

#### RECOMMENDATION

*That the Council:*

- 1) **Receives** this report.

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S INTRODUCTION

- [2] The areas of focus outlined in the April 2019 report to Council's Communications Committee have continued during this reporting period. This will remain so for the next 3 - 4 months as we build capability and consolidate the new account management structure.
- [3] As previously reported, our longer-term objective of this approach is to create a well-connected, coordinated and functioning team that takes a strategic and planned approach to communications and engagement across the whole organisation, while still being able to manage the inevitable reactive situations as they arise.
- [4] The following provides Councillors an overview of our activity and outcomes (where appropriate) during this reporting period, and a summary of key planned activity for the next six weeks.

#### COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT UPDATE (APRIL- MAY 2019)

- [5] Annual Plan community engagement events are complete and involved six events around Otago (including one for key stakeholders prior to the Council meeting on 15 May 2019). These events attracted people we wouldn't normally reach and the opportunity to engage and hear from them was invaluable. Feedback received has been collated (see Corporate and Finance Committee paper Community: Governance & Community for a full summary including topics raised).
- a. Balclutha drop in: 15-20 people
  - b. Otago Farmers Market (Dunedin): 25-30 people
  - c. Oamaru Farmers Market: 20-25 people
  - d. Cromwell drop in: 3 people
-

- e. Queenstown drop in: 0 people
  - f. Dunedin large stakeholder groups: 1 group
  - g. YourSay submissions: 5
  - h. Public submission: 1
  - i. Social media interactions: 13 comments
- [6] Providing clear information to stakeholders and community about the Bus Hub continues to be a key area of focus. We are now communicating about roadworks at the Hub during May and June 2019, which will result in some stops being reallocated. There is no change to timetables.
- [7] The Arrow and Cardrona FMU water consultation communications plan was implemented, which focussed on confirming already-collected values for these rivers, as well as any new values the community has. The campaign aimed to get a wider range of people involved from those who had initially participated in the minimum flow setting process. Communities were encouraged to be involved in a variety of ways, including public meetings held in Arrowtown on 27 May 2019 (attendance 45 at lunch session; 25 in evening session) and in Wanaka on 28 May 2019 (attendance 50 at lunch session, 25 in evening session) a brochure was delivered to all letterboxes with a return freepost slip, direct letter and email invitations, YourSay (online consultation) pages, radio and newspaper advertising, boosted Facebook posts, and posters sent out to local libraries, schools, cafes and doctors.
- [8] The 'Burn Dry, Breathe Easy' air quality campaign is underway. It is focused on educating for reduced air pollution through efficient heating. This year's campaign, targeted in Arrowtown, is the pilot for the Air Strategy's community engagement approach. We are also working alongside the Cosy Homes Trust to promote the Clean Heat Clean Air subsidy. The Arrowtown 'Burn Dry, Breathe Easy' campaign is geared around local Arrowtown communication channels and includes face-to-face at the Farmer's Market, a regular column/advertising in the local community newsletter, and a video using local faces.
- [9] Our business-as-usual work of communications planning and campaigns continues, with highlights from this reporting period including:
- Communicating the South Dunedin deep drilling project, 'What lies beneath Dunedin', with the community. This has included letters to residents, businesses owners and other stakeholders in the drilling areas to inform them of the works, a media release that included video coverage, social media updates that will continue to be shared throughout the drilling project, and public notices.
  - Clutha and Taieri Flood Protection Scheme drop-ins provided updates on what ORC is doing to reduce impact of floods in these areas. There was a good turnout at these events and the format of a drop-in worked well, where it encouraged discussion.
  - The completion of a community engagement public transport project in Queenstown by Wakatipu Way to Go, the partnership of Queenstown Lakes District Council, New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) and ORC. Feedback summary is expected later in May 2019.
  - Working with Dunedin City Council and NZTA in the Connecting Dunedin partnership to create a series of videos to promote active travel and public transport in Dunedin.
  - "Gypsy Day" campaign to communicate messages about keeping effluent out of waterways when transporting stock between farms. This includes a media release, adverts in rural newspapers and ODT Regions section, Facebook posts.



- Winter grazing: we partnered with Beef + Lamb NZ, other industry groups and regional councils to do a joint messaging good practice campaign that involves website stories, social media posts and advertorials, as well as our own messaging in On-Stream newsletter. This campaign will continue over winter.
- Seasonal campaign on rabbit management. This will continue for the next couple of months.
- Communicating the new Navigation Safety Bylaw.

## UPCOMING COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY (JUNE-JULY 2019)

[10] Summary of upcoming communications and engagement activity:

- ECO Fund review paper (it will be one year since the ECO Fund launched).
- As part of the Connecting Dunedin partnership with NZTA and DCC, we will consult on various transport initiatives underway in Dunedin.
- Communications and engagement with the Arrow and Cardrona catchment communities around their values, objectives and water limits. This includes communicating background science and geographic information, and how the community can be involved in discussions about the future management of these rivers.
- A number of campaigns will continue over the winter months, including the Burn Dry Breathe Easy (air pollution prevention) campaign, winter grazing (related to water quality) and rabbits (biodiversity/biosecurity).
- The Communications and Engagement team will begin looking into the potential for ORC to develop a Youth Council. We are aware of other regional councils that have one and will present a paper to Council later in the year on this. We will talk with the DCC about the Dunedin Youth Council as part of this.
- We recently attended the launch of the Ōtepoti Youth Vision, which was developed by community and government groups, young people and the Dunedin City Council. Sally Giddens (General Manager People, Culture and Communications) signed the vision on behalf of ORC. We have since contacted the convenor of the Dunedin Youth Council (which launched the vision) and will arrange to attend one of their meetings, initially to discuss public transport.

## ENVIROSCHOOLS UPDATE

[11] ORC provides regional coordination of Enviroschools in Otago. Enviroschools fosters a generation who instinctively think and act sustainably by working collaboratively with schools and their communities.

Student Action	Activity	Outcomes
Examples of students taking sustainability action.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skinks are motivating students at Tarras, Weston and Opoho Primary schools to improve habitat and continue tracking and trapping.</li> <li>• Millers Flat Primary students are planting their school grounds and organising local families to help.</li> </ul>	Enhancing biodiversity.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Queenstown Primary students reduced waste at the school fair by getting stall holders to use school cups rather than</li> </ul>	Reducing waste and working

	throw away cups. Students set up wash stations for the cups.	collaboratively with stall holders.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hawea Flat students learnt about their place and designed Kowhaiwhai to tell the story of their place.</li> </ul>	Māori perspectives and connecting to place.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wakatipu High School promoted active and public transport to school on 24 May 2019 (second school strike).</li> </ul>	Participating in democracy and climate change action.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weston Primary students wrote notes of support for the Oamaru Muslim Community and delivered it to the local Mosque.</li> </ul>	Respect for diversity of peoples and culture.
<b>Teacher support</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
Enviroschools provides professional development for teachers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teaching climate change hui for Waitaki, Dunedin and Clutha teachers.</li> <li>Waitaki Teacher cluster meeting – exploring Enviroschools resources.</li> </ul>	Building confidence to teach climate change and support students to take action.
<b>School support</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
Enviroschools works with multiple organisations to support schools to become more sustainable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Energy hui to share new Enviroschools new energy resource. Run by Toimata and attended by Otago and Southland Enviroschools Facilitators, some Otago teachers and others with an interest in energy.</li> </ul>	Upskilling Enviroschools teams and building interregional and interorganisational connections.



Left: Hawea Flat's Kowhaiwhai panels



Middle: Weston Primary Students with their letters of support for the Oamaru Muslim Community



Right: Bex (Waitati) and Deb (St. Brigids) learning about ocean currents with warming seas

## CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE STRATEGY - UPDATE

[12] During May 2019, we have progressed to the customer journey mapping stage of our strategy work. This has involved mapping out customer touch-points, systems utilised and raising areas for improvement across rates and transport enquiries to create a more seamless customer experience.

- [13] To ensure that our strategy is informed by customer insight, and to validate our assumptions, in the month ahead we will look to develop customer feedback surveys, which will be promoted through social media channels. The feedback gathered will inform our overall strategy and the prioritisation of service enhancement work.

**Attachments**

Nil

## **12. NOTICES OF MOTION**

No Notices of Motion were received.

## **13. CLOSURE**



## FINANCE AND CORPORATE COMMITTEE AGENDA

# Wednesday 12 June 2019

11:00 am Council Chamber  
Level 2 Philip Laing House, 144 Rattray Street,  
Dunedin

### **Membership**

Cr Doug Brown *(Chairperson)*  
Cr Andrew Noone *(Deputy Chairperson)*  
Cr Graeme Bell  
Cr Michael Deaker  
Cr Carmen Hope  
Cr Trevor Kempton  
Cr Michael Laws  
Cr Ella Lawton  
Cr Sam Neill  
Cr Gretchen Robertson  
Cr Bryan Scott  
Cr Stephen Woodhead

### **Disclaimer**

Please note that there is an embargo on agenda items until 48 hours prior to the meeting. Reports and recommendations contained in this agenda are not to be considered as Council policy until adopted.

*For our future*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Apologies.....	3
2. Leave of Absence .....	3
3. Attendance.....	3
4. Confirmation of Agenda.....	3
5. Conflict of Interest .....	3
6. Public Forum .....	3
7. Presentations .....	3
8. Confirmation of Minutes.....	3
9. Actions.....	3
10. Matters for Council Decision.....	4
10.1. General Manager's Report .....	4
10.2. Annual Plan 2019-20.....	7
11. Notices of Motion .....	16
12. Resolution to Exclude the Public.....	16
13. Closure .....	16

## **1. APOLOGIES**

No apologies were advised.

## **2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

No leaves of absence were advised.

## **3. ATTENDANCE**

## **4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA**

*Note: Any additions must be approved by resolution with an explanation as to why they cannot be delayed until a future meeting.*

## **5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

*Members are reminded of the need to stand aside from decision-making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected representative and any private or other external interest they might have.*

## **6. PUBLIC FORUM**

No requests to address the Committee Members have been received.

## **7. PRESENTATIONS**

No Presentations have been scheduled.

## **8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **Recommendation**

*That the minutes of the (public portion of the) meeting held on 1 May 2019 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record.*

### **Attachments**

1. Minutes - Finance 20190501 **[8.1.1]**

## **9. ACTIONS**

### **Status report on the resolutions of the Finance & Corporate Committee**

No outstanding actions.

## 10. MATTERS FOR COUNCIL DECISION

### 10.1. General Manager's Report

**Prepared for:** Finance and Corporate Committee  
**Report No.** CS1898  
**Activity:** Governance Report  
**Author:** Nick Donnelly, General Manager Corporate Services  
**Endorsed by:** Nick Donnelly, General Manager Corporate Services  
**Date:** 29 May 2019

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#### PURPOSE

- [1] This report informs the Finance and Corporate Committee of significant financial and corporate activity and presents account payments to the Committee for endorsement.

#### RECOMMENDATION

*That the Finance and Corporate Committee:*

- a) **Receives** this report.
- b) **Endorses** the April 2019 payments summarised and detailed in the payments schedule, totalling \$5,789,382.98.

#### ELECTION UPDATE

- [2] The 2019 local authority triennial elections will be held on Saturday 12 October 2019. Nominations open on Friday 19 July 2019. Nomination forms will be available in early July and a candidate information booklet has been completed and will be available at ORC and City/District Council offices and on ORC's website together with other information useful to potential candidates by the end of June.
- [3] A joint candidate information presentation will be conducted for the ORC and DCC at 7 p.m. Wednesday 24 July in the DCC Municipal Chamber. Council CEO Sarah Gardner will attend and present to candidates interested in standing for the Otago Regional Council.
- [4] The following table shows the key dates for the election:

Friday 19 July 2019	Nominations open Electoral Roll open for inspection
Friday 16 August 2019	Nominations close (12 noon) Electoral Roll close
Friday 20 September 2019	Voter packs mailed to electors Voting period commences
Saturday 12 October 2019	Election Day Voting closes 12 noon
By Thursday 17 October 2019	Official result released
From Thursday 17 October 2019	Official result advertised



- [5] Council has already resolved the following in relation to the 2019 elections:
- To conduct this election under the first past the post (FPP) electoral system.  
*(resolved by Council on 16 August 2017)*
  - To not establish one or more Maori constituencies for the Otago region.  
*(Council; 1 November 2017)*
  - To appoint Anthony Morton from Electionz.com as Electoral Officer for the Otago Regional Council.  
*(Council; 31 October 2018)*
  - That the Otago Regional Council shall comprise 12 members elected from 4 regional constituencies as follows:
 

Dunedin	6 members
Molyneux	2 members
Moeraki	1 member
Dunstan	3 members

  
*(Council; 31 October 2019)*
  - That the order of candidate names on voting papers will be arranged in random order.  
*(Council 15 May 2019)*

## RATES UPDATE

- [6] The following tables provide a summary of rates struck for the current and previous financial years and include information on penalties, direct debits and ratepayers opting to receive invoices via email.

Rates	2017-2018	2018-2019
Rates due	31 Oct 2017	31 Oct 2018
Total rates struck	\$24,061,200	\$26,786,278
Collected as at 31 Oct	\$20,161,200	\$22,626,809
Percentage paid by 31 Oct	84%	84%
Outstanding as at 31 Oct	\$3,900,000	\$4,159,469
Due by tri-annual DD	\$635,400	\$1,076,998

Penalties	2017-2018	2018-2019
Notices sent	17,105	17,003
Total penalty amount	\$296,727	\$339,168
Percentage of total rates	1.23%	1.27%

Direct Debits	2017-2018	2018-2019
Annual		13,716
Tri-annual		4,405
Total direct debits	16,521	18,121
Percentage total rates	14.3%	15.6%

Emailed Invoices	2017-2018	2018-2019
Invoices emailed		3,057
Percentage total rates		2.6%

## ACCOUNT PAYMENTS

- [7] 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 Category	April 2019
Trade payments	4,980,434.69
Payroll	808,948.29
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,789,382.98</b>

## ATTACHMENTS

Nil

## 10.2. Annual Plan 2019-20

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<b>Prepared for:</b>	Finance and Corporate Committee
<b>Report No.</b>	CS1900
<b>Activity:</b>	Community: Governance & Community
<b>Author:</b>	Mike Roesler, Manager Corporate Planning
<b>Endorsed by:</b>	Nick Donnelly, General Manager Corporate Services
<b>Date:</b>	24 May 2019

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### PURPOSE

- [1] To receive the proposed Annual Plan 2019-20 (AP) in advance of adoption at the 26 June 2019 Council meeting.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [2] The Council has completed a review of the financial forecasts and work programme detailed in year two the Long-Term Plan 2018-28 (LTP). This has resulted in adjustments to the LTP and these are now reflected in the AP prepared for adoption.
- [3] The review process has included Council workshops that culminated in the consideration of a draft 2019/20 budget position and funding requirements, including rating. This occurred at the 3 April 2019 Council meeting where a decision was also made on the approach to public engagement.
- [4] Given the Council's decision not to significantly change its direction and programme as consulted with the community in May 2018, a less formal public engagement approach was agreed i.e.. no formal submission and hearing process.
- [5] Community engagement involved Councillors and staff making themselves available to the community and stakeholders at various venues across the region over April and May this year. This was well advertised and supported by information about our key priorities and adjustments to the LTP. Paragraph 14 of this report discusses the feedback.
- [6] The Annual Plan 2019-20 has now been drafted by Council staff and presented to the Finance and Corporate Committee for final consideration prior to Council adoption. Importantly it contains the financial forecasts and associated funding impacts as considered and agreed at the 3 April Council meeting.

### RECOMMENDATION

*That the Council:*

- 1) **Adopts** the proposed Annual Plan 2019-20 as circulated with this committee report
- 2) **Notes** that council staff will complete a final proof edit of the Annual Plan 2019-20 version as provided to this committee and a publish version will be presented for adoption at the 26 June 2019 Council meeting.

## **BACKGROUND**

- [7] The Otago Regional Council Long-Term Plan 2018-28 (LTP) contains detailed forecasts for the 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21 financial year. This plan was consulted with the Otago regional community in April-May 2018 and adopted by Council in June 2018.
- [8] The Annual Plan process has enabled the Council to review the 2019/20 financial forecasts and associated work programmes contained in the LTP. The 3 April 2019 Council meeting provided an important decision-making step in the review process. Council agreed that the result of the review provided the basis for staff to complete the AP.
- [9] At the above meeting the Council also agreed that the adjustments to the LTP did not result in significant or material difference from that previously consulted and agreed with the community. This reflected the Council's will to stick to the strategic direction already agreed with the community in June 2018.
- [10] Given the questionable value of re-consulting with the community when no significant change was proposed to the LTP, a decision was made not to consult the AP. However, opportunities across the Otago region were provided for ratepayers and interested parties to connect with Councillors and Council staff.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Proposed Annual Plan 2019/20**

- [11] The proposed AP, as attached 10.2.1, reflects the result of Council's review of the detailed financial forecasts and work programme contained in the LTP. Importantly it reflects the same expenditure, funding and work programme position as agreed at the 3 April 2019 Council meeting. Attachment 10.2.2 provides a summary of the adjustments that have been made to year two of the LTP.
- [12] This committee meeting provides elected members with an opportunity to gain a level of assurance leading into the 26 June 2019 Council meeting to adopt the AP.

### **Community Engagement**

- [13] While a decision was made not to formally consult the AP Council were still interested to hear from the community. We held drop in sessions, attended farmers markets and invited large stakeholders to discuss their thoughts on our direction, to ensure our community is still in agreement with the direction of the ORC. Details of all feedback is in Attachments 10.2.3, 10.2.4, and 10.2.5.
- [14] Community feedback:
- YourSay: Feedback provided was of a general nature; we did not receive anything of a strategic nature, it was mainly about Dunedin public transport – having a 'hub' sitting within DCC to answer ORC related matters to save a walk up the hill to the ORC office, ensuring bus stops were smokefree, GPS monitoring for buses.
  - Social media: The comments received online were around the size of the percentage increase of the general rates and what we're spending this money on. Some of their comments suggested we need to change the way we communicate with them, e.g. one question asked was 'what is governance and regulation?'
  - Community events: Numbers at council-led events were low but those that did speak with us wanted clarification or reassurance on existing projects. At events where we

went to the community (i.e. farmers markets), we had good interaction with people, and around 20 – 30 people approached us at both the Oamaru and Dunedin markets. At both the ORC-led events and farmers markets, people talked with us about similar topics. Their interest in the Annual Plan was low; they were more interested in business as usual processes – e.g. wanting to know more about the Pollution Hotline, noise pollution from Port Otago, possum traps, trees in South Dunedin that help reduce flood-risk are being removed from private properties, rabbit shooting, air pollution, too much development in Cromwell, an additional civil defence person for Cromwell to help the community understand where to go and what to do in their area.

- Stakeholder groups: 20 stakeholder groups were invited to speak with Councillors at the ORC council chambers. The Otago Chamber of Commerce was the only group that attended this session to provide comment. Their concerns were mainly around the percentage increase of general rates. They also made comment on Water and Public Transport. They would like to gain a better understanding of the work we’re doing. The Dunedin City Council sent a written submission (10.2.4). They covered the following topics: Public Transport, urban development strategy, climate change, monitoring and compliance, pest management, Tomahawk lagoon, harbour management, urban water quality initiative and infrastructure design.
- Other: Submission presented to council (15 May) regarding the development of cycling and hiking tracks and trails (Attachment 10.2.5).

[15] While feedback numbers were low across all engagement methods, the key learnings to come from engaging the community in this way is that the community wants to better understand what we do and how the rates they pay, benefit them. We need to tailor the language we use so that it resonates with our community in a way we all understand.

### Financial Summary

[16] This section provides a summary of the financial implications of the changes to the LTP as reflected in the attached Annual Plan 2019/20.

[17] The table below provides the proposed changes in expenditure (both operating and capital) compared to that consulted and agreed with the community for the LTP. The proposed total expenditure is \$67.7 million representing an increase of \$3.7 million compared to the year 2 Long-term Plan forecast. Most of this increase is comprised of ‘Wilding Pine Control’ (\$1.8m), and ‘Flood Protection and River Control’ (\$1.3m) and are grant and reserve funded with no rate impact.

Annual Plan 2018/19 (000’s)	Significant Activity	Yr2 LTP (000’s)	Annual Plan 2019/20 (000’s)
	<b>Environment</b>		
3,485	- Freshwater Implementation	3,527	3,139
300	- Air	309	366
80	- Coast	84	0
4,228	- State of Environment	4,208	4,048
3,540	- Biodiversity and Biosecurity	3,714	5,082
	<b>Regional Leadership</b>		
3,816		4,013	3,629

3,333	- Regional Planning and Urban Development Strategy - Governance and Community Engagement	3,501	4,651
5,924	<b>Regulatory</b>	6,438	6,518
8,608	<b>Flood Protection &amp; River Management</b>		
2,230	- Flood	6,526	7,289
	- Rivers	2,243	2,865
2,454	<b>Safety &amp; Hazards</b>		
1,603	- Emergency management	2,416	2,425
	- Hazards	1,402	1,852
24,619	<b>Transport</b>	25,633	25,838
<b>64,221</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>64,014</b>	<b>67,702</b>

The proposed sources of revenue budgeted to cover the cost of Council activity are as follows:

Annual Plan 2018/19 (000's)	Funding Source	Yr2 LTP (000's)	Annual Plan 2019/20 (000's)
8,808	General rates	10,816	11,180
14,366	Targeted rates	15,180	15,183
22,366	Fees & charges; Grants	23,332	25,477
9,067	Reserves	5,599	6791
9,614	Port Otago dividends; investment interest	9,087	9,072
<b>64,221</b>	<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>64,014</b>	<b>67,703</b>

[18] Total revenue requirements are \$3.69 million higher than forecasted in the LTP. This increase is reflected in:

- Grants – additional government grant for Wilding trees
- Reserves – applied to Flood and Drainage Scheme activity
- General rates - additional funding for adjustments to the LTP as summarised in Attachment 10.2.2.

## General Rates

[19] The general rate increase is shown below.

Annual Plan 2018/19 (000's)		Yr2 LTP (000's)	Annual Plan 2019/20 (000's)
18,422	General rates for Activities	19,594	20,251
	Less:		
7,700	Dividend from Port Otago	7,900	7,900
1,164	Interest and Investment Income	1,187	1,172
750	Special Dividend	-	
<b>8,808</b>	<b>General Rates Payable</b>	<b>10,507</b>	<b>11,180</b>
21.1%	% increase	19.3%	26.9%

[20] The majority of the 26.9% general rate increase relates to a range of service deliverables previously agreed in the LTP including:

- Freshwater planning & implementation
- Water state of the environment monitoring
- Biodiversity and environmental enhancement
- 2019 Elections
- Harbour management

[21] Adjustments to the LTP, as introduced via this AP process, account for 7.6% of the general rate increase and relate to the following services:

- Freshwater planning
- Urban Development Strategy – improving Council’s understanding of current and future service delivery (gearing-up)
- Climate change adaptation – fast tracking planned work
- Regulatory – meeting demands relating to monitoring, compliance and investigations.

[22] Importantly, this proposed rating requirement includes a dividend ‘offset’ from Port Otago of \$7.9 million. The special dividends decreased over year 1 and 2 of the LTP to reduce the regions reliance on this funding source.

## Targeted Rates

[23] A summary of targeted rates is shown below

Annual Plan 2018/19 (000's)	Funding	Yr2 LTP (000's)	Annual Plan 2019/20 (000's)
2454	Emergency Management	2416	2425
209	Wilding Trees	213	209
1292	<b>Freshwater Implementation</b>	1329	1326
	<b>Transport Rates</b>		
3977	Transport Dunedin	4384	4384
718	Transport Queenstown	845	845
	<b>River Management Rates</b>		
300	Central Otago District	300	300
300	Clutha District	330	330
200	Dunedin City	250	250
150	Wakatipu	150	150
180	Wanaka	180	180
400	Waitaki District	400	400
	<b>Flood &amp; Drainage Scheme Rates</b>		
1461	Leith	1461	1461
650	Lower Clutha	700	700
750	Lower Taieri	800	800
550	West Taieri	600	600
450	East Taieri	475	475
105	Tokomairiro	122	122
80	Shotover Delta	80	80
142	Lower Waitaki	144	146
<b>14366</b>	<b>Total Targeted Rates</b>	<b>15180</b>	<b>15183</b>



### Balanced Budget

- [24] Council is required to ensure that our estimated revenue can cover the estimated operating costs. However, Council can set revenue at a different level if it is prudent to do so.
- [25] The table below shows that the Council is sticking to the planned revenue deficit for the 2019/20 year, albeit at a reduced level compared to the LTP forecast.

Annual Plan 2018/19 (000's)	Activity	Yr2 LTP (000's)	Annual Plan 2019/20 (000's)
	<b>Targeted Rate Reserve</b>		
145	Air – Clean Heat	149	146
100	Lake Hayes Rehabilitation		
558	<b>Asset Reserve</b>	497	477
	<b>General Reserve</b>		
300	Predator Free Dunedin		
76	Yellow Eyed Penguin Trust	78	76
147	Designation and Bylaws	124	112
100	Public Awareness	103	
100	Climate Change Adaptation	103	
280	Freshwater – SOE		
158	Freshwater Implementation	158	81
	<b>Kuriwao Reserve</b>		
138	Climate Change Adaptation (Lwr Clutha Retreat)	140	148
498	<b>Water Management Reserve</b>	492	388
2849	<b>Total Revenue Deficit</b>	2099	1778

## **Fees & Charges**

- [26] At this stage of the AP process Council staff are not proposing change to fees and charges. However, a review of fees and charges for regulatory consenting activity is underway and will be reported to Council. This review will result in a proposal, including charging options, to consent applicants. The Council's decision-making options will not materially impact the 2019/20 financial forecasts. The reasons for the review are more about managing customer expectations and service experience verses adjusting revenue requirements.
- [27] Fees and charges relating to other aspects of Council activity including, 'consent monitoring', 'compliance monitoring' and 'enforcement' would also benefit from review. Council staff will broaden the scope of the above review where feasible to include these other regulatory matters.

## **CONSIDERATIONS**

### **Policy Considerations**

- [28] The Strategy and Policies developed as part of the Long-Term Plan 2018-19 and as required under the Local Government Act 2002 remain as previously adopted by Council.

### **Financial Considerations**

- [29] These have been covered in the discussion section above

### **Significance and Engagement**

- [30] The Council Significance and Engagement Policy was considered against the adjustments that have been made to the LTP. Council decided at its 3 April 2019 meeting that the adjustments proposed to the LTP, via the Annual Plan 2019/20 process, did not represent a significant or material difference.

### **Legislative Considerations**

- [31] Council staff have completed the Annual Plan 2019/20 under the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 and Financial Reporting Standards.

### **Risk Considerations**

- [32] Key process risk, such as a material mis-statement of the financial forecasting has been managed to a point that risk is low.

## **NEXT STEPS**

- [33] The next steps are:
- Editorial proofing of the published version of the Annual Plan 2019/20 will be completed
  - Adoption of the Annual Plan 2019/20 is programmed for the 26 June 2019 Council meeting
  - At that meeting and following adoption of the Annual Plan the Council will adopt the rating resolution to enable rating for the new financial year.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Annual Plan 2019-20 - 12 June F&C Committee Meeting Version 1 **[10.2.1]**
2. A P- Attach 2- Summary of LTP Adj-12 June Cmmt **[10.2.2]**
3. Annual Plan community engagement 2019 **[10.2.3]**
4. DCC submission letter on ORC Annual Plan 2019-20 **[10.2.4]**
5. Rachel Elder submission Tracks and Trails Public Forum 20190515 **[10.2.5]**

## 11. NOTICES OF MOTION

No Notices of Motion were submitted.

## 12. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

The following resolution is made in reliance on sections 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 7 of that Act.

*On the grounds that matters will be prejudiced by the presence of members of the public during discussions on the following items, it is resolved:*

1. That the following items are considered with the public excluded:

Meeting Item	Grounds for excluding the public
1.1 Confirmation of the minutes of the 1 May 2019 Public-Excluded Finance and Corporate Committee Meeting.	To enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities (Section 7(2)(h))  To enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations) (Section 7(2)(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.

## 13. CLOSURE



# POLICY COMMITTEE AGENDA

## Wednesday 12 June 2019

1:00 pm, Council Chamber,  
Level 2 Philip Laing House, 144 Rattray Street,  
Dunedin

### **Membership**

Cr Gretchen Robertson	<i>(Chairperson)</i>
Cr Michael Laws	<i>(Deputy Chairperson)</i>
Cr Graeme Bell	
Cr Doug Brown	
Cr Michael Deaker	
Cr Carmen Hope	
Cr Trevor Kempton	
Cr Ella Lawton	
Cr Sam Neill	
Cr Andrew Noone	
Cr Bryan Scott	
Cr Stephen Woodhead	

### **Disclaimer**

Please note that there is an embargo on agenda items until 48 hours prior to the meeting. Reports and recommendations contained in this agenda are not to be considered as Council policy until adopted.

*For our future*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Apologies.....	3
2. Leave of Absence .....	3
3. Attendance.....	3
4. Confirmation of Agenda.....	3
5. Conflict of Interest .....	3
6. Public Forum .....	3
7. Presentations .....	3
8. Confirmation of Minutes.....	3
9. Actions.....	3
10. Matters for Noting .....	5
10.1. General Manager's Report on Progress .....	5
11. Notices of Motion .....	15
12. Closure .....	15

## 1. APOLOGIES

No apologies were advised.

## 2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

No leaves of absence were requested.

## 3. ATTENDANCE

## 4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

*Note: Any additions must be approved by resolution with an explanation as to why they cannot be delayed until a future meeting.*

## 5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

*Members are reminded of the need to stand aside from decision-making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected representative and any private or other external interest they might have.*

## 6. PUBLIC FORUM

No requests to address the Committee Members were received.

## 7. PRESENTATIONS

No presentations are scheduled.

## 8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

### Recommendation

*That the minutes of the meeting held on 1 May 2019 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record.*

### Attachments

1. Minutes - Policy 20190501 [8.1.1]

## 9. ACTIONS

### Status report on the resolutions of the Policy Committee

<b>Draft Biodiversity Strategy Feedback</b>	13/06/18	<i>That a paper on implementation be brought to the Policy Committee in the next 2-3 months</i>	ON HOLD. Strategy out. Reference group meeting to be held before end of year and bring the next stage to Policy Committee in 2019
<b>Biodiversity Action Plan</b>	17/10/18	<b>Approve</b> the draft Biodiversity Action Plan in Attachment 2 for consultation with iwi and key stakeholders before a final draft is brought back to this committee for approval on 28 November 2018.	ON HOLD.

<b>Water Meter Telemetry</b>	28/11/2018	Report to Policy Committee to detail the communications strategy to encourage landowners to install telemetry sites to improve real-time collection of water meter data.	<p>IN PROGRESS: This project is now progressing. We have two goals, which are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To do some proactive communications to consent holders to remind them they need to get their data to us by 31 July (this is the first time ORC will have done proactive comms on this)</li> <li>2. To encourage people to use telemetry to collect their data</li> </ol> <p>The timeframe is to get a direct mailout sent in early June to the consent holders.</p>
<b>New Approach for managing water in the Priority Catchments</b>	20/03/2019	<i>Establish a TAG and CRG with formalised TORs to provide ongoing technical and strategic advice and input to the ORC to support delivery of the plan change for water management in the Manuherikia catchment and provide a progress report at the next council meeting.</i>	IN PROGRESS – reported to Council at 3/04/19. TORs to be established for TAG and CRG groups.



## 10. MATTERS FOR NOTING

### 10.1. General Manager's Report on Progress

<b>Prepared for:</b>	Policy Committee
<b>Report No.</b>	PPRM1891
<b>Activity:</b>	Governance Report
<b>Author:</b>	Anita Dawe, Acting Manager Policy
<b>Endorsed by:</b>	Andrew Newman, Acting General Manager Policy, Science & Strategy
<b>Date:</b>	24 May 2019

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#### PURPOSE

- [1] This report contributes toward the following Strategic Priorities from the Long-Term Plan 2018 -2028:
- Maintain and enhance the natural environment
  - Resilient communities that are engaged and connected to the Otago Regional Council
  - Future focused – readiness for change, proactive approach and risk focused

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [2] The General Manager's Report focuses on emerging issues and these are presented at the front of the report. Some issues raised may be in their infancy, such as Central Government legislative changes that are signalled, and some will be a policy/planning project update that don't yet warrant a separate report.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

*That the Council:*

- 1) **Receives this report.**

#### BACKGROUND

##### Emerging Issues

- [3] Section 24A Investigation – Peter Skelton

Given the proposed dates for undertaking this work - being concentrated in late June through early July - a cross-Council team has been formed to prepare information which we believe will be relevant to the review which is focused on the Arrow, Cardrona and Manuherikia Catchments plan changes and deemed permits transition. This team includes members from the policy and planning, science, and consents teams including, where appropriate, external advisors. The process will be led on behalf of the CEO by Andrew Newman and Peter Winder.

We have added to the internal ORC team's capability by contracting Peter Constantine to assist Tom de Pelsemaeker in project managing the plan changes for Arrow, Cardrona and Manuherikia. Peter has in excess of 30 years of plan making and plan writing and recently acted

as a Principle Planning advisor for Environment Canterbury for a 6-year period. He is well known to key parties including Kai Tahu.

In the consents area we have contracted Stephen Daysh of Mitchell Daysh to take a lead role in managing “deemed permit” consent applications.

For legal advice both across the plan change process and deemed permit consent process we will be using the legal firm Wynn Williams.

### **Responses to external policies, plans etc**

[4] We are anticipating several proposals to come out of Central Government over the coming months, predominantly around fresh water. These will be responded to as required and it is likely that staff will need Councillor workshops to gauge feedback and concern, prior to submitting. This has been an unusually busy year for engaging in central and local government processes, and that engagement is reflected in the budget over expenditure. It is worth noting however that all costs associated with the engagement fall to this cost code, even though the work may be on behalf of other teams within Council.

### **Dunedin City Council District Plan Review (2GP) Decisions**

[5] As previously advised, ORC is a party to numerous appeals lodged against the 2GP and is still waiting on mediation dates to be set by the Court. The appeal topics range from natural hazards, urban development, heritage, and mining/quarrying.

### **Proposed Regional Policy Statement**

[6] As previously reported to Council, the Environment Court issued a procedural decision on 15 March 2019 which found that *prima facie* the proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement does not achieve the purpose of the Resource Management Act 1991. The ORC has appealed this ruling and concurrently offered alternative wording for some provisions that may allay the Environment Court’s concerns. All parties interested in the ORC’s proposed changes have now responded. It appears that the parties support pursuing mediation on the proposed changes, in the hope that a high court hearing can be avoided. A date for mediation is yet to be confirmed.

[7] The High Court hearing on the Port topic has been set down for 5 and 6 June 2019. A date for the two other High Court Hearings - on the Mining and Biodiversity offsetting topics, and the procedural decision – are yet to be confirmed.

### **Biodiversity**

*Council’s biodiversity and biosecurity work programme*

[8] The following work is underway on biodiversity/biosecurity:

- Wildlands Limited led, by Dr Kelvin Lloyd, was the successful tenderer for the Biodiversity Mapping Project. Work has started to create GIS layers on actual and potential vegetation, and fresh water and coastal/marine ecosystems work has started, with delivery expected by March 2020. The mapping will inform ecosystem priorities for active management across the region. It will assist with work in the freshwater, land management, and coastal areas.
- The Biodiversity Action Plan has been refined and is subject to a separate report in this agenda.
- An integrated framework is under development for ORC's biodiversity and biosecurity activities, which will inform business case options for the next Long-Term Plan.

### **Environment Court Hearing Plan Change 5A (Lindis: Integrated Water Management)**

- [9] After reconvening in January this year, all appeal parties have now lodged their closing submissions with the Environment Court.
- [10] The Environment Court has not yet released its decision on the Plan Change.

### **Manuherehia, Arrow and Cardrona (MAC) Catchments**

- [11] Community Reference Group (CRG)

Alec Neill has been appointed as the independent chair of the CRG. Alec Neill has a long history with RMA issues having worked across political, legal and Board of Inquiry processes. He is familiar with complex plan change processes, community engagement, plan making and the legal processes post notification.

Proposed parties to the CRG have been approached in person by Andrew Newman including the abstractors, Fish and Game, CODC, Central Otago Environment Society, Forest & Bird. To date there is good support for this initiative, and it is proposed to have the first meeting in early- to mid-July. It is likely we'll need to focus on the interactions with Peter Skelton first.

- [12] The Technical Advisory Group (TAG), established to ensure the delivery of the technical research needed to develop a Plan Change proposal for the Manuherehia catchment, met for the first time on 14th May 2019. The TAG is comprised of technical experts employed by Kai Tahu/Aukaha, the Department of Conservation, Manuherehia water users, Otago Fish and Game Council and the Otago Regional Council. The TAG is expected to reconvene in June 2019 for a second meeting.
- [13] NIWA is continuing to work on the development of TopNet/CHES, a hydrological model for the Manuherehia catchment, while also updating the hydrology for the Arrow and Cardrona Catchments to include the flow data and water take data for the most recent irrigation season (1 October 2018 – 1 May 2019). This hydrological information will inform other technical work, including habitat modelling and social and economic impact assessments.
- [14] ORC staff organised community workshops on Monday 27th May in Arrowtown on 27<sup>th</sup> May and Wanaka on 28th May 2019. These workshops were part of the consultation

process required under the National Objectives Framework of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management. The purpose of the workshops was to identify and confirm with the local community and any interested parties the values supported by the surface water and groundwater resources of the Arrow and Cardrona catchments and Wanaka and Wakatipu basins. This input will inform an updated policy framework for managing water in these areas.

### **Mediation on the Queenstown Lakes Proposed District Plan**

[15] Stage II decisions on the proposed Queenstown Lakes District Plan are now out, with appeals being lodged. ORC is considering whether any involvement is warranted.

[16] Stage I appeals are largely resolved, with one substantive matter around Significant Natural Areas, and some consideration of the hazards and utilities provisions still being considered.

### **Full review of Regional Plan: Water for Otago**

[17] A detailed project plan for the full review of the Regional Plan: Water for Otago is being developed. It will be shared with councillors upon completion.

[18] The issues which need to be addressed before 2025 will be addressed through a plan change to be notified in 2020. The development of this plan change is being outsourced to an external provider. A request for proposals is currently under development.

### **ORC Regulatory Response Process Overview**

[19] In 2018, a request was made to the Chief Executive to provide Councillors with an understanding of how decisions are made around when ORC submits on an external proposal, either a Central Government proposal, a plan change to a neighbouring territorial plan, or a resource consent application.

[20] This overview covers the legislation that authorises and directs implementation of a local authority's regulatory responsibilities and how this relates to ORC's internal process for considering and making responses.

[21] The Local Government Act 2002 (the Act) requires<sup>1</sup> of a local authority the following:

- *A local authority should ensure that the role of democratic governance of the community, and the expected conduct of elected members, is clear and understood by elected members and the community; and*
- *A local authority should ensure that the governance structures and processes are effective, open, and transparent; and*

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<sup>1</sup> section 39 "Governance principles"

- *A local authority should ensure that, so far as is practicable, responsibility and processes for decision-making in relations to regulatory responsibilities is separated from responsibility and processes for decision-making for non-regulatory responsibilities; and*
- *A local authority should ensure that the relationship between elected members and management of the local authority is effective and understood.*

In addition, the Act also:

- Requires all councils to separate policy setting from operational functions as far as possible; and
- Explicitly gives the Chief Executive responsibility for implementation of policy through operational processes. To enable these processes, council staff are delegated powers and functions of the Council under section 34A of the Resource Management Act. The role of staff includes making assessments, recommendations, and decisions in line with policy set by Council.

[22] Appended to this report is our process for considering a response on regulatory matters. The purpose of this guide is to provide an easy to follow summary of the process.

[23] In this process, when a response is not required, and it is as important to record why that is the case, to ensure consistency and transparency in future.

[24] Authority for determining the majority of ORC's responses is provided within staff delegations including the following:

<b>Section (of RMA)</b>	<b>Description of Function</b>	<b>Delegated to</b>
S44, S46A	Make a submission on a proposed National Policy Statement, National Environmental Standard, NZ Coastal Policy Statement or amendment	GM Policy, Science and Strategy (GMPSS) or CE
S96	Make submission to another consent authority in respect of a consent application	GMPSS or GM Operations or CE
1st Schedule, Clause 6 and 8	Make a submission and further submissions on a district planning document of a territorial authority.	GMPSS, CE

[25] The process for deciding whether to comment on applications focuses on the ORC's functions under s30 of the Resource Management Act. A copy of section 30 is appended to this document. Typically, most matters considered for a response relate to assessment of s30 issues against operative policies and plans of council that staff are responsible for implementing. In short, they are made advocating an existing, and Council approved, policy position and are operational decisions rather than Governance decisions.

- [26] The obvious area where Governance direction is required is when new legislation or policy is being proposed, often by Central Government, or when the policy direction conflicts with ORC's existing position. In these instances, where time allows, staff would facilitate a workshop to understand the direction for any submission. Where time does not allow, then draft submissions would be provided to the Chief Executive and/or Chairman to endorse. In these circumstances, a copy of the final submission would be provided to Councillors.
- [27] Further, to address concerns around ensuring awareness of proposals, staff have committed to copying such applications to Councillors, in particular those that may attract interest from the media or public scrutiny.

## Appendix 1: Regulatory Responses

### 1.1 National Plans, Policies, Strategies

The following were received over the period to 17 May 2019:

Agency	Number	Document
<p><b>Ministry Housing and Urban Development:</b></p> <p><b>Healthy Homes Standards</b> (Residential Tenancies (Healthy Homes Standards) Regulations 2019)</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>These standards become law on 1 July 2019 with staggered compliance timeframes for varying rental property types. The standards set minimum requirements for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Heating</u></li> <li>• <u>Insulation</u></li> <li>• <u>Ventilation</u></li> <li>• <u>Moisture ingress and drainage</u></li> <li>• <u>Draught-stopping</u></li> </ul> <p>These standards are relevant to ORC's 'Clean Heat, Clean Air' programme. In tandem with upgrading solid fuel burners, these standards may further assist tenanted properties to be warmer, healthier and more energy efficient. A flow on effect from these outcomes is a contribution to improving air quality.</p>
<p><b>Ministry for the Environment:</b></p> <p><b>Proposed changes to the NZ Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS)</b></p>	<p>1</p>	<p>On 16 May the MfE released the second part of its decisions on improvements to the NZ ETS which cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• improved rates of compliance within the NZ ETS</li> <li>• making the scheme more transparent to participants and the public</li> <li>• preparing for robust and transparent NZ ETS auctions</li> <li>• transitioning from the fixed price option to the cost containment reserve</li> <li>• enabling a potential price floor in future</li> <li>• establishing a separate market governance work programme.</li> </ul> <p>The market place for buying and selling emissions will be via an auction framework, and the Government wishes to align the supply of units available to emitters under the scheme with NZ ETS emission reduction targets, including those in the Zero Carbon Bill.</p> <p>ORCs submission on the Zero Carbon Bill supported the bill but requested that any</p>

		management of emission targets be carefully considered before implementation. The Government will undertake further work to develop regulations for the auction framework, as well as market governance, – which appears consistent with ORC’s request.
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The following responses were made over the period to 17 May 2019:

Proposal	Response Type	Issues
None		

## 1.2 Territorial Authority District Plan Changes and Reviews

The following summarises the current situation regarding changes and reviews of District Plans:

District or City	Change or review	Current situation
DCC	2GP: District Plan Review	ORC is preparing for mediation as a s274 party to a number of appeals. Staff have begun pre mediation discussions with DCC to confirm which of ORC’s are appropriate for mediation.
CODC	Review pending  PC13 (River Terrace)	ORC staff understand the earliest the plan review will commence is 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2019.  The CODC Recommending Report has been released, recommending the plan change be declined. The hearing is set for mid-June.
QLDC	District Plan Review	Stage 1 of 4: Notified: 12 Feb 2016  Stage 1 decisions released 7 May 2018. Stage 2 notified 23 November 2017. Submissions closed 23 February 2018 and decisions were released earlier this month.  For stage one, ORC has been involved in mediation on a number of topics it either appealed or because it joined other appeals.  For Stage two it is not considered necessary for ORC to appeal the decision. Staff have



		been reviewing appeals and may join any which directly relate to ORC interests.
<b>WDC</b>	Review pending	Stage 1: Initial consultation underway Proposed Notification: ORC is still awaiting an update from WDC.
<b>CDC</b>	Notification of Plan Change 41A – variation to Milton Industrial Zone	ORC has reviewed the notified variation to Plan Change 41 which seeks to implement a structure plan for this 300ha area of industrial zoned land.  ORC staff visited the site last year to assist the applicant understand any issues from ORC’s perspective and/or activities that would require ORC approval. The upshot of that visit was that certain activities to develop the land will require consent under ORC’s water plan and Flood Protection Management Bylaw. This new notification appeared consistent to all previous information ORC has received therefore ORC did not submit on it but did provide comment confirming previous staff advice.

### 1.3 Territorial Authority and Regional Council Resource Consent Applications

The following were received over the period to 17 May 2019:

Agency	Number	Document
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CODC	2	Resource Consent applications
QLDC	2	Resource Consent applications

No other responses were made, nor proposals received over the period to 17 May 2019.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. s 30 for GM report **[10.1.1]**
2. diagram for G Ms May 19 report **[10.1.2]**

**11. NOTICES OF MOTION**

No Notices of Motion were submitted.

**12. CLOSURE**



# REGULATORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

## Wednesday, 12 June 2019

2PM, Council Chamber,  
Level 2 Philip Laing House, 144 Rattray Street, Dunedin

### **Membership**

Cr Bryan Scott

*(Chairperson)*

Cr Sam Neill

*(Deputy Chairperson)*

Cr Graeme Bell

Cr Doug Brown

Cr Michael Deaker

Cr Carmen Hope

Cr Trevor Kempton

Cr Michael Laws

Cr Ella Lawton

Cr Andrew Noone

Cr Gretchen Robertson

Cr Stephen Woodhead

### **Disclaimer**

Please note that there is an embargo on agenda items until 48 hours prior to the meeting. Reports and recommendations contained in this agenda are not to be considered as Council policy until adopted.

*For our future*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	Apologies.....	3
2.	Leave of Absence .....	3
3.	Attendance.....	3
4.	Confirmation of Agenda.....	3
5.	Conflict of Interest .....	3
6.	Public Forum .....	3
7.	Presentations .....	3
8.	Confirmation of Minutes.....	3
9.	Actions .....	3
10.	Matters for Council Decision.....	4
11.	Matters for Noting .....	5
	11.1. General Manager's Report on Progress .....	5
	11.2. Consents and Building Control .....	9
	11.3. Biosecurity Update .....	24
12.	Resolution to Exclude the Public.....	30
13.	Notices of Motion .....	31
14.	Closure .....	31

## 1. APOLOGIES

No apologies were notified.

## 2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

No leaves of absence were requested.

## 3. ATTENDANCE

## 4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

*Note: Any additions must be approved by resolution with an explanation as to why they cannot be delayed until a future meeting.*

## 5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

*Members are reminded of the need to stand aside from decision-making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected representative and any private or other external interest they might have.*

## 6. PUBLIC FORUM

No requests to address the Committee Members were received.

## 7. PRESENTATIONS

No presentations are scheduled.

## 8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

### Recommendation

*That the minutes of the Regulatory Committee meeting held on 1 May 2019 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record.*

### Attachments

1. Minutes - Regulatory 20190501 [8.1.1]

## 9. ACTIONS

### Status report on the resolutions of the Regulatory Committee

<b>11.3</b> Managing the use of coal for domestic heating in Otago and New Zealand ( <b>Technical Committee</b> )	31/1/2018	<i>That the matter of the ability to enforce the current Regional Air Plan AirZone 1 provisions be considered by the Regulatory Committee</i>	IN PROCESS
11.1 Compliance Activity for 2017/18	17/10/18	<i>That a case study be undertaken on the Kaikorai Stream with a view to informing future work on urban waterways and other waterways of concern.</i>  <i>That this paper be reframed and represented with analysis of trends and of highlights and issues governance should be address</i>	DONE

Wallaby Control	28/11/18	Cr Scott requested that the action item for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Environment Canterbury for wallaby control be reinstated to the action list <b>and</b> provide an update on the success of the wallaby control programme.	IN PROCESS
Lagarosiphon mgmt report	21/03/19	Cr Woodhead requested to have <b>LINZ</b> make a presentation to Council in the future re lagarosiphon management.	IN PROCESS

## 10. MATTERS FOR COUNCIL DECISION

Nil

## 11. MATTERS FOR NOTING

### 11.1. General Manager's Report on Progress

<b>Prepared for:</b>	Regulatory Committee
<b>Report No.</b>	GOV1837
<b>Activity:</b>	Governance Report
<b>Endorsed by:</b>	Peter Winder, Acting General Manager Regulatory
<b>Date:</b>	29 May 2019

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#### PURPOSE

- [1] To update the Committee on regulatory activity undertaken during the period 13 April 2019 to 29 May 2019.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

*That the Council:*

- 1) **Receives** this report.

#### COMPLIANCE

##### Consent Inspection Audits

- [2] 21 Water permit inspections to assist the science team with CHES modelling in the Omakau area were completed over this reporting period. Four permits were graded as non-compliant minor. One permit's water measuring device has not been set up in a way that measures the water take, rather the measuring device has been placed in such a way that it measures the flow of the water way from which water is taken. Three non-compliant permits showed abstraction in excess of consented allowances but have been considered minor and two permits are overdue for verifications of their measuring devices.
- [3] Some structures installed within water ways either to measure water or to increase the height of the water to allow the take into a race have been identified as potentially posing a barrier to fish passage. When these structures have been identified, where the structure is a legal structure, consent holders have been asked to take fish passage into consideration and make modifications to the structure to allow for fish passage.
- [4] 47 other Audit inspections were conducted on discharge to land permits including closed landfills in the CODC area and other waste discharge permits. Three were graded as non-compliant with two of these being considered significant. These are being followed up with enforcement actions where required.

##### Forestry

- [5] During the reporting period, five forestry inspections were completed. Three were graded as compliant with two as minor non-compliant due to lack of best practice site management which may result in environmental effects. Re-inspections will take place at these sites.
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- [6] Forestry sites which have fish spawning areas within the area of work are being prioritised for inspections, to ensure operators comply with the NES.
- [7] Forestry sites in areas of higher risk, or where management plans have been submitted with insufficient detail or not supplied within appropriate timeframes are also being prioritised for inspections. 34 Management plans for forestry work were assessed over this reporting period. 4 were deemed not to meet the standard and were assessed as non-compliant minor.
- [8] Over this reporting period the ORC received 45 notifications of forestry works. Once notification and management plans have been received an assessment of risk is made to determine whether an audit site visit is required.

### **Dairy**

- [9] Dairy inspections have continued over this period with the primary focus on properties identified as high risk due to insufficient infrastructure, being in a poor water quality catchment, and drainage risk of effluent reaching water. Properties assessed as medium risk have also been inspected. No non-compliance has been identified over this reporting period.

Approximately 12 dairy properties in South Otago remain to be inspected and are expected to be completed by the end of the month.

### **Contaminated Sites**

- [10] In April, the Ministry for the Environment advised that our recent application to the Contaminated Sites Remediation Fund was declined. The project was intended to assist the Waitaki District Council with remediation planning for two landfills South of Oamaru exposed by coastal erosion. The Ministry advised that the fund was oversubscribed and that other sites were ranked as having higher risk. The assessment panel did consider that the application had merit and good social benefits; however, as there are many more coastal landfill sites in a similar situation, they felt consideration of a national approach was required before committing funds. Waitaki District Council have taken steps to stabilise the sites and will continue to monitor the landfills in accordance with an interim management plan while further options are considered.

### **Compliance Improvement Plan and Actions**

- [11] Progress with the compliance improvement plan has continued over the last month. In addition to the actions reported to the last meeting our focus has been on:
- Induction and training of the four new compliance staff that have now started work in Dunedin and Alexandra
  - Recruitment activity for a new Team Leader Compliance, who will be based in Alexandra and the three additional staff that are provided for in the 2019/20 budget
  - The development and roll out of the training programme in relation to assessments, investigation and enforcement activity scheduled for later in the year.

- [12] Our work on the full risk-based approach to compliance and enforcement is due to accelerate in June as the prime management focus of the Regulatory group shifts from implementing the recommendations of the Consents review to progressing the compliance improvement plan.
- [13] The other key compliance focus of the group is on implementing the provisions of plan change 6A. We are currently gearing up to commence checking compliance with the initial requirements for farm managers to hold OVERSEER® related information. The approach that we are taking is fully integrated with the Rural Liaison and Communications and Engagement teams.

## **HARBOUR MASTER ACTIVITY**

### **Navigational Safety Bylaws**

- [14] Navigational bylaws came into force on the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019, they are available in hard copy and on the newly developed Harbourmaster page on the ORC website. Next steps are to align the infringement and enforcement tools to compliment the bylaws. This is likely to take a month or so.

### **Harbour Safety**

- [15] We have had 4 mooring breakouts involving small boats from swing moorings around Otago Harbour. Harbourmaster sent a letter to all mooring consent holders reminding them of their obligations to maintain moorings that they have consents in place for.
- [16] ORC are now the proud owners of a vessel! Kaitiaki was delivered to ORC on Tuesday, 21 May, and a naming ceremony was held on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The vessel will go into full service once certification has been achieved.

### **Harbourmaster General**

- [17] We have appointed a deputy harbourmaster, due to start with ORC on 4 June 2019. We had a strong field to choose from and I'm sure the person selected will add a considerable skill set to the harbourmaster's department.
- [18] A Harbour Security meeting was held with Port Otago and the second meeting of the Harbour Community Advisory Group was held on 28 May.

## **KAIKORAI STREAM CASE STUDY**

- [19] At its meeting of 17 October the Regulatory Committee requested a case study of the Kaikorai Stream to inform future work on urban waterways and other waterways of concern. The case study is Attached to this report. It sets out an overview of the catchment, the nature of the shared management responsibilities for the area, water quality issues, flood hazards, and consent and compliance information in relation to the Kaikorai Stream and its catchment.

## **CONSIDERATIONS**

### **Policy Considerations**

[20] There are no policy considerations arising from this report.

### **Financial Considerations**

[21] There are no financial considerations arising from this report

### **Significance and Engagement**

[22] No matters in this report trigger the Council's significance policy or require additional or specific consultation.

### **Legislative Considerations**

[23] There are no legislative considerations arising from this report.

### **Risk Considerations**

[24] There are no risk considerations arising from this report.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Kaikorai Stream Case Study Committee report final **[11.1.1]**

## 11.2. Consents and Building Control

<b>Prepared for:</b>	Regulatory Committee
<b>Report No.</b>	PPRM1893
<b>Activity:</b>	Governance Report
<b>Author:</b>	Joanna Gilroy, Manager Consents
<b>Endorsed by:</b>	Peter Winder, Acting General Manager Regulatory
<b>Date:</b>	29 May 2019

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### PURPOSE

- [1] The purpose of this report is to give Committee a high-level overview of the consents and building control activity of Council and the deemed permit replacement progress for the period 30 March 2019 to 17 May 2019.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [2] This report aims to summarise the regulatory activity of the Consents Team.

### RECOMMENDATION

*That the Committee:*

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Recommends** to Council to agree to extend the transfer of Building Act functions with the Southland Regional Council and the West Coast Regional Council for a period of two years.

### CONSENT PROCESSING

#### Public Notification

- [3] One application was publicly notified during this period. This was an application from the Clutha District Council to intermittently discharge untreated wastewater mixed with stormwater to the Tokomairiro River for the disposal of untreated wastewater and stormwater from Milton Sewage Treatment Plant during heavy rainfall events. No submissions were received in relation to this application. Because no submissions were received, delegation to decide on this application sits with Council staff. A Recommending Report with proposed conditions will be put to the Decision-Making Panel.

#### Limited Notification

- [4] One application was limited notified during this period.

### OBJECTIONS

- [5] Objections to processing costs or consent conditions can be made under the RMA. Where an objection is made to processing costs, it is only the costs above the deposit that can be objected to. If a condition is objected to, then that the specific condition is the one looked at.
- [6] No objections to consent conditions were received in this reporting period.

- [7] One objection to consent processing costs was received during the reporting period. This was for an application where consent was not actually required. The objection has been resolved.
- [8] A hearing for an objection to the processing costs for a land use consent to disturb the bed of a stream has been set up for the 30<sup>th</sup> of May. This objection will be heard by the Objections Committee.
- [9] Council has 19 objections to processing costs in the system, one of which dates to 2009. This is down from 27 at the start of this calendar year. Consistent progress is being made in dealing with these objections, including fine tuning processes for how these are dealt with.

## **APPEALS**

### **RM17.084 - Kyeburn Catchment Limited**

- [10] An application to take and use surface water from various locations on the Swinburn and Kyeburn for the purposes of irrigation, storage, stock water, firefighting, curling and hydro-electricity generation is the subject of an appeal.
- [11] The appellant is appealing the decision to grant the consents for a wide variety of reasons.
- [12] Mediation has occurred, and the applicant and appellant have been corresponding since to reach agreement. A draft Consent Order and revised consent conditions have been circulated to the Council for agreement prior to sending it off to the Environment Court. Council has agreed to these changes and has addressed all matters that it needs to. The appeal will be finalised once all other parties sign off on the Consent Order and it is filed with the Court.

## **CONSENT STATISTICS**

- [13] For the reporting period, all 54 decisions made were given within Resource Management Act 1991 (the Act) mandated timeframes. 68% of the decisions made during the reporting period utilised a timeframe extension; in most cases this was to enable the applicant to review the proposed conditions.
- [14] For the reporting period the average number of statutory processing days taken to process an application was 5. This is a quicker timeframe than the previous reporting period, where it was 6 working days. Making robust decisions in a timely manner is a key focus for the team.
- [15] For the year to date all decisions on consents, except two applications with two consents, each granted, were given within the Act mandated timeframes.
- [16] The current number of consent applications in the system for processing is 172. With this number of consents in the system staff workloads remain high, but statutory timeframes are being met.
- [17] The number of applications lodged during this reporting period is 59, which is an increase from the 44 lodged in the previous reporting period. A breakdown of the activity types of these new applications is shown in Appendix 1.

[18] The median number of consents lodged per week for during this reporting period is 8.7.

[19] The summary of consents statistics is set out in Appendix 1 to this report.

#### **DEEMED PERMIT REPLACEMENT**

[20] There were originally 795 deemed permits that included 'paper' or unexercised permits. There are currently 347 deemed permits that are current or possibly live. This figure includes:

- deemed permits that are likely to be replaced;
- deemed permits that are not likely to be replaced; and
- deemed permits that have obtained a replacement consent but have not yet surrendered their deemed permit. If the deemed permit is not expired, it will remain current until 1 October 2021.

[21] It is estimated that approximately 2/3 (i.e. approx. 230) of the current deemed permits are yet to apply for a replacement consent.

[22] During the reporting period one replacement application for deemed permits was received. This was to replace four deemed permits. No deemed permits were surrendered, cancelled or expired during this reporting period. Overall, fifteen applications, for 22 consents are in the system to replace a total of 60 deemed permits.

[23] In this reporting period staff have attended two site visits for deemed permit replacement applications. This was for pending applications to replace 6 deemed permits in the Luggate Creek catchment and for Trustpower who are looking at replacing some of their permits and surrendering the rest of them.

[24] The breakdown of deemed permits per catchment are set out in Appendix 2 to this report.

#### **CONSENT ADMINISTRATION**

[25] 13 transfers (to transfer ownership of a resource consent) were received, with 8 issued during this reporting period. This is less than the 17 received in the previous reporting period. The median number of transfers per week for the year to date is 3.4.

[26] The summary of consents administration statistics is set out in Appendix 3 to this report.

#### **BUILDING CONSENT AUTHORITY (BCA) ADMINISTRATION**

[27] In the year to date very little activity has occurred in the building consent application arena. Council has only received one application for a new permit and one application for a minor variation to an existing permit.

[28] Staff have attended several pre-application meetings about potential applications, so there may be a slight increase in work in the next several months. The summary of BCA statistics is set out in Appendix 4 to this report

## **BUILDING CONSENT AUTHORITY (BCA) TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS**

- [29] In 2008 Council accepted the transfer of some Building Act functions from both Environment Southland and the West Coast Regional Council. On 1 November 2018 the transfer agreements were extended for a further seven months and are due to expire on 30 June 2019.
- [30] Discussions have been underway to find a more cost-effective delivery arrangement, ideally involving either a single regional council exercising Building Act functions nationally, or only one South Island Council undertaking this work. At this stage no new arrangements have been agreed. It is likely that negotiations over the potential roles and detailed transfer arrangements may take some time. In large part this is because not all functions can be transferred and there are complex scope and liability issues to be addressed if the function was to be transferred to another Council.
- [31] Before a regional council can transfer Building Act functions to another regional council it must formally consult its community using the Special Consultative Procedure (SCP) as set out in the Local Government Act 2002. Engagement using the SCP takes around three months to complete from the point at which the Council has a Statement of Proposal to consult on. Neither Environment Southland nor West Coast Regional Council would be able to complete engagement with their communities using the SPC before the current transfer arrangements come to an end.
- [32] There is no realistic possibility of Environment Southland or West Coast Regional Council establishing alternative arrangements before the current transfer of functions expires on 30 June 2019. Not only would it be impossible to consult their communities in that time frame, it would be impossible for them to develop and implement the systems necessary for them to become accredited Building Consent Authorities in that time. If the current transfer was to expire both Councils would face considerable and costly issues.
- [33] A further complication is that changes to the national framework for managing dams have also been proposed. It is possible that the scope of regional council Building Act roles could change. It would be helpful to have some clarity on this before the decisions are made in relation to the transfer of responsibilities.
- [34] Given the current situation it is considered that the best course of action would be to extend the current transfer arrangements so that orderly negotiations over possible replacements can continue. In the context of possible national level changes, it is recommended that the current transfer provisions be extended for a further two years (to 30 June 2021). The Deed of Transfer provides for early termination, so if negotiations and consultation can be completed before 30 June 2021 the current arrangements can be terminated.
- [35] Extending the current transfer of functions does not expose the Council to any new risks, legislative compliance issues, or new costs.
- [36] The recommended Deed of Transfer is attached to this report.

## **PUBLIC ENQUIRIES**

- [37] 263 enquiries were received during this reporting period. This is an increase from 229 in the previous reporting period.
- [38] Over this reporting period most of the enquiries were about current consents and came in via email.
- [39] Details are set out in Appendix 5 to this report.

## **REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S RESOURCE CONSENTING FUNCTION**

[40] Since the completion of the function review work has started on prioritising the recommendations, which includes setting timeframes and implementing some of the recommendations. As well as the completed, or underway actions listed in Appendix 6 the following has been completed over the last reporting period:

- Interviews have been completed for the vacant Senior Consents Officer position and for the recommended additional Consents Officer position.
  - The ISO accreditation has been allowed to lapse.
  - Discussions about getting consent documents available on line have progressed, with the aim of having copies of permits issued in 2019 available first and then undertaking a project to back capture the 'older' permits.
  - Work has recommenced on finalising the consent application forms for 6A activities. The second part to this project will be working across Council on implementation programmes.
  - Meetings have been set up to discuss consent application fees and to analyse how much certain consent applications cost to process.
  - New report templates for deciding on notification and making a final recommendation on an application are in draft format and will be in use by the end of June.
  - Work on updating Council's standard consent conditions has progressed, with the project expected to be finished by the end of June/start of July. This will include workshops with staff on these conditions to gain feedback and to provide training.
  - Regular catch up meetings are now being held with IT, Science and Compliance.
  - Work on the Consents and Compliance Strategy is progressing, with this document to be finalised by end of June/start of July.
  - Significant external legal and professional planning advice has been sought in relation to the processing of deemed permit renewals and the application of the NPSFM, the RPS, and Regional Plans under a range of scenarios relating to different types of application, from different parts of the region. External support has been engaged to assist with the workload of processing expected deemed permit replacements, a new guidance notes on deemed permit replacement has been developed and work is almost complete of a strategy to deal with the processing of deemed permits.
- [41] Addressing the recommendations from the review of the consenting function is a high priority. Some of the recommendations will take longer to address than others. Specifically, recommendations that require changes to computer systems will be more time consuming than the immediate changes which have been made already.



## CONSIDERATIONS

### Policy Considerations

[42] There are no policy considerations.

### Financial Considerations

[43] There is budget in the 2018/19 Annual plan for the Consent Department Functions.

[44] For the reporting period 46.1% of staff time was cost recoverable. This is lower than the 56% for the previous reporting period. However, it is up from the corresponding time in 2018 where it was 40.9%.

[45] For the 18/19 financial year (1 July 2018-17 May 2019) 42.6% of staff time has been cost recoverable.

[46] Other time during the reporting period will have been spent on: responding to public enquiries which is not cost recoverable unless the enquiry takes longer than half an hour; training and development; attending Council wide training session and assisting other Council teams.

[47] Work has started on being able to better account for and report on non-cost recoverable time. This includes providing more sub-codes for staff to record their time against in their timesheets, so that we can analyse which parts of the consents process take the most time, provide more information on our invoices and focus on increasing efficiency in these areas. The Finance team is involved in this process.

### Significance and Engagement

[48] The Council's Significance and Engagement Policy is not relevant to this item.

### Legislative Considerations

[49] The Consents Department is following the Resource Management Act 1991 and Building Act 2004 statutory requirements

## NEXT STEPS

[50] The next steps are to continue the regulatory functions as required.

[51] Work will continue prioritising and implementing the findings of the Consent Function report.

## Appendix 1: Consents Statistics

**Table 1: Number of applications lodged by activity type 30/3/2019 to 17/5/2019**

Activity	Certificate of Compliance	Coastal Permit	Discharge Permit	Land Use Permit	Water Permit	Total
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Air			2			2
Bore				10		10
CMA Use		1				1
Compliance Certificate	2					2
Dam					2	2
Divert					2	2
General				14		14
Groundwater Take					6	6
Land			11			11
Surface Take					6	6
Water			3			3
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>59</b>

**Table 2: Consents Statistics Summary**

Reporting Period	Lodged			Rejected	Decision Given		
	Consents	Variations			Consents	Variations	
		Regular	Water reporting date*			Regular	Water reporting date*
30/3/2019 to 17/5/2019	52	5	0	2	54	3	0
<b>18/19 YTD</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>2</b>

\* Means the date water metre and/or flow records are to be provided to the Council.

**Table 3: Breakdown of Granted Consent Type for 30/3/2019 to 17/5/2019**

Notification Group	Consent Type	Without Hearing			Total
		S37 Extension	Within Timeframe	Total	
Non Notified	☐ Certificate	-	1	1	1
	☐ Discharge Permit	11	4	15	15
	☐ Land Use Permit	4	20	24	24
	☐ Water Permit	9	5	14	14
	<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>54</b>

**Appendix 2: Deemed Permits Breakdown Per Catchment**

Catchment	Original number of DP	Number of current replacement applications	Number of current or possibly live DP	Total Number of current consents
Arrow River	16	4	12	8
Basin Burn	4	0	4	1

Benger Burn	0	0	0	3
Cambells Creek	1	0	1	1
Camp Creek (1)	3	0	2	2
Elbow Creek	1	0	0	3
Fraser River	10	0	8	13
Kakanui Catchment	2	0	0	34
Lake Hayes Catchment	2	0	0	12
Lime Creek	0	0	0	1
Lindis River	41	18	19	14
Long Gully (2)	0	0	0	1
Manuherikia Catchment	189	5	71	123
Mt Benger	0	0	0	1
Pomahaka River	3	0	3	32
Roxburgh East	0	0	0	1
Seven Mile Creek	0	0	0	1
Shag Catchment	0	0	0	21
Shotover River	1	0	1	5
Taieri Catchment	209	24	75	154
Teviot River	2	0	2	10
Tokomairiro River	0	0	0	3
Unnamed Trib's of Clutha River above Clutha Mouth	0	0	0	11
Unnamed Trib's of Clutha River above Lake Roxburgh	2	0	1	6
Unnamed Trib's of Clutha River above Tuapeka Mouth	20	0	8	18
Unnamed Trib's of Lake Dunstan	3	0	1	9
Unnamed Trib's of Lake Hawea	5	0	2	16
Waiareka Creek	0	0	0	9
Waikerikeri Creek	6	0	3	3
Waitati River	0	0	0	4
Water of Leith Catchment	0	0	0	6
Welcome Creek Catchment	0	0	0	5
	0	0	18	15
Matukituki River	0	0	0	4
Stoker Road	0	0	0	1
Pipeclay Gully	4	0	1	2
Makarora River	0	0	0	2
Bannock Burn	23	0	9	8

Unnamed Trib's of Lake Whakatipu	1	0	0	8
Unnamed Trib's of Clutha River above Lake Dunstan	6	0	3	13
Locky River	0	0	0	1
Bow Alley Creek	0	0	0	1
Unnamed Trib's of Kawarau River	3	0	2	11
Dairy Creek	0	0	0	2
Georges Creek	0	0	0	1
Unnamed Trib's of Lake Wanaka	1	0	0	4
Waianakarua Catchment	0	0	0	8
Awamoa Creek	0	0	0	6
Albert Burn (1)	5	0	4	1
Alpha Burn	0	0	0	2
Waiwera River	0	0	0	5
Lochar Burn	0	0	0	2
Long Gully (1)	4	1	1	2
Waitahuna Catchment	1	0	1	5
Butchers Creek (2)	0	0	0	1
Landon Creek	0	0	0	2
Nevis River	2	0	2	4
Cardrona River	40	0	14	21
Waikouaiti River	0	0	0	9
Thomson Creek	0	0	0	3
Dingle Burn	0	0	0	2
Washpool Creek (1)	5	0	3	1
Roaring Meg	6	0	4	3
Flynn Road	0	0	0	1
Fruid Burn	0	0	0	1
Stoney Creek	0	0	0	3
Pleasant River	0	0	0	3
Orokonui Creek	0	0	0	1
Chapmans Gully	1	0	1	3
Rees River	2	0	1	3
One Mile Creek	0	0	0	1
Lake Dispute	0	0	0	1
Wye Creek	1	0	0	2
Awamoko Stream	0	0	0	4
Wanaka Township	3	0	2	5
Luggate Catchment	13	6	12	3
Burn Cottage Creek	5	0	5	3
Island Stream	0	0	0	5

Trotters Catchment	0	0	0	1
Catlins River	0	0	0	2
Kaikorai Stream	0	0	0	2
Queensberry Hills	0	0	0	1
Five Mile Creek (2)	0	0	0	1
Walkers Creek	0	0	0	2
Park Burn	7	0	3	2
Franks Creek	2	0	2	1
Kaihiku Stream	0	0	0	1
Rough Burn	0	0	0	1
Gentle Annie	0	0	0	1
Lowburn Creek	18	1	13	1
Donaldsons Creek	4	0	0	1
Rastus Burn	0	0	0	2
Kakaho Creek	0	0	0	1
Tuapeka River	0	0	0	2
Buckler Burn	0	0	0	1
Allangrange	0	0	0	1
Mokoreta River	0	0	0	1
Unnamed Catchments to Sea South of Waitaki Mouth	0	0	0	1
Puerua River	0	0	0	2
Dead Horse Creek	0	0	0	1
Pannetts Road	0	0	0	1
McPherson Rd	0	0	0	1
Dinner Creek	0	0	0	1
Quartz Reef Creek	4	1	1	1
John Bull Creek	2	0	0	1
Tinwald Burn	4	0	3	1
Unnamed Trib's of Clutha River above Tuapeka Mouth	0	0	0	1
Unnamed Trib's of Clutha River above Lake Roxburgh	0	0	0	1
Oamaru Creek	0	0	0	1
Unnamed Trib's of Lake Hawea	0	0	0	1
Beaumont River	1	0	1	1
Amisfield Burn	9	0	5	0
Crook Burn (2)	4	1	2	0

### Appendix 3: Consent Administration

Table 3: Consent Administration Statistics

Reporting Period	Transfers Received	Transfers Issued	s417 Certs Received	s417 Certs Issued
30/3/2019 to 17/5/2019	13	8	0	3
<b>18/19 YTD</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>

#### Appendix 4: Building Consent Authority (BCA) Administration

Table 4: Building Act Statistics

Reporting Period	Building Permits		Certificate of Acceptance		Code Compliance Certificate	
	Received	Issued	Received	Issued	Received	Issued
30/3/2019 to 17/5/2019	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>18/19 YTD</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## Appendix 5: Public Enquiries

**Table 5: Public Enquiries Statistics**

Period	Number of Enquiries
<b>17/18</b>	<b>2,415</b>
30/3/2019 to 17/5/2019	263
<b>18/19 YTD</b>	<b>1,827</b>

**Table 6: Resource Consent Public Enquiries Report for Period 30 March 2019 to 17 May 2019**

Type of Enquiry	No.	% of Total
Current Consents	71	27
Other	25	10
Permitted Activity	59	22
Pre-application	52	20
Property Enquiries	44	17
Mining Privileges	2	1
Transfers	10	3

Method of Enquiry	No.	% of Total
Counter	7	3
E-mail	143	53
Internet	5	3
Letter	1	1
Telephone	107	40

Enquiry Location	No.	% of Total
Central Otago DC	79	30
Clutha DC	22	8
Dunedin CC	47	18
Queenstown Lakes DC	49	19
Throughout Otago	5	2
Unspecified	37	14
Waitaki DC	24	9



## Appendix 6 – Consents Function Review Recommendations Completed or underway

- The default position for service of consent documents is now electronic, with an 'opt in' to get paper copies added to application forms.
- An email address has been set up specifically to receive consent applications electronically.
- Work has commenced to scope what would be required to get copies of consents available online (probably using Otago Maps).
- The consents procedure manual and standard conditions are being reviewed and updated to ensure they are current; this work is being assisted by an external consultant with considerable experience.
- The consents team now has a critical issue meeting every Monday.
- Training on how to identify affected parties has been undertaken.
- A new template is being developed for making a recommendation on affected parties, or non-notification. It is expected that this will be in use within the next two or three weeks.
- Three monthly meetings with stakeholder groups to discuss affected party process and consent processing have been initiated.
- A training session run on factors to consider when determining consent duration has been run. A new report template which will prompt consideration of these factors is under development.
- A new protocol for requesting legal advice is in place – only Managers can now request this advice.
- Significant external legal and professional planning advice has been sought in relation to the processing of deemed permit renewals and the application of the NPSFM, the RPS, and Regional Plans under a range of scenarios relating to different types of application, from different parts of the region. External support has been engaged to assist with the workload of processing expected deemed permit replacements, a new guidance notes on deemed permit replacement has been developed and work is almost complete of a strategy to deal with the processing of deemed permits.
- A decision has been made to move establish two Team leader roles (one in Dunedin and one in Alexandra) rather than the Principal Planner roles recommended in the review and recruitment for these roles is underway.
- Discussions about what to do with the processing of Building Act permits have started with other Councils.
- A more rigorous s88 assessment of the completeness of applications has been implemented. This includes using a checklist to ensure that s88 requirements of the Act are being met and only complete applications are being accepted.

## ATTACHMENTS

Nil



### 11.3. Biosecurity Update

**Prepared for:** Regulatory Committee  
**Report No.** EMO1863  
**Activity:** Environmental: Land  
**Author:** Richard Lord, Team Leader Biosecurity and Biodiversity  
**Endorsed by:** Gavin Palmer, General Manager Operations  
**Date:** 30 May 2019

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#### PURPOSE

- [1] To update Council on the following matters:
- National bid for Wallaby funding
  - Collaboration with Environment Canterbury on Wallaby Control
  - National bid for wilding conifer funding (phase two)
  - Proposed Pest Management Plan and Biosecurity Strategy

#### RECOMMENDATION

*That the Council:*

- 1) **Receives** this report.

#### NATIONAL BID FOR WALLABY FUNDING

- [1] Wallabies have been identified in recent years in New Zealand as an increasing emerging threat at a national level. Wallabies compete with domestic livestock by fouling and grazing pasture, agricultural crops, tussock grasslands, and damaging native bush and production forestry.
- [2] In the North Island the Dama wallabies are the species that have established in the Bay of Plenty and more latterly spread to the Waikato. In the South Island the Bennett's wallaby is the species of concern. The Bennett's wallaby species since being released in 1874 in the Waimate area in South Canterbury, have in recent years have showed significant spread within southern Canterbury. In Otago there has been constant and increased activity since 2011.
- [3] As a result of the widespread threat a number of agencies banded together and prepared a national bid for wallaby funding. The format was very akin to the funding bid for the National Wilding Conifer Strategy. The bid was led by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI). Other parties involved in preparing the bid included; Waikato Regional Council, Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Environment Canterbury (ECan) ORC, Department of Conservation, Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) and Landcare Research.
- [4] The main thrust of the bid was to gain funding for research and development into new techniques and tools that enabled wallabies to be located when in low numbers over vast geographical areas, and funding toward the control of wallabies in the field. One of the

big challenges is being able to identify wallaby populations when they are in very low numbers amongst many terrain types and cover, and over huge tracts of land. The current thermal technology is expensive and requires more field trials before there can be confidence in it. A national programme would provide the opportunity to look into this and other tools as they emerge. A national collective would mean the costs, trials and results can be shared among the parties.

- [5] On 30 May 2019 MPI were informed that while Treasury and the Minister for Biosecurity were supportive of the wallabies bid, and the case that was made for funding, there has been no funding allocated by the government in the coming financial year.

#### **COLLABORATION WITH ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY ON WALLABY CONTROL**

- [6] Staff of ORC and ECan are working together on the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Wallaby control. A first draft is being revised to include more detail on what the collaboration between ORC and ECan is expected to achieve. The MoU will provide most value if it defines a clear set of desired outcomes and objectives (the “what”) and not just a process by which operational activities are aligned (the “how”). The final draft will be brought to Committee for endorsement.

#### **NATIONAL BID FOR WILDING CONIFER FUNDING (PHASE TWO)**

- [7] The Wilding Conifer funding budget was announced on 30 May 2019. The government has committed 10.5 million a year for two years. (\$21 million in total). It is yet to be determined how much of the funding will be spent in Otago. In the coming weeks all parties involved will be prioritising their operational areas and identifying the MU’s in which the work will be carried out in line with the budget allocation.

#### **PROPOSED PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN AND BIOSECURITY STRATEGY**

- [8] Hearings are underway for the Proposed Pest Management Plan and Biosecurity Strategy for Otago. 360 public submissions were received on the Plan and/or Strategy and 27 submitters wish to be heard. The Panel is comprised of Crs Robertson (Chairperson), Lawton and Noone and Mr John Simmonds (Biosecurity Consultant). The Panel will commence deliberations on 18 June 2019.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

**Prepared for:** Regulatory Committee

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**Report No.** EMO1864

**Activity:** Environmental - Investigations and Enforcement Action

**Author:** Peter Kelliher, Legal Counsel

**Endorsed by:** Peter Winder, Acting General Manager Regulatory

**Date:** 29 May 2019

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## PURPOSE

[1] 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 13 April 2019 to 29 May 2019.

## RECOMMENDATION

*That the Council:*

- 1) **Receives** this report.

## RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991

[2] Resource Consents

Table 1. Infringement Notices

Details	Period – 13 April 2019 to 29 May 2019	Total – from 1 July 2018
Taking water in breach of resource consent conditions	0	1
Discharge of contaminants (treated wastewater) to land in circumstances which may result in those contaminants entering water - in breach of resource consent conditions	0	2
Discharge of contaminants to air in breach of resource consent conditions - odour	0	2
TOTAL	0	5

Table 2. Abatement Notices

Details	Period – 13 April 2019 to 29 May 2019	Total – from 1 July 2018

To cease discharging contaminants in breach of a resource consent	0	1
TOTAL	0	1

[3] Complaint Response

Table 3. Infringement Notices

Details	Period – 13 April 2019 to 29 May 2019	Total – from 1 July 2018	Complaints Received <a href="#">[1]</a>
Discharge of contaminants to land in circumstances which may result in those contaminants entering water - sediment	0	4	5
Discharge of contaminants to air in breach of a regional rule – burning prohibited material	0	3	2
Discharge of contaminants to air in breach of a regional rule – odour	0	3	7
Discharge of contaminants to air in breach of a regional rule – outdoor burning	0	4	7
Disturbing the bed of a river - pugging	0	6	6
Disturbing the bed of a river – mechanical excavation	0	2	1
Discharge of contaminants to land in circumstances which may result in those contaminants entering water (Coastal Marine Area) – contaminants from a truck wash	0	1	1
Discharge of contaminants to air in breach of a regional rule - odour	1	1	1
TOTAL	1	24	30

[\[1\]](#) Number of complaints received by Council for the matters that have been subject to enforcement action.

Table 4. Abatement Notices

Details	Period – 13 April 2019 to 29 May 2019	Total – from 1 July 2018	Complaints Received
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To cease discharging contaminants to air from a domestic heating appliance in breach of a regional rule	0	1	1
To cease discharging contaminants in breach of a regional rule - sediment	0	2	4
To remove a dead animal from a river	0	1	1
To cease discharging contaminants from a farm landfill in breach of a regional rule	0	3	3
To remove debris / slash from the bed of a river	0	2	2
To cease diverting water in breach of a regional rule	0	1	2
To cease diverting/ discharging water which is likely to cause an adverse effect on the environment	0	1	6
To undertake routine inspections and stop any discharge of smoke/odour from the property	0	1	1
To cease discharging contaminants in breach of a resource consent	0	2	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>27</b>

Table 5. Authorised Legal Proceedings

<b>Details</b>	<b>Period – 13 April 2019 to 29 May 2019</b>	<b>Total – from 1 July 2018</b>	<b>Complaints Received</b>
Discharge of contaminants to land in circumstances which may result in those contaminants entering water - sediment	0	1	3
1. Disturbing the bed of a river – pugging; and 2. Discharge of contaminants in breach of a regional rule - sediment	0	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>

[4] Inspections

Table 6. Infringement Notices

<b>Details</b>	<b>Period –</b>	<b>Total – from</b>
----------------	-----------------	---------------------

	<b>13 April 2019 to 29 May 2019</b>	<b>1 July 2018</b>
Discharge of contaminants to land in breach of a regional rule – effluent	0	3
Discharge of contaminants to land in circumstances which may result in those contaminants entering water - effluent	0	2
Discharge of contaminants to land in breach of a regional rule – silage	0	1
Disturbing the bed of a river – pugging	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>

Table 7. Authorised Legal Proceedings

<b>Details</b>	<b>Period – 13 April 2019 to 29 May 2019</b>	<b>Total – from 1 July 2018</b>
Discharge of contaminants to land in breach of a regional rule – effluent	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

#### **INFRINGEMENT FEES**

[5] Resource Management Act (“RMA”) infringement fees are set by the Resource Management (Infringement Offences) Regulations 1999. Under the Regulations, infringement fees range from \$300 to \$1,000, depending on which section of the RMA has been contravened.

[6] From 1 July 2018, Council has issued 36 infringement notices totalling \$21,300 in infringement fees.

#### **CURRENT PROSECUTIONS**

Table 8. Current Prosecutions

<b>Matter</b>	<b>Next Appearance</b>
Greg Cowley Limited and Greg Cowley	Sentencing date to be confirmed
Maruia Mining Limited and Alan Roberts	Defended hearing – date to be confirmed.

#### **CONSIDERATIONS**

##### **Policy Considerations**

A. There are no policy considerations arising from this report

##### **Financial Considerations**

B. There are no financial considerations arising from this report



### Significance and Engagement

- c. No matters in this report trigger the Council’s significance policy or require additional or specific consultation.

### Legislative Considerations

- d. There are no legislative considerations arising from this report

### Risk Considerations

- e. There are no risk considerations arising from this report.

### ATTACHMENTS

Nil

## 12. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

The following resolution is made in reliance on sections 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 7 of that Act.

On the grounds that matters will be prejudiced by the presence of members of the public during discussions on the following items, it is **resolved**:

1. *That the following items are considered with the public excluded:*

Meeting Item	Grounds for excluding the public
<i>1.1 Minutes of the 1/05/2019 Public Excluded Regulatory Committee Meeting</i>	LGOIMA Section 6 (a) to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial;  To protect the privacy of natural persons 7(2)a; to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any 7(2)(c)(i) and 7(2)(c)(ii);  and, to maintain legal professional privilege, 7(2)(g). Section 48(1)(a); Section 48(1)(d) Section 6(a) Section 7(2)a; 7(2)(c)(i);
<i>3.1 EMO1865 Enforcement Action - Detail</i>	Good reason for withholding official information exists, for the purpose of section 5, if the making available of that information would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial – Section 6(a)

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.

### **13. NOTICES OF MOTION**

No Notices of Motion were submitted.

### **14. CLOSURE**



# TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AGENDA

## Wednesday, 12 June 2019

3PM, Council Chamber  
Level 2 Philip Laing House, 144 Rattray Street, Dunedin

### **Membership**

Cr Andrew Noone

*(Chairperson)*

Cr Ella Lawton

*(Deputy Chairperson)*

Cr Graeme Bell

Cr Doug Brown

Cr Michael Deaker

Cr Carmen Hope

Cr Trevor Kempton

Cr Michael Laws

Cr Sam Neill

Cr Gretchen Robertson

Cr Bryan Scott

Cr Stephen Woodhead

### **Disclaimer**

Please note that there is an embargo on agenda items until 48 hours prior to the meeting. Reports and recommendations contained in this agenda are not to be considered as Council policy until adopted.

*For our future*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Apologies.....	3
2. Leave of Absence .....	3
3. Attendance.....	3
4. Confirmation of Agenda.....	3
5. Conflict of Interest .....	3
6. Public Forum .....	3
7. Presentations .....	3
8. Confirmation of Minutes.....	3
9. Actions.....	3
10. Matters for Noting .....	5
10.1. General Manager Operations Report to Technical Committee .....	5
10.2. Glendhu Forestry .....	17
10.3. Catchment Monitoring Programmes 2017-18 .....	21
11. Notices of Motion .....	29
12. Closure .....	29

## 1. APOLOGIES

No apologies were advised.

## 2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

No leaves of absence were requested.

## 3. ATTENDANCE

## 4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

*Note: Any additions must be approved by resolution with an explanation as to why they cannot be delayed until a future meeting.*

## 5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

*Members are reminded of the need to stand aside from decision-making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected representative and any private or other external interest they might have.*

## 6. PUBLIC FORUM

No requests to address the Committee Members were received.

## 7. PRESENTATIONS

No Presentations are scheduled.

## 8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

### Recommendation

*That the minutes of the meeting held on 1 May 2019 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record.*

### Attachments

1. Minutes - Technical 20190501 [8.1.1]

## 9. ACTIONS

### Status report on the resolutions of the Technical Committee

Report	Meeting Date	Resolution	Status
Lake Hayes Restoration	1/8/18	<i>That the consultant report by Castalia be re-framed into a more public intelligible document.</i>	COMPLETE
Lake Hayes Restoration	18/10/18	<i>Dr Palmer to follow up on receipt of the revised Castalia report</i>	COMPLETE
Lake Snow technical	18/10/18	<i>The CE engage on the with CEs at the regional CEOs</i>	

workshop recommendations		<p><i>meeting on 8 November 2018 on the primary objectives from the workshop.</i></p> <p><i>Invite Regional Councils and MPI to formally endorse and support the proposed research programme and to discuss funding arrangements.</i></p>	IN PROCESS
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## 10. MATTERS FOR NOTING

### 10.1. General Manager Operations Report to Technical Committee

<b>Prepared for:</b>	Technical Committee
<b>Report No.</b>	EHS1856
<b>Activity:</b>	Flood Protection & Control Works
<b>Author:</b>	Jean-Luc Payan, Manager Natural Hazards Julie Everett-Hincks, Manager Science
<b>Endorsed by:</b>	Gavin Palmer, General Manager Operations
<b>Date:</b>	12 June 2019

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#### PURPOSE

- [1] To update the Council on the following matters:
- South Dunedin and Harbourside geotechnical drilling
  - Dart/Rees Flood Hazard
  - Flood Hazard of Manuherikia River at Ophir
  - Lake Snow in Lake Dunstan
  - SH85 (Brassknocker Rd) Stock Truck Effluent Disposal Facility

#### RECOMMENDATION

*That the Council:*

- 1) **Receives** this report.

#### SOUTH DUNEDIN AND HARBOURSIDE GEOTECHNICAL DRILLING

- [2] As of 28 May 2019, work on the South Dunedin and Harbourside drilling project is progressing well. The project (in association with GNS Science and Oceana Gold and with support from the Dunedin City Council and the University of Otago) is drilling and installing five groundwater monitoring bores in the coastal Dunedin Central Business District area (Harbourside) and drilling two deeper holes (to bedrock) in the South Dunedin area (Figure 1).
- [3] Four boreholes have been drilled to completion with a further three remaining (Figure 2). Because the drilling programme has progressed well an extra borehole has been added to the programme.
- [4] This project is part of ORC's work on future climate change and natural hazards. The data collected is assisting in gaining a better understanding of the geology of the area and will also be used by ORC to study surface water, tidal and groundwater interactions. The data collected during this project will also be used for the NZ SeaRise research programme, which aims to model the effects of sea level rise on groundwater in coastal aquifers.

- [5] Liaison between ORC and DCC staff on each organisation's activities to do with South Dunedin is occurring at an operational level.



[6]

**Figure 1: Drilling to bedrock at Tonga Park (NZSR01), South Dunedin 22 May 2019.**



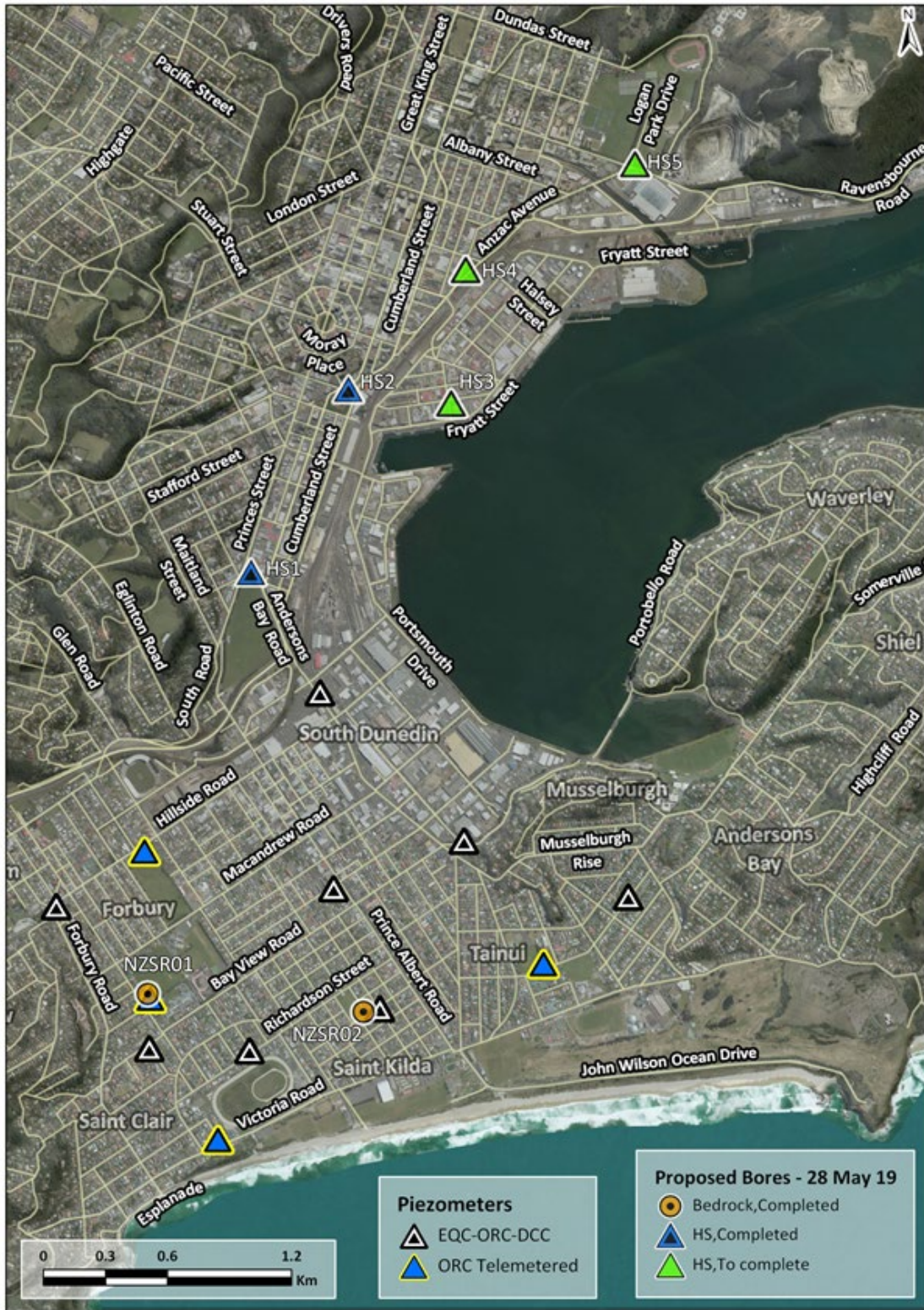
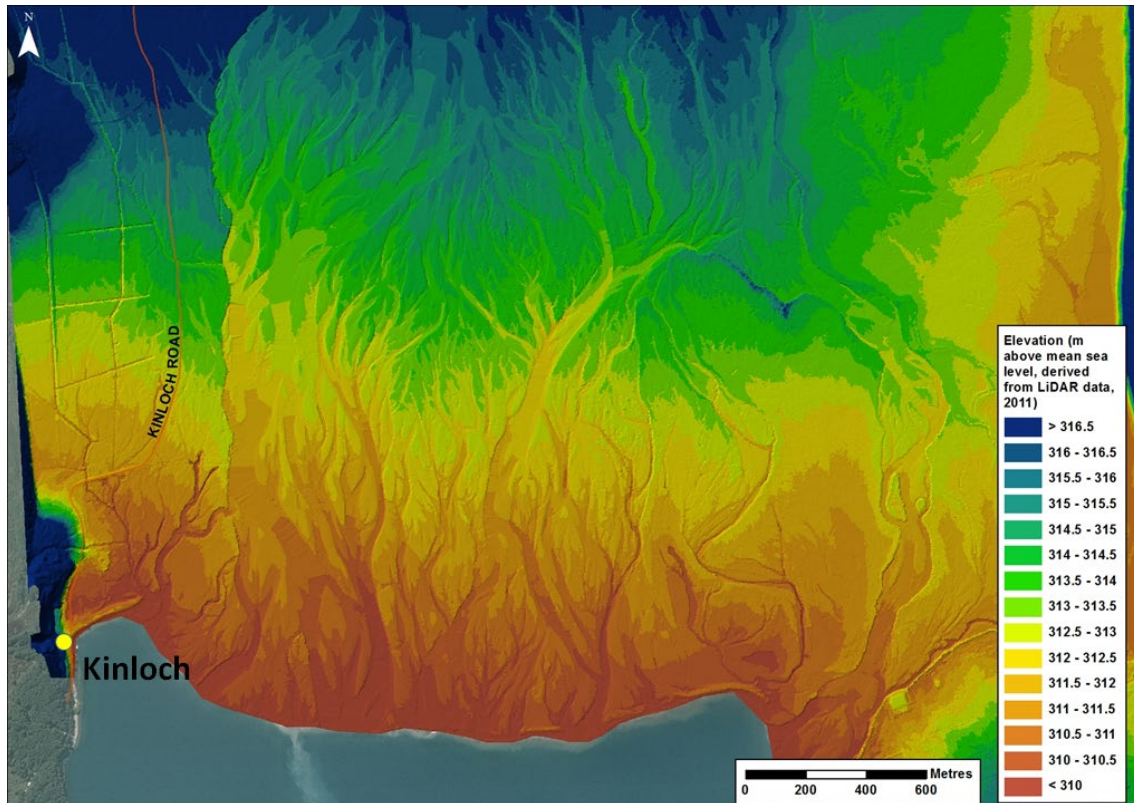


Figure 2: Existing piezometers and proposed borehole locations with progress for locations in the Dunedin central/Harbourside - South Dunedin area.

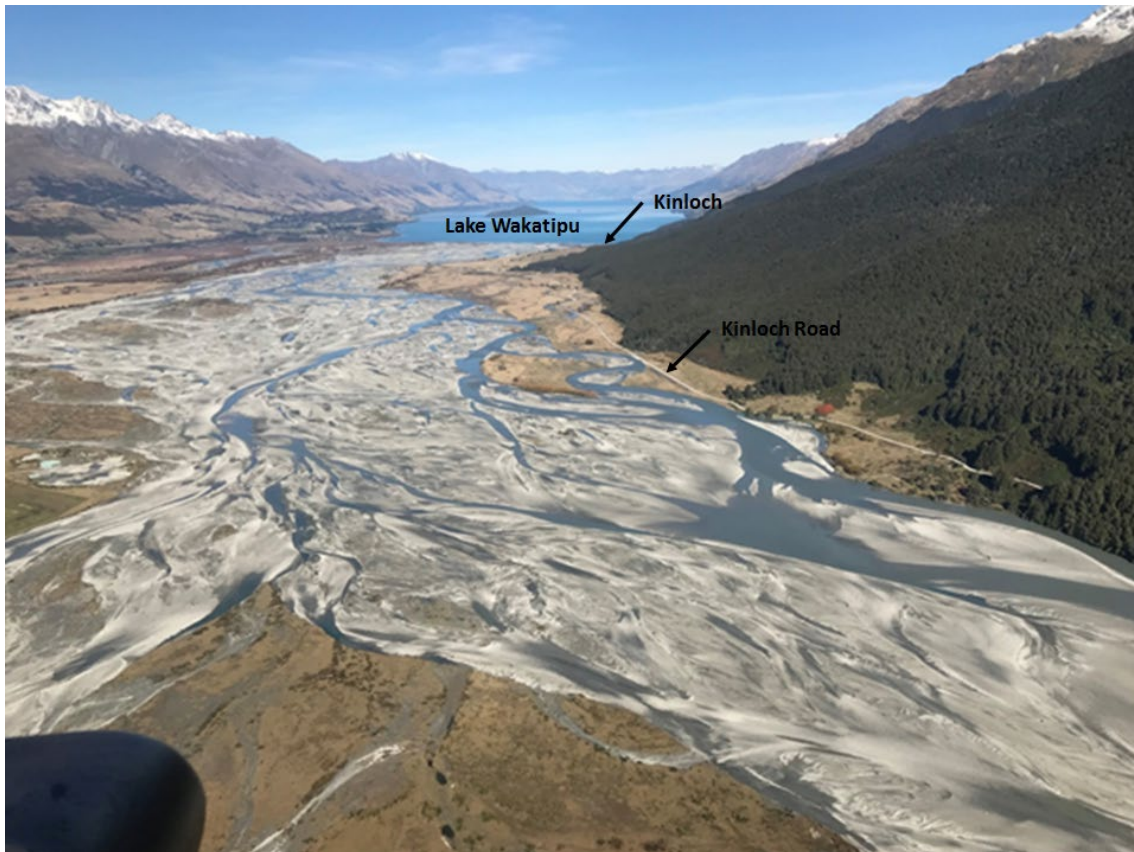
## DART/REES FLOOD HAZARD

- [7] Flood events in recent years have increased bank erosion taking place on the true right of the Dart River at the head of Lake Wakatipu. The river bank is of similar elevation (within 1 m typically, Figure 3) of the active Dart River bed. This makes this area prone to erosion during natural shifts of the main Dart River channel over its floodplain. Bed avulsion resulting in channel shifts is a natural process and a characteristic of braided rivers such as the Dart River.



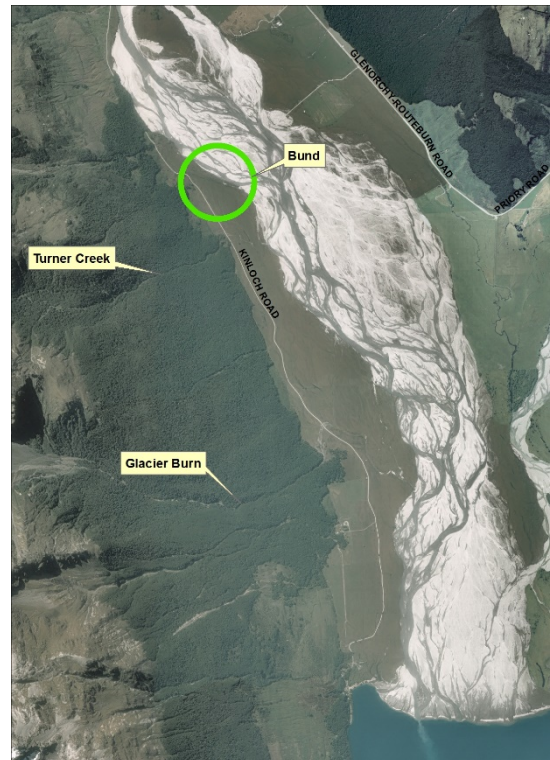
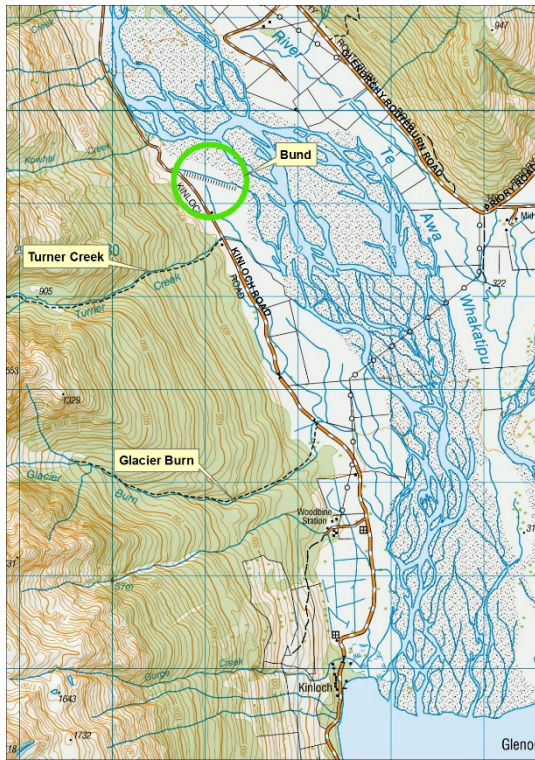
**Figure 3: Topography of Dart and Rees River floodplain at the head of Lake Wakatipu derived from LiDAR data (2011)**

- [8] Kinloch Road, the only terrestrial access to Kinloch, has low lying sections located on the right bank in the Dart River floodplain (Figure 4). The road is affected by bank erosion and flooding and can become impassable during high river flows. This road is used by residents and to access popular tourist attractions, facilities and accommodation.



**Figure 4: Dart River looking downstream towards Lake Wakatipu – Kinloch Road located on the right of the photograph (photograph taken by Geoffrey Thomson on 1 May 2019).**

- [9] Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) maintains the road and regularly repair flood and erosion damage.
- [10] In 2018, a flood channel broke through a remnant gravel bund between Kowhai and Turner Creeks and ORC agreed with residents and QLDC to reinstate this bund. The work was intended to provide limited protection to the section of Kinloch Road located downstream during small floods (Figure 5).



**Figure 5: Bund location**

[11] The bund was reinstated twice by ORC before it was entirely washed away in the record (since 1996) Dart River flows in March 2019. One active channel is now flowing in proximity to this section of road and the threshold at which Kinloch Road between Turner Creek and Glacier Burn becomes inundated has lowered (Figure 6).





**Figure 6: Top: Channel position – 2007 (left) and 2019 post March 2019 high flows (right)  
Bottom: Kinloch Road flooding between Turner Creek and Glacier Burn – 31 May 2019**

- [12] The 2018-28 Long Term Plan (LTP) provides an additional \$50,000 per year over three years for urgent flood and erosion protection work to assist the protection of vulnerable sections of Kinloch Road. Between July 2018 and May 2019 ORC has spent over \$35,000 (excluding staff time) on bank and flood protection work in the Dart and Rees Rivers.
- [13] QLDC with assistance from ORC is currently considering short-term immediate options to improve flood and erosion protection to vulnerable sections of Kinloch Road with the intention to carry out the repair work in June 2019, pending on likely consenting requirements.
- [14] The 2018-28 LTP also provides for ORC to develop, in collaboration with QLDC and affected communities and stakeholders, a long-term natural hazards adaptation strategy for the wider area located at the northern end of Lake Wakatipu (including Kinloch and Glenorchy). This recognizes that engineering works are unlikely to be sustainable financially or environmentally. Further, there are wider issues that must be considered in a strategic and holistic way including future climate change, multiple and cascading natural hazards and pressure for land use intensification. This two-year project is planned to start in the 2019/20 financial year and has an associated total budget of approximately \$80,000 (excluding staff time). Initial work on the long-term natural hazards adaptation strategy has also started. Arrangements are being made to meet with QLDC staff to discuss and agree how to progress this work collaboratively.
- [15] Commencing in 2007, ORC funded a PhD studentship project, in collaboration with the University of Canterbury, to study decade-to-century timescale braided, gravel-bed river delta growth dynamics (*Growth Dynamics of Braided Gravel-Bed Deltas in New Zealand*, Michelle Wild, 2013). The Rees-Dart river delta was selected as a study area and results from this project will be considered during the development of the long-term natural hazards adaptation strategy for the northern end of Lake Wakatipu.

- [16] Kinloch and Glenorchy are part of the Wakatipu River Management Special Rating District (SRD). The SRD is funded from targeted rates applied to all rateable properties in the Wakatipu Basin.
- [17] In the current financial year rateable properties in the Kinloch settlement pay \$41.66 in total into the SRD.

### **FLOOD HAZARD OF MANUHERIKIA RIVER AT OPHIR**

- [18] In April 2019 ORC completed work to reinstate a section of the Manuherikia River left (south) riverbank and a low-level bund located approximately 1.5 km upstream of the Omakau Bridge (Figure 7). The purpose of the work is to slow the progression of bank erosion and to reduce the risk of the Manuherikia River re-occupying an old river channel on the floodplain. Reoccupation of the channel would increase the likelihood of a permanent and significant realignment of the river and the risk of parts of Ophir being flooded.
- [19] Following the November 2018 high flow event in the Manuherikia River, this section was severely eroded resulting in bank damage. A low-level bund located at the same location also collapsed, resulting in significant overland flow (Figure 8). The purpose of the bund was to provide limited flood protection during small floods.
- [20] Bank damage in this location occurred in the past and is the result of natural erosion processes, usually more pronounced on the outside river bends (concave side). Bank protection work in this section of the river existed prior to the November 2018 high flow event but were undermined by the high flows observed in November 2018.
- [21] The purpose of the work completed in April 2019 is to protect the damaged section of left bank and to reinstate the bund to the pre-November 2018 state. A channel was also formed close on the right bank to guide the river away from the left bank during high flows (Figure 9). Willow trees will be planted at the end of winter 2019 to reinforce the stability of the left bank.
- [22] These engineering works are unlikely to be successful in the longer term. Consideration will be given to incorporating a more comprehensive and strategic investigation of management options as a project in the Draft 2021-2031 Long Term Plan. Those options could include removing vegetation from the active river bed to restore channel capacity and give the river room to move.

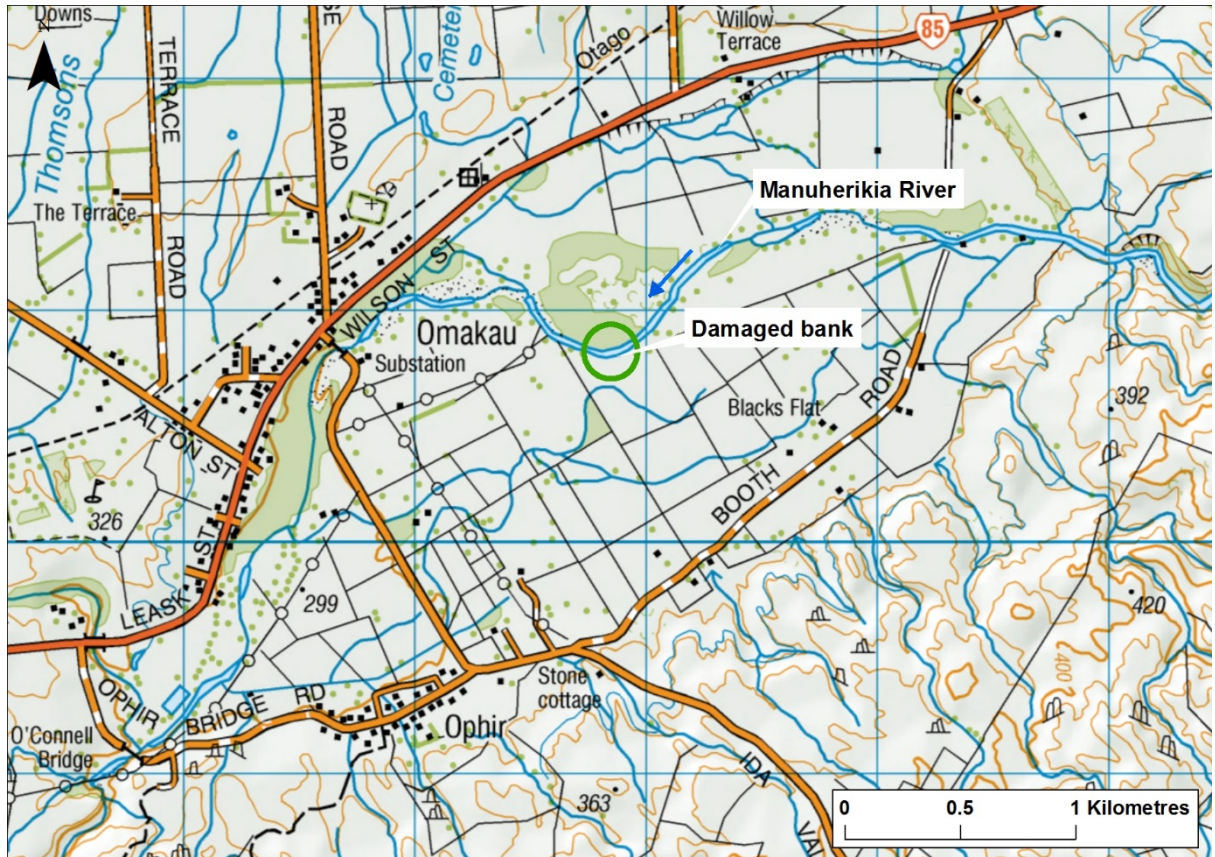


Figure 7: Location of the Manuherikia River breakout near Omakau



Figure 8: Manuherikia River – Left bank overflow – November 2018

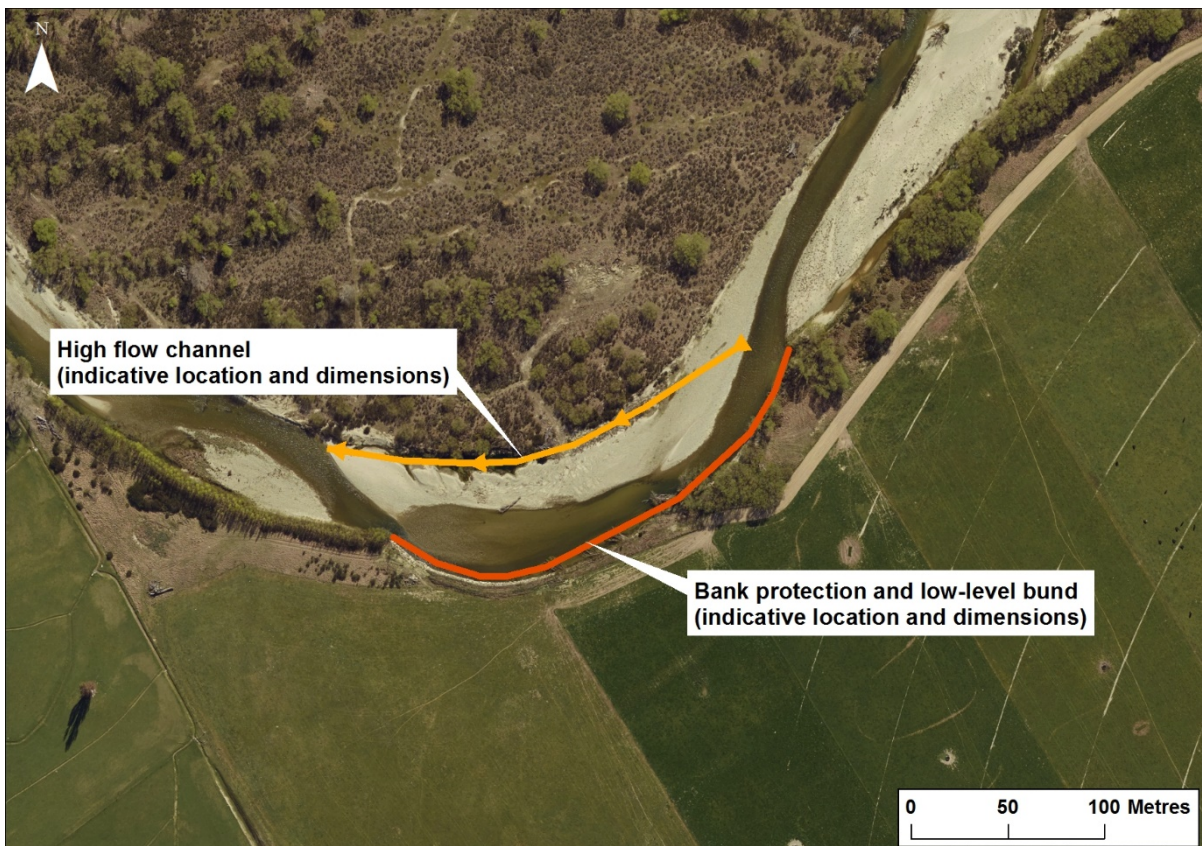


Figure 9: Indicative location and scale of the bank protection work completed in April 2019 on the Manuherikia River approximately 1.5 km upstream of the Omakau Bridge. The river flows from right to left.



## LAKE SNOW IN LAKE DUNSTAN

- [23] Central Otago District Council (CODC) draws water through bores on the shore of Lake Dunstan for drinking water supply. During a water treatment pilot study, *Lindavia intermedia* was found in the bore water.
- [24] Lake snow has not been monitored in Lake Dunstan previously as the lake isn't part of ORC's trophic lake programme. Furthermore, Lake Snow has not been the subject of customer complaints for CODC, unlike the situation seen in Queenstown and Wanaka.
- [25] On 28 May 2019 ORC in partnership with CODC carried out Lake Snow tows at three different sites (Figure 10) in Lake Dunstan to compare dry weight concentration of Lake Snow with that found in Wanaka and Wakatipu. Lake Snow was found in all three locations sampled - results of dry weight concentration are still to be reported.
- [26] It is not unexpected to find *L. intermedia* in Lake Dunstan as the waterbody is downstream of lakes Wanaka, Wakatipu and Hawea, where the presence of Lake Snow has been confirmed.

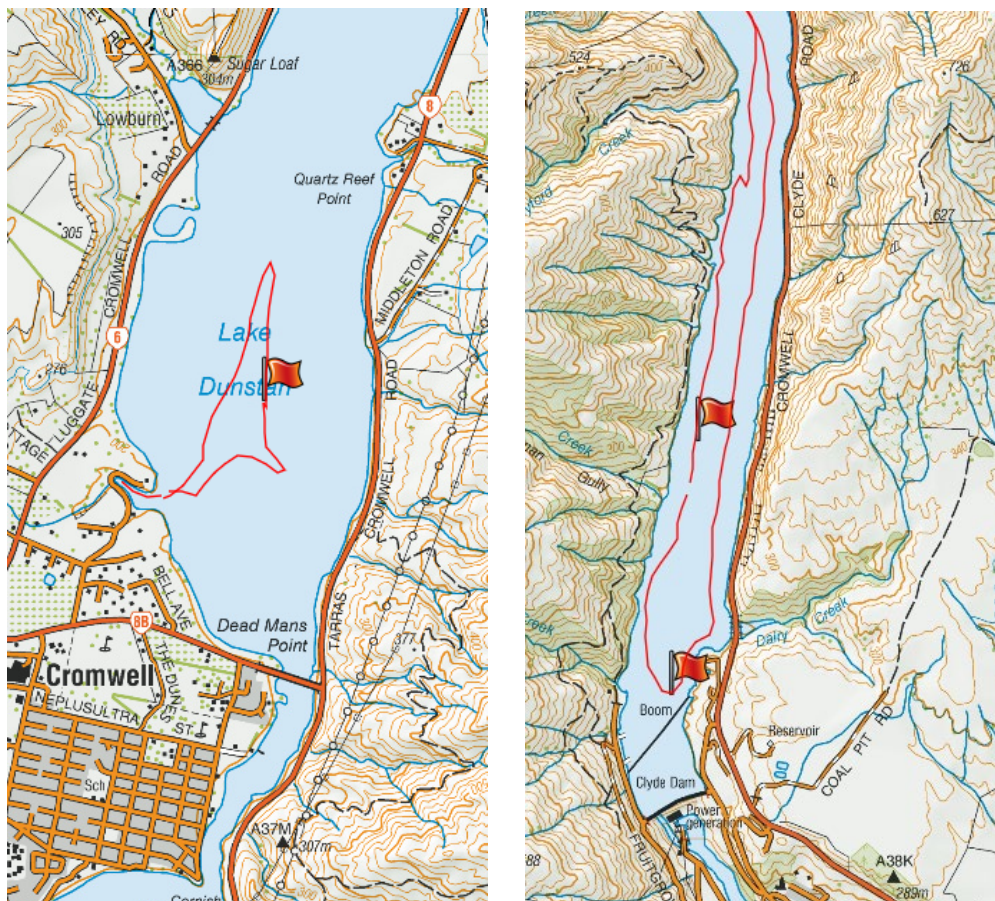


Figure 10: Sampling sites for Lake Snow tows (red flags) 28 May 2019. Left: Cromwell Yacht Club; Right: Champagne and Clyde Dam

## SH85 (BRASSKNOCKER RD) STOCK TRUCK EFFLUENT DISPOSAL FACILITY

- [27] The SH85 (Brassknocker Road) stock truck effluent disposal facility (STED) is in service, bringing the number of STEDs in Otago to seven in total. Effluent collected within the facility will be removed by SJ Allen (Balclutha) Ltd and disposed at the Balclutha oxidation ponds owned by Clutha District Council. The contract with SJ Allen (Balclutha) Ltd has a term expiring in March 2021. The same company disposes the effluent that is collected within the other STED located in Central Otago (Raes Junction).
- [28] Figure 11 shows a stock truck discharging effluent into the SH85 (Brassknocker Road) STED on 26 May 2019. The truck had transported 42 dairy cows from Kelso (West Otago) to Lauder (Central Otago) for winter grazing. It had discharged effluent into the Raes Junction STED on the journey into Central Otago.



**Figure 11: Stock truck discharging effluent into the SH85 (Brassknocker Road) STED on 26 May 2019 (photograph courtesy Bruce Robertson, Road Transport Logistics Ltd, Tapanui)**

### ATTACHMENTS

Nil

## 10.2. Glendhu Forestry

**Prepared for:** Technical Committee  
**Report No.** PPRM1885  
**Activity:** Environmental: Water  
**Author:** Rachel Ozanne, Environmental Resource Scientist  
**Endorsed by:** Andrew Newman, Acting General Manager Policy, Science and Strategy  
**Date:** 25 March 2019

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [1] The University of Otago were contracted to report on the Glendhu forestry water quality monitoring project (a multi-year investigation into the effects of pine harvesting operations on suspended sediment yield, and the associated impacts on water clarity, and stream sedimentation) the full report is attached as Appendix 1.
- [2] The report summarises the data and outcomes of the 18-month investigation into the pine forest harvesting phase in Glendhu and supports the water plan implementation programme in relation to diffuse suspended sediment and permitted activity rules.
- [3] The wider receiving environment, the Waipori River, is identified in Schedule 15 of the Regional Plan for Water and with regards to nutrient, bacteriological and turbidity contaminants, with turbidity limited to 5 NTU.
- [4] For this study (2016–2018) the turbidity (80<sup>th</sup> percentile) concentration for the plantation pine catchment at Glendhu was 1.5 FNU and 2.0 NTU, indicating that the harvest phase of the pine plantation catchment is within specified limits.
- [5] This result supports the pilot study (Bright, 2015<sup>1</sup>) which examined the preliminary effects of forest clearance in the Glendhu catchments and concluded that little to no effect of forest clearance was likely (at 40% catchment clearance).

### RECOMMENDATION

*That the Council:*

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Notes** the report.

### BACKGROUND

- [6] The Glendhu paired catchments, were developed in the late 1970s in collaboration with the NZ Forestry Service to establish the effects of converting indigenous tussock grasslands to plantation pine forestry in Otago. Two catchments were set aside, one retained in indigenous tall snow tussock (*Chionochloa rigida*), and a second planted in

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<sup>1</sup> Bright CE, 2015. Effect of forest clearance on water quantity and water quality in Otago: a paired catchment study. Unpublished Honours Dissertation, University of Otago. 135 p.

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pine forestry (*Pinus radiata*) in 1982. Figure 1 shows the location of the Glendhu catchments. The tussock catchment (GH1) covers 2.16km<sup>2</sup> and the pine plantation catchment (GH2) covers 3.10km<sup>2</sup>



**Figure 1. Location of the Glendhu study. The ‘control’ Tussock catchment and the ‘treatment’ forest catchment are shown on the aerial photograph.**

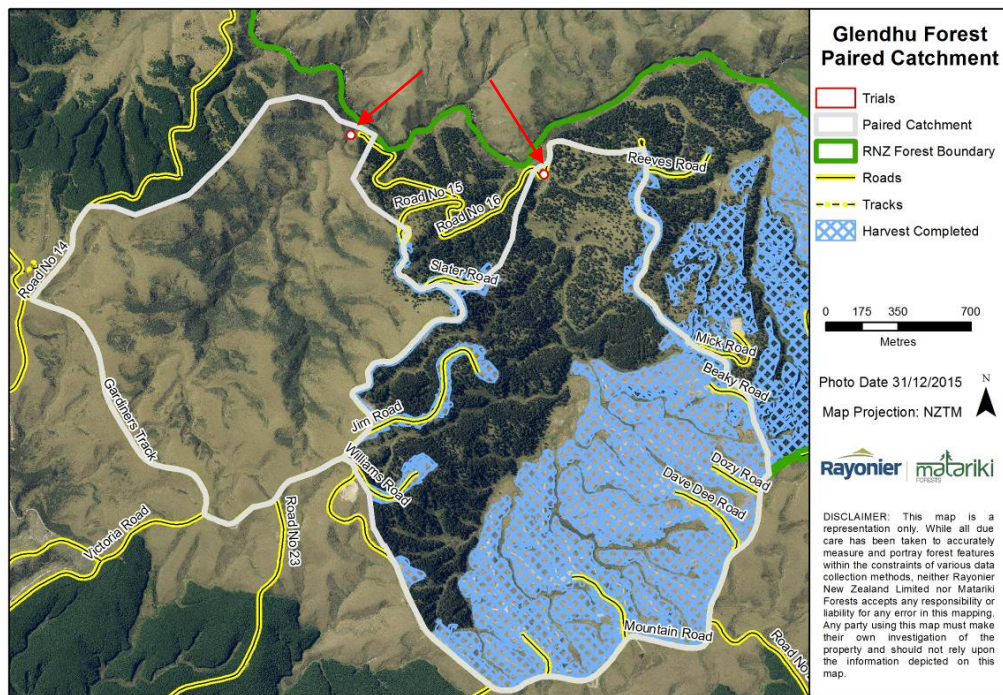
- [7] Otago Regional Council used the paired catchments to monitor sediment discharge during plantation clearance to assess whether permitted activity rules (Regional Plan: Water) relating to diffuse suspended sediment were met.

## METHODS

- [8] Large v-notch weirs are located at the bottom of the tussock and pine catchments (Figures 1 and 2) where water level is continuously measured. A relationship between water level and discharge was used to provide an accurate estimate of flow<sup>1</sup>.
- [9] Otago Regional Council installed and maintained turbidimeters (turbidity measured at 15-minute intervals) at each weir to estimate suspended sediment concentration and when combined with flow, suspended sediment yield.
- [10] Automatic water samplers were installed upstream of the concrete weirs and attached to a water level trigger to collect water samples during high flow events. Five events were sampled between July 2016 and January 2017. Samples were taken at 30-minute intervals on the ascending limb of a hydrograph.
- [11] The automatic samples were supplemented by discrete grab samples (collected by the Otago Regional Council field team, and the University of Otago at one-two month intervals) both data sets were used to develop a turbidity and suspended sediment relationship.

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<sup>1</sup> Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research (on behalf of Rayonier) support the project by maintaining the flow monitoring sites and providing ORC with a continuous record of flow for both study catchments.



**Figure 2. Aerial map (dated December 2015) showing harvesting progress on the forested catchment (right). Remaining pine was harvested by August 2018. The ‘control’ tussock catchment is on the left. The location of v-notch weirs indicated by the red arrows.**

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

- [12] The median turbidity (July 16 to December 17) was 0.5 FNU in the tussock catchment, and 1.3 in the pine plantation catchment indicating a general trend of higher turbidity in the pine plantation catchment. The differences were greatest during high flow events, with the maximum recorded turbidity in the tussock catchment of 69 FNU compared to 453 FNU in the pine plantation catchment.
- [13] There was a very strong linear relationship between field-measured turbidity and concurrent measurements of suspended sediment concentration in both catchments ( $R^2=0.92$  tussock,  $R^2=0.75$  pine) which enabled a conversion of in-situ turbidity to a continuous record of suspended sediment
- [14] Visual clarity was determined by concurrent measurement of turbidity (in NTU) and visual clarity (in m) and plotted to determine a decay curve using regression. There was a greater decline in visual clarity observed in the pine plantation forest compared to tussock, likely attributable to greater amounts of soil particulates being disturbed in the pine catchment.
- [15] Suspended sediment yield shows a different response between the two land uses, for the tussock catchment (550 days) the suspended sediment yield was 16.4 t, equivalent to 26.9 tonnes per hectare. For the pine plantation catchment (547 days) the suspended sediment yield was 80.5 t, equivalent to 132.9 tonnes per hectare.
- [16] There was a very strong linear relationship between field-measured turbidity and concurrent measurements of suspended sediment concentration in both the tussock

catchment and the pine plantation catchment. However, the pine plantation catchment has increased turbidity, higher suspended sediment, and reduced water clarity as a result of forest clearance.

- [17] A pilot study examining the preliminary effects of forest clearance in the Glendhu catchments during 2015 concluded that little to no effect of forest clearance was likely (at 40% catchment clearance) due to extensive riparian buffer networks, forest clearance techniques, keeping roads and landings to the periphery of the catchment, and carrying harvesting out in a staggered way over a longer period of time, which reduced the effects of landscape disturbance, and any further clearance related impacts would be best mitigated by these practices in place (Bright, 2015).
- [18] Schedule 15 of the Regional Plan for Water has a turbidity limit of 5 NTU (based on a five year 80<sup>th</sup> percentile when flows are at or below median flow). For the plantation pine catchment at Glendhu (for the period 2016–2018) the turbidity 80<sup>th</sup> percentile was 2.0 NTU, indicating that turbidity during the harvest phase of the pine plantation catchment did not exceed RPW limits.

#### **POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

- [19] Schedule 15 of the Regional Plan for Water has a turbidity limit of 5 NTU (based on a five year 80<sup>th</sup> percentile when flows are at or below median flow). For the plantation pine catchment at Glendhu (for the period 2016–2018) the turbidity 80<sup>th</sup> percentile was 2.0 NTU, indicating that turbidity during the harvest phase<sup>1</sup> of the pine plantation catchment did not exceed RPW limits.
- [20] The report suggests that forest clearance in Glendhu has, and will likely continue to have, a small but measurable effect on the discharge of sediment. However, in this instance the combination of a stable schist lithology, rolling hillslope and low risk of land erosion suggest that forestry clearance is unlikely to have lasting effects on the local and downstream receiving environments.
- [21] The Glendhu forestry operation is undertaken by Matariki Rayonier Forests who operate under best practice management, which is likely to reduce the discharge of contaminants at higher flows. Other forestry operations, under different operators or under less stable lithology may see a higher contaminant load when harvesting which could adversely affect the aquatic habitat downstream.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Glendhu Forestry Water Quality Monitoring Summary Report Nov 2018 **[10.2.1]**

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<sup>1</sup> Harvesting completed in August 2018

### 10.3. Catchment Monitoring Programmes 2017-18

<b>Prepared for:</b>	Technical Committee
<b>Report No.</b>	PPRM1884
<b>Activity:</b>	Environmental: Water
<b>Author:</b>	Rachel Ozanne, Environmental Resource Scientist Melanie Heather, Environmental Officer
<b>Endorsed by:</b>	Andrew Newman, Acting General Manager Policy, Science and Strategy
<b>Date:</b>	7 June 2019

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#### PURPOSE

- [1] This report is intended to provide an overview of water quality monitoring by catchment groups (in five irrigated catchments) between July 2017 and April 2019.

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [2] Plan Change 6A (PC6A) of the Regional Plan Water (RPW) was made operative on 1 May 2014. Under PC6A the Otago Regional Council (ORC) set rural water quality limits and targets for achieving good water quality (Schedule 15) and permitted activity discharge thresholds (Schedule 16) for contaminants discharged from rural land to water.
- [3] The 2017-2019 annual plans included a rural water quality implementation target focusing on water quality in five irrigated catchments.
- Upper Taieri (upstream of Waipiata)
  - Bannock Burn/Shepherds Creek
  - Thomsons Creek (Manuherikia)
  - Waiareka (Kakanui)
  - Awamoko
- [4] The 'Good Water in Otago' project commenced in 2017/18. The overall objective of the monitoring programme was to provide a more detailed study of water quality in a catchment when compared to a single point sample defined by ORC's State of the Environment (SOE) network.
- [5] The intent of the programme was to get landholders to understand how land use activity impacts water quality, with a view that they could review (or change) land use activities in order to meet RPW Schedule 15 (S15) limits and targets. The programme was also intended to encourage land users to form catchment groups, devise their own sampling programmes and undertake their own sampling.
- [6] Key to the success of the programme was ORC's leadership and regular communication in the first year of the programme. The right person on the ground during this period is critical in building relationships and trust with the community, this is the most important learning for future work of this nature.

- [7] Positive and encouraging behaviour change during the programme was evident. The most obvious being communities taking responsibility for water quality in their catchment and linking water quality results with farm management practices.
- [8] An improvement to the programme would be to monitor freshwater ecosystem condition alongside water quality. This would provide the opportunity for even greater community engagement. Tools to undertake this monitoring are readily available, i.e. NIWA's macroinvertebrate SHMAK kit or the Irish Small Streams Risk Score (SSRS) rapid macroinvertebrate assessment.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

*That the Council:*

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Notes** the progress with the Catchment Monitoring Programme.

## **BACKGROUND**

### **ORC led monitoring programme 2017-2018**

- [9] During the 2017/2018, water quality in the Upper Taieri, Bannock Burn/Shepherds Creek, Awamoko and Thomsons Creek catchments were monitored by ORC and results reported back to community leaders.
- [10] In the Upper Taieri, the Maniototo Irrigation Company (MIC) had already begun a community led water quality monitoring programme. This programme was transferred to ORC to lead, manage and expand.
- [11] In the Waiareka (Kakanui catchment) ORC ran a joint programme with the North Otago Sustainable Land Management Group (NOSLaM). The North Otago Irrigation Company (NOIC) were already working closely with NOSLaM and had set up a sampling programme in the catchment, ORC expanded this programme.
- [12] The catchment programmes were originally planned to run for one year with fortnightly water quality sampling.
- [13] During the first year of the monitoring programme, ORC was approached by one landholder in the Upper Taieri requesting additional sampling on the Sow Burn. This landholder offered to take the samples in conjunction with the ORC programme. This trial proved successful and paved the way for full community sampling in the second year of the programme.

### **Community led programme**

- [14] As a result of the Sow Burn experience, ORC, through community meetings, gauged interest in catchment groups taking ownership of water quality sampling. Funding continued into 2018/19 to allow the community led sampling programme to be implemented in all catchments other than Waiareka Creek and Awamoko. In the Waiareka Creek and Awamoko these catchments the ORC/NOIC monitoring programme continued with NOSLaM oversight.



- [15] The idea of the community led programme was for landholders to take ownership of problems and to coordinate their own testing as a group. The programme was designed to be flexible in terms of sites sampled and parameters monitored.
- [16] To ensure robustness of results, all community samplers were trained (in the field) by ORC. They were supplied with a document detailing: monitoring site names; locations (grid references and photographs); S15 and Schedule 16 (S16) limits; laboratory expectations; tips for taking samples, and courier drop off details and cut off times (see example in Appendix 2).
- [17] Catchment communities set up sampling programmes in various formats which ranged from a landholder sampling in the immediate vicinity of their land (Totara/Linn Burn and Riverslea) to a nominated person sampling throughout a catchment (Gimmer Burn, Ewe Burn and Bannock Burn/Shepherds Creek) or nominated person sampling more than one catchment (Pig Burn/Eden Creek and Sow Burn/Shepherds Creek).
- [18] In Thomsons Creek, the community set up their own monitoring programme, and requested ORC also continue monitoring to provide community support.
- [19] The joint water quality monitoring programme continued in the Waiareka and Awamoko and ORC set up a new catchment monitoring programme in the Kye Burn.

**Site Selection**

- [20] The monitoring sites were selected in consultation with the community (Table 1 and Appendix A). The second year of sampling allowed communities the flexibility to modify and enhance ORC’s original monitoring programme; to allow sites to be retired or added, depending on the nature of the results returned and the condition of the water bodies sampled. It allowed hot spots to be targeted (a focus was the water quality of water races supplying irrigation water to properties, along with races that diverted water back in to rivers).

**Table 1: Monitoring Programme sites 2017/18 & 2018/19**

Catchment	SOE	Active*	Retired	Not sampled**	Total sites
Upper Taieri	5	43	12	4	64
Bannock Burn/Shepherds Creek	1	31	4	0	36
Thomsons Creek	1	22	5	0	28
Kye Burn	1	16	0	0	17
Waiareka	1	13	0	0	14
Awamoko	1	2	1	0	4
TOTAL					163

*\*A mix of ORC & community sites \*\*Not sampled as no water or stagnant through the year but initially identified as an area of interest ^Catchment added in year two.*

- [21] Sites were tested for S15 parameters (nitrate-nitrite nitrogen, dissolved reactive phosphorus, ammoniacal N, *E. coli* and turbidity). All the catchments monitored were in

the RPW Schedule 15 receiving water group 2 and results were compared against the limits and targets in Table 2 below<sup>1</sup>.

**Table 2. Receiving Water Group 2 numerical limits for achieving good water quality.**

NNN	DRP	Ammoniacal N	<i>E. coli</i>	Turbidity
0.075 mg/L	0.01 mg/L	0.1 mg/L	260 cfu/100mL	5 NTU

- [22] Where drains or direct runoff from land were tested as part of the programme (i.e. irrigation run-off), the results were compared against the limits and targets specified in S16 (discharge threshold area 2) in Table 3 below.

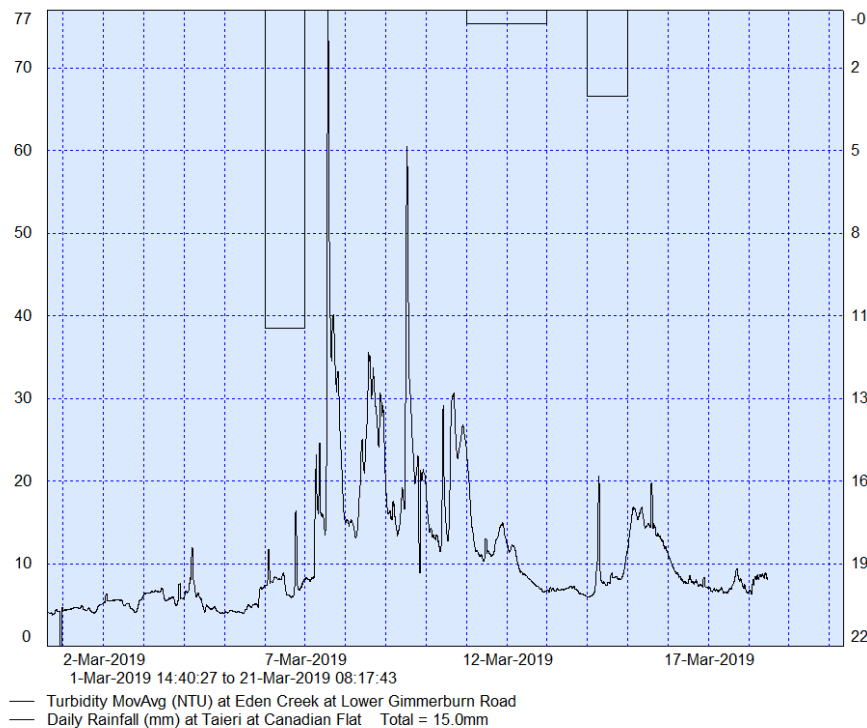
**Table 3. Discharge Threshold Area 2, permitted activity discharge thresholds**

NNN	DRP	Ammoniacal N	<i>E. coli</i>
1.0 mg/L	0.035 mg/L	0.2 mg/L	550 cfu/100mL

- [23] ORC recommended landholders only sample *E. coli* to allow a short turn-around time at the laboratory, which in turn meant landholders could remember land use practice at the time of sampling and investigate any results returned with high *E. coli* concentrations. ORC also facilitated faecal source tracking to clarify the source of elevated *E. coli* at sites in Shepherds Creek (Bannock Burn) and Thomsons Creek. The primary objective was to see if wildfowl, septic tanks or farm animals were responsible for elevated *E. coli* concentrations.
- [24] Community led discussion resulted in a continuous turbidity meter being installed in Eden Creek (Upper Taieri) in November 2018. The site is telemetered, and the data is available on the ORC website, allowing the community to link elevated turbidity with rainfall and/or irrigation practice (elevated turbidity will generally mean elevated *E. coli*/nutrients). This is particularly important in the Upper Taieri, where an ORC contact recreation site (Taieri at Waipiata) is located downstream of the irrigated landscape.

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<sup>1</sup>[https://www.orc.govt.nz/media/5795/regional-plan\\_-water-for-otago-updated-to-1-july-2018-schedules.pdf](https://www.orc.govt.nz/media/5795/regional-plan_-water-for-otago-updated-to-1-july-2018-schedules.pdf)



**Figure 3 Continuous turbidity, Eden Creek and daily rainfall (Canadian Flat)**

### Community Engagement

- [25] Water testing results were reported back to the communities to enable them to make informed decisions on whether changes to land use practices were required. To do this effectively each catchment group had a nominated representative to liaise with ORC. The representative assisted ORC with putting context around results (i.e. irrigation rosters, localised rainfall, etc.).
- [26] Table 4 lists the number of community catchment meetings staff have held (or attended) over the last two years. The meetings have included education of the objectives of the monitoring programme, an analysis of results to date, an overview of the S15 and S16 targets and limits and planning to enable the community to lead sampling during the second year. Meetings in the Waiareka and Awamoko catchments have been facilitated by the NOSLaM. This group is farmer-led and provides practical resources and support to farmers.

**Table 4. Community Meetings & Training Sessions 2017-2019**

Catchment	Community meetings	Training / one on one sessions
Upper Taieri	3	8
Bannock Burn/Shepherds Creek	1	3
Thomsons Creek	2	1
Kye Burn	1	1
Waiareka/Awamoko	21	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>12</b>

- [27] There has been positive media coverage. For example, the Otago Daily Times (ODT) reporting on the Thomson Creek monitoring programme on 12 November 2017<sup>1</sup>.



ORC environmental officer Melanie Heather (left), ORC environmental resource scientist Rachel Ozanne, Limerick Downs station owner Hamish Stratford (second from right) and Matakauui Station owner Andrew Paterson attended the meeting on water quality last week. PHOTO: REBECCA NADGE

**Figure 2 ODT Article Photograph**

## DISCUSSION

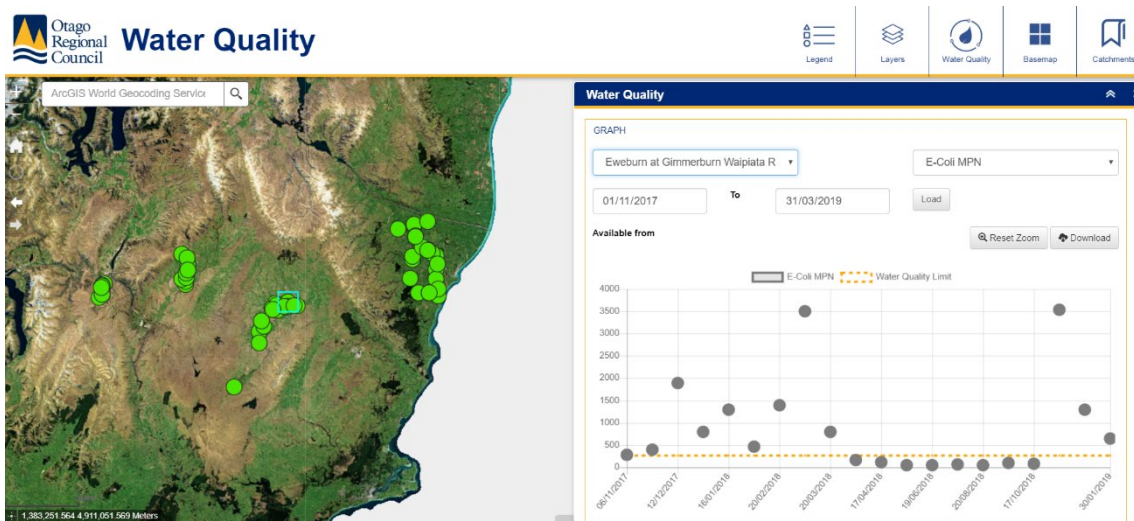
- [28] The first year of ORC led monitoring was a success building trust and community interest in the programme. Catchment leaders distributed water quality results to interested parties in the catchments. To enable better engagement, ORC stepped back from sampling and facilitated landholders to take ownership of the monitoring programme. The community sampling programmes were flexible (sites and analytes) and the community became more familiar with the S15 and S16 targets and limits, as well as identifying and addressing problem areas in their catchments.
- [29] The catchments monitored were irrigated, and the community became increasingly aware of how irrigation can affect water quality (particularly in the Eden Creek and Wedder Burn/Gimmer Burn catchments). This resulted in ORC installing an in-situ continuous turbidimeter to assist the community to differentiate between elevated turbidity relating to rainfall, and elevated turbidity relating to irrigation.
- [30] It was also noted that water quality in races was degraded at the beginning of the season, when it is likely that water flushing the irrigation races (after a winter of animals accessing the dry races) caused a significant deterioration in water quality.
- [31] To improve the programme for the 2019/21 years, the selection of catchments requires early finalisation to enable meetings to be held in the catchments prior to the start of sampling. At the initial meeting, timelines should be made clear to ensure that the community knows the cut-off date for ORC involvement in any catchment programme and the expectation of community led monitoring in the second year.
- [32] 'Show the science, show the problem' is an effective way of communicating water quality problems and there are other tools to use to engage the community as well as water quality monitoring. These could include using the NIWA macroinvertebrate SHMAK kit or

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.odt.co.nz/regions/central-otago/joint-efforts-water-quality>

the Irish Small Streams Risk Score (SSRS) rapid macroinvertebrate assessment. In addition, ORC's rural liaison specialists could facilitate community river assessments and stream walks to heighten community engagement.

- [33] It has proven valuable to the community to have the continuous turbidity meter in Eden Creek. An expansion of continuous monitoring at key locations (turbidity/dissolved oxygen/temperature) will increase community understanding of water quality.
- [34] During the first year, when ORC sampled water quality at specified sites, the results were made available on-line for the five catchments (Figure 3). The system was not able to incorporate community results (frequent change of sites, change of parameters) and these results have not been put on line. On line reporting would have been a better way of communicating monitoring programme results to stakeholders and the community involved, rather than laboratory PDF files.



**Figure 3 ORC community water quality website**

- [35] The catchment programme has been successful in setting up eight community led sampling programmes, six of these in the Upper Taieri, one in Thomsons Creek and one in the Bannock Burn/Shepherds Creek catchment. ORC has also supported NOSLaM in the Waiareka and Awamoko catchments. Three 'pods' (catchment groups) have been formed in this area (Awamoko, Waiareka and Friston Stream) regularly meeting to discuss water quality issues and methods to improve it. One initiative, stemming from high dissolved reactive phosphorus concentrations found in the Waiareka catchment, has been for NOSLaM to engage the University of Otago to investigate the source of high phosphorus.
- [36] ORC should be proud of the engagement this project has fostered and commend those communities that have taken part and thus taken ownership of water quality in their catchment.

## CONSIDERATIONS

### Policy Considerations

- [37] The Good Water in Otago project will focus on five new catchments in July 2019. It is proposed to focus on the Upper Clutha lakes catchments covering Wanaka, Hawea and

Wakatipu. This programme will focus on supporting established catchment groups (Upper Clutha Lakes Trust, Wanaka Water Project etc) with focused water quality monitoring as well as providing water quality information for both the Urban Water Quality strategy and the hydrodynamic model for Lake Wanaka.

### **Financial Considerations**

[38] The budget for the monitoring programmes is in the Science Management Group. As at 20 March 2019, the Science Management Group YTD budget was 28% underspent.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

## **11. NOTICES OF MOTION**

No Notices of Motion were submitted.

## **12. CLOSURE**