

Nicola Shorten
Manager, Environmental Policy

Environmental Policy Department Report – July 2008

1. Maintaining regional plans

1.1 Regional Coastal Plan

Plan Change 1 to the Regional Coastal Plan sets up a regime for managing noise related to port activities. This plan change has been developed and processed jointly with Wellington City Council. Their District Plan manages noise above mean high water springs and our Regional Coastal Plan manages noise below mean high water springs.

The plan change was adopted by the Council on 7 April 2008, and has now been approved by the Minister of Conservation. The plan change was publicly notified on Saturday 5 July, and became operative on Saturday 12 July 2008.

A report evaluating effectiveness of the Regional Coastal Plan will be presented to the next meeting of the Regulatory Committee. This will complete the reports on the effectiveness of Greater Wellingtons regional plans.

2. Draft Regional Policy Statement – next steps

Greater Wellington received 107 submissions on the draft Regional Policy Statement released in March this year. The submissions have now been summarised and staff are preparing recommendations in response to the decisions requested in the submissions. In total there are over 1400 points to address.

Information about the submitters and the key points that have emerged from the submissions so far were included in last week's Councillor Bulletin, for the information of all councillors.

When staff have considered all the submissions and prepared recommendations, Councillors will be provided with a report containing the summary of submissions and recommendations, and a 'track changes' copy of the draft Regional Policy Statement. Council workshops to discuss the recommended changes will take place in October this year. It is intended that the proposed Regional Policy Statement be approved for release at the 8 December meeting of Council.

Ted Taylor
Manager, Environmental Monitoring and Investigations

Environmental Monitoring and Investigations Department Report – July 2008

1. Hydrological monitoring

A summary of our rainfall, river and groundwater monitoring for the months of May and June is set out in sections 2 to 5 below. This is based on the reports produced at the end of each month for inclusion on the Greater Wellington web site and for distribution with a media release. The full reports can be found at http://www.gw.govt.nz/story_images/5255_May2008hydrolog_s10644.pdf and http://www.gw.govt.nz/story_images/5360_June2008hydrolo_s10816.pdf.

2. Rainfall and river flows

2.1 Rainfall

May 2008 was dominated by southerly and south easterly airflows over the Wellington region, and this was reflected in the rainfall pattern for the month. Rainfall was significantly higher than average in the eastern Wairarapa, and above average in the Wairarapa valley, Wellington City, Porirua and Lower Hutt. Unusually heavy rainfall occurred in Wellington City and Porirua on the night of 30 April/1 May, as a result of a southerly front stalling over the area. Nearly 80 mm of rain fell over a 6-hour period (about half of the rainfall for the month), causing surface flooding in urban areas.

In contrast, due to the lack of westerly airflows, the Kapiti Coast and Tararua Range had significantly lower than average rainfall for May. Paraparaumu, Waikanae and Otaki received less than one-third of their long-term average rainfall for the month and it was the driest May in the western Tararua ranges since records began in 1991. NIWA have reported it was the driest May since monitoring began at Paraparaumu Aerodrome in 1945.

Although the weather of June 2008 was dominated by stronger westerlies than usual, the rainfall pattern for the month was influenced by southerly events. Rainfall was above average in Wainuiomata, the Hutt Valley, and southern Wairarapa, and about average in Wellington City and Masterton. Due to sheltering effects from southerly rainfall the Kapiti Coast and north eastern Wairarapa were drier than average during June.

A southerly storm at the end of June brought heavy rainfall to Wellington City, the Hutt Valley, Wainuiomata and southern Wairarapa. Lower Hutt had about 100 mm of rainfall on 29 June, and Wainuiomata had 144 mm. This is the most rainfall in one day for these places since October 2006. A northwesterly event

on 7 June 2008 resulted in heavy rain in the Tararua Range, particularly on the Wairarapa side of the range.

Despite the very dry summer, most places in the Wellington region have received enough rainfall in autumn and the beginning of winter to bring the totals for the year to date up to average. The southern Wairarapa plains received a significant amount of rainfall during May and June, increasing rainfall from 50-60% of average at the end of March up to average by the end of June. The southerly rains of June represent about 40% of the total rain received at Wainuiomata during 2008 to date. The rainfall for the year is now significantly higher than at the same time last year.

2.2 Rivers

In general the rivers of the Wellington region had frequent freshes during May. The exceptions were the rivers and streams of the Kapiti Coast, where very low rainfall led to stable river flows (following a fresh on the first day of the month). Rivers fed from the Tararua Range (including the Waikanae, Otaki, Hutt and Ruamahanga rivers and their tributaries) had below-average flows for May. Although the Porirua Stream flood warning alarm was triggered on 1 May after sustained heavy rainfall around Wellington and Porirua cities, there were no significant floods during the month.

River flows during June were slightly below average for the time of the year, due to low baseflows at the start of the month and a period of stable flows in the middle of the month. There were two river high flow events during June. The first was on 7-8 June when heavy rainfall in the eastern Tararua Ranges resulted in a relatively large 'fresh' through the Ruamahanga River and its western tributaries, causing the initial flood warning threshold at Waihenga to be reached. The second event was in the southerly-influenced catchments, during the storm of 29 June. Flood warning alarms were triggered for the Huangarua River (east of Martinborough), the Waiwhetu Stream and the Wainuiomata River. The peak flow at Wainuiomata River at Manuka Track ($26\text{m}^3/\text{s}$) was approximately a 2-year return period flood, and was the largest flood in that river since October 2006.

3. Groundwater levels

Groundwater levels across the region are recovering following the onset of winter recharge. However, the drier than average summer and start to autumn may have an effect on the extent of groundwater level recovery this winter in some parts of the region. If groundwater levels fail to recover to average winter levels, lower than average levels may be encountered in some of the region's aquifers during next summer.

3.1 Lower Hutt groundwater zone

Groundwater levels in the artesian Waiwhetu Aquifer during June are above average for this time of year.

3.2 Kapiti Coast groundwater zones

Groundwater levels in the Waikanae Aquifer were below average for the start of June and returned to average conditions in about the middle of the month.

The recovery in groundwater levels can be linked to increased recharge to the system due to increased flows in the Waikanae River.

3.3 Wairarapa groundwater zones

Groundwater levels in many of the Wairarapa aquifers are recovering following the onset of winter recharge. However, some of the aquifers continue to track at or below long-term minimum levels. This could be due to both the particularly dry summer on the Wairarapa plains and increased abstraction for irrigation.

4. Soil moisture

During June, Wairarapa soil moisture levels remained about stable or slightly increased. Despite being very low from November through until March, soil moisture is now at about pre-summer levels and about normal for the time of the year at our key monitoring locations.

5. Climate outlook

The La Nina weather pattern, which brought dry conditions to the Wairarapa and Wellington over summer, has now ended. Global climate models show that in the near future the El Nino Southern Oscillation is likely to remain neutral, i.e., not favouring either La Nina or El Nino. The NIWA climate outlook for July to September 2008 predicts about normal rainfall in the Wellington region for the three-month period.

6. Floodwarning

The Environmental Monitoring and Investigations Department provides a flood warning and monitoring service for the Wellington region. Rainfall and river level recorders around the region automatically relay information to the Regional Council Centre and the Masterton office. When specified rainfall intensities or river levels are reached the system automatically alerts staff who implement response procedures.

In May one event triggered one river alarm in the western part of the region. In June one event triggered three river alarms in the western part of the region; two events triggered seven river alarms in the Wairarapa.

The outlet from Lake Onoke was blocked for 13 days in June.

Water levels in Lake Wairarapa were generally above target in May and June particularly so in the period when the outlet from Lake Onoke was blocked.

7. Air quality monitoring

7.1 National environmental standard for air quality

Winter is the time of year when we usually experience higher levels of airborne particulate matter (PM₁₀) in our airsheds. In Masterton, from the beginning of May to the end of June, we recorded 14 days when PM₁₀ reached the alert level and one day when the national standard was exceeded (59 µg/m³ on 13 June 2008). During the same period we had six alert days at Wainuiomata.

An alert is an air quality category defined by the Ministry for the Environment as a daily average of $33 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ or greater which is equivalent to 66% of the national environmental standard limit of $50 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

The elevated levels of PM_{10} measured at Masterton and Wainuiomata are largely due to emissions from domestic woodburners coinciding with meteorological conditions unfavourable for the dispersion of pollutants.

8. Coastal monitoring

8.1 Wellington Harbour

A report has been finalised documenting the findings of the Wellington Harbour marine sediment quality investigation. This investigation commenced in late 2006 in response to ongoing work examining the effects of stormwater on the region's aquatic environments. Completion of the report was significantly delayed due to instrument problems at the contracted laboratory. The results of the investigation - which evaluated a range of contaminants and examined sediment-dwelling fauna at 17 sites in the harbour - are the subject of a separate committee paper (08.502). Both Wellington City Council and Hutt City Council assisted with funding the investigation.

8.2 Porirua Harbour

Reports have been received documenting the findings of broad-scale habitat mapping and fine-scale ecological monitoring undertaken in the intertidal areas of Porirua Harbour over the summer. This work was jointly funded by Porirua City Council and complements investigations of subtidal sediment quality undertaken in 2004 and 2005. A summary of the key findings are the subject of a separate committee paper (08.503).

9. Project summary

Brief notes on some of the projects the Environmental Monitoring and Investigations Department are working on:

- Drilling work to assist with the development of our Wairarapa Groundwater Model has been completed although the modelling work may indicate the need for further monitoring bores at a later stage.
- A seismic study is being carried out in the Parkvale and Lower Valley areas in the Wairarapa to clarify the underlying water bearing structures which will assist in refining inputs to the groundwater model.

Al Cross
Manager, Environmental Regulation

Environmental Regulation Department Report – July 2008

1. Consent statistics

The following consents processing data reflects the entire region. In the period from 16 May to 30 June 2008 we have received 116 consent applications. This compares with 110 received for the same period last year.

Over the same period, we have processed 77 consents. This compares with 63 over the same period last year.

Our median processing time for non-notified consents (excluding s37 time extensions) was 15 working days for the last period. Our median processing time for the year from 1 July is 14 (down one from June).

We have continued to process a substantial number of notified or limited notified consent application suites – possibly the highest in our history across the region. Enforcement activity by the consents and compliance teams remains reasonably heavy. Bore permit numbers have remained at a moderate level over the period. Compliance activity has been up across the region as the teams looked to complete their annual programmes taking some time away from consent processing.

Notified and limited notified consents are discussed in section 4, and a summary of those consents already notified or served on affected parties is also attached for information.

2. Appeals and objections

2.1 Appeals

M B & H F Herrick (Herricks)

The decision declining Herricks' replacement consent application to take groundwater (for irrigation) east of Carterton was appealed by the applicant on 16 June 2008. The appeal's scope is broad including the validity and quality of evidence presented and assessed, and the limited weight given to existing infrastructure established under the former consent.

This is a replacement (renewal) application to take groundwater for irrigation in the vicinity of Taumata Oxbow Wetland, a regionally significant Wairarapa wetland. The hearing panel raised matters including the potential for significant

adverse effects on Wetland ecology, and the lack of critical assessment information to prove effects would not be significant.

WCC/Capacity: Moa Point Wastewater Treatment Plant

Mediation with WCC and other parties to the appeal commenced on 30 April. Progress had been excellent after early mediation sessions, and at the time of my last report I had expected that a consent order would be close to signing. The draft mediation agreement has in fact been signed by all but one party – Wellington Recreational Marine Fishers Association. At this stage the appeal is likely to go to a full hearing, and a court timeline has been set with evidence to be exchanged on 25 July.

This is an appeal by WCC regarding the decision on replacement applications for WCC/Capacity's ongoing operations at Moa Point Wastewater Treatment Plant; including fully treated effluent discharge to Cook Strait; a mixed disinfected, secondary treated and milli-screened effluent discharge; and discharges of odour to air. Wellington Marine Fishers' Association, the Moa Point Community Liaison Group, Betty Weeber, Department of Conservation and the Breaker Bay and Moa Point Progressive Association also joined the process as a section 274 party (a party to the appeal proceedings). The appeal covers a wide range of matters including consent duration, monitoring and reporting requirements, UV irradiation treatment requirements and pilot study reporting.

Capital Wharf Limited: Overseas Passenger Terminal (OPT)

The hearing panel's decision to grant consents to redevelop the Overseas Passenger Terminal site at Clyde Quay Wharf has been appealed by Waterfront Watch. A number of section 274 parties have also joined the appeal, including Chaffers Marina Limited, Chaffers Marina Holdings Limited, Malcolm Small, Dennis Foot and John Moore. We are awaiting instructions from the Court before mediation commences.

The applications incorporated a six level residential apartment and retail development, incorporating under-wharf carparking, wharf structural strengthening, public space development and a low-level jetty extension at the Wharf's northern end. The applications incorporated modifications put forward at the hearing, including retaining more heritage elements, improved mitigation of construction effects on marina uses, additional provision for mariner services in the longer term.

Wellington City Council/Capacity: Western Wastewater Treatment Plant

Mediation reconvened on 23 June, with issues including consent durations and pipeline replacement central to discussions. WCC will now investigate the possibility of an earlier replacement of the pipeline within the Council's longer term work programme, and report back to all parties by the end of July.

Capacity/WCC, New Zealand Forestry Group, Action for Environment Incorporated and West Wellington Environmental Protection Society appealed Greater Wellington's decision to enable the applicant to continue to discharge

effluent to the Wellington South Coast and Karori Stream (including discharges of odour). The decision enabled 20-year durations for the main outfall discharge and air permit, and 10-year durations for each of the three discharges of milliscreened or untreated effluent to both Karori Stream and the South Coast. Issues covered by the appeals include the term of consent, effects on the receiving environment, and the state and ongoing integrity of the effluent pipeline.

Other ongoing appeals

- ***MDC – Castlepoint Coastal Protection:*** Proposed coastal protection sea wall (Stage 1 – resolved in 2005) and additional integrated measures (Stage 2) at Castlepoint. MDC have now finalised the Stage 2 Integrated Foreshore Management Plan (IFMP), which includes provision for a new low-level sea wall. With the plan now finalised we now expect to be discussing the next stage of the appeal process with MDC.

2.2 Objections

Currently there are no objections before us.

3. Compliance and enforcement

3.1 General

May and June has seen a heavy focus on end of year compliance schedules across the region, which have been completed.

3.2 Specific compliance

Project Westwind: This is our most significant compliance project this year. I have been pleased with the fully integrated approach we have taken to inspecting works across the site - combining both scheduled and complaint-driven unscheduled compliance inspections. Early dry conditions have been replaced by a run of storm events across the site that has provided significant challenges for Meridian in managing discharges from the site. In most cases, sediment retention structures have held up well, but discharges of sediment during these storm events have been high. We have worked closely with Meridian and their stable of contractors to ensure they are in the best position to comply, and the lessons learned (such as improved combinations of measures to reduce discharges) will prove invaluable in future large-scale future developments.

3.3 Abatement notices

We issued two abatements in the last period (down from four for the previous period), for illegal stream works and diversion, and water abstraction.

Abatement notices served are detailed in the Pollution Control Report (report 08.491).

3.4 Infringement notices

We have issued four infringement notices in the last period (down from 10 for the previous period), for disposal of concrete waste in the Waingawa River bed, and discharge of washdown water from a workshop in Karori.

Infringements issued are detailed in the Pollution Control Report (report 08.491).

3.5 Prosecution and enforcement orders

One prosecution is currently before the Court, down from the last period, with monitoring of performance occurring on a further two sets of enforcement orders.

Lance James and failure to meet enforcement orders at Brooklyn Rise

Mr James indicated at the April call-over that he will defend the charges. First call-over is on 17 July, and we are preparing a summary of facts to be submitted at this time.

This prosecution regards the complete failure to meet basic requirements (provision of certain sediment control and re-vegetation plans, failure to meet general timelines also including stream reinstatement works) of enforcement orders affecting unconsented works at two separate subdivisions in Ohiro Rd, Brooklyn.

3.6 *Take Charge*

A focus on the Grenada industrial area in our *Take Charge* programme has continued. We have commenced visits in the Wairarapa for the first time in a number of years.

The *Take Charge* programme for the period is discussed further in the Pollution Control Report (report 08.491).

3.7 Significant incidents

Significant incidents of note centre on dumping, stream works, and various discharges including sediment into water:

- ***Illegal dumping - South Wairarapa:*** We investigated a significant illegal dump (fly tip) on a property in South Wairarapa in late June. We were alerted through a TV3 Campbell Live item which showed domestic rubbish and farm chemical containers in the Pahaoa River and a feeder stream. We ensured that rubbish was removed from the stream and pulled back from stream banks (work had started by the time we arrived). Ten truck loads of rubbish were taken to a nearby paddock for sorting (recyclables, paper and remaining material to be buried). We responded to the media – making it clear that this practice is lazy and totally unacceptable. Further inspection of the dump suggests there is no residual

contamination. We will continue with investigations before deciding on what action we will take.

- ***Discharge of waste oil - Wingate:*** This was a discharge of waste oil from a used parts recycling company in Lower Hutt who have had breached abatement notices to cease discharging waste oil from the site. The waste oil was being discharged to stormwater and to the Hutt River at Taita. The significance of this incident is also in the fact that Hutt City Council are also using their powers delegated to them by GW to investigate and potentially enforce the breach (in relation to impacts on HCC's stormwater network).

4. Major resource consents and other matters

4.1 Key notified consents update

Fully Notified

Hearing activity has settled slightly after a spate of hearings earlier, though assessment work remains heavy with a large load of applications in the early stages of process, and a sizable group of applications in the pre-application phase we are providing advice on prior to lodging.

Winstone Aggregates Ltd (Winstones)

After a series of breaks, the hearing of Winstone's proposal to develop an overburden disposal area (OBDA) at Belmont Quarry commenced in mid May has now been completed. A decision is due to be released later in July.

As our first ever hearing in which we have required evidence to be pre-circulated, the process itself has provided some useful lessons for the future when we decide to use pre-circulation again. In particular, it appears that pre-circulation might in fact be suited to smaller hearings where issues, numbers of experts and submitters are more contained and manageable.

The proposal to develop the OBDA involves applications to reclaim and pipe over 500 metres of ephemeral and intermittent stream channel, sediment discharges from the working sites, and discharges of dust to air.

O'More Partnership

The decision to grant consents to construct and operate a cleanfill was released on 19 June. Conditions include various management plan requirements regarding reasonably complex approaches to sediment control, dust management and general operations, as well as significant monitoring requirements (mainly associated with water quality). The consent holder also will plant over 400 m of riparian margins on two streams (including a new constructed channel) also including 300 m of protective fencing, to offset the effects of reclaiming 240 m of headwater streams. Bond conditions have been applied to ensure these works will be successfully completed. The appeal period closes on 10 July.

This is a proposal to construct and operate a cleanfill near Judgeford which is being considered jointly with PCC. The activities include associated discharges from the construction and operation as well as stream diversion, and piping and reclamation.

Other notified applications active during the last period include:

- **WCC/Capacity: UWI Sludge Dewatering Plant:** Replacement applications for continued sludge dewatering plant operation (including discharges of odour from the plant and sludge land filling operations) at the Carey's Gully Complex. WCC developing plan to trial varying methods of sludge disposal at Southern Landfill over summer. Third pre-hearing to report back to submitters likely around May 2009, with a hearing later in the year.
- **MDC – Masterton Wastewater Treatment Plant:** Replacement applications to discharge treated effluent to Ruamahanga River at Homebush, including a new proposal to land in the general vicinity of Masterton Wastewater Treatment Plant. Deferred for amended applications to incorporate new ponds and additional land for land-based discharges/treatment. Revised applications expected in August, once draft AEE has been submitted and reviewed by GW.
- **Kelson Heights limited:** A 143 lot subdivision in Kelson, Lower Hutt. On hold awaiting further information prior to notification with HCC.
- **Westchester Drive Extension:** Earthworks associated with a roading project connecting Mark Avenue, Newlands.
- **T & T Landfill:** An extension (by lifting) to the current landfill in Ohiro Road, Brooklyn. Notification expected as soon as the applicant provides an application fee.
- **Stronvar Properties Ltd:** Developing a 56 lot residential subdivision at Stronvar, Masterton. Outstanding issues remain with the treatment of wastewater, and the integrity of the proposed water supply and amenity dam – working through these with the applicant.
- **Masterton District Council:** Masterton Landfill closure. Awaiting further information prior to notification.
- **Transpacific Technical Services:** Discharges to air from an industrial waste treatment facility in Seaview. Applications were lodged on 23 April.
- **South Wairarapa District Council:** Replacement applications for discharges from the Greytown wastewater treatment plant, lodged in December 2007 and being assessed for completeness.
- **Juken Nissho Limited:** Replacement applications for discharges to air from their Waingawa plant. Lodged in January 2008 with updated AEE provided in May and being assessed for completeness.
- **Best Farms Ltd:** A subdivision and associated activities including 300,000 cubic metres of earthworks over nearly 15 hectares, and stream reclamation, at Best Farms, Churton Park.
- **Hunter Hills Ltd:** Earthworks to construct a car haulways area at Lincolnshire Farms, Newlands.
- **Hunter Hills Ltd:** A 100 lot subdivision and associated activities at Lincolnshire Farm, Newlands.

Limited Notified

Limited notified applications active during the last period include:

- **KCDC - Western Link Road (WLR) – Section 5:** Section 5 spans part of the alignment between Otaihanga and Te Moana Road in Waikanae. The application was limited notified in October 2007 and we received five submissions – with two in opposition. Key issues raised impacts on wahi tapu, water quality and flood conveyance and wetland effects. No date has been set for a hearing.
- **Greater Wellington Flood Protection Dept:** Global consents for structures and stream bed works in Waitohu Stream, Otaki. Pre-hearing held on 15 April. The applicant is continuing to resolve concerns with a single submitter.
- **Hutt City Council:** Wainuiomata River gravel extraction and river realignment. On hold pending further information.
- **NZSF Timber Investments Ltd:** Forestry logging operations in Pauatahanui Stream catchment, including erosion and sediment control and reclamation of streams. Pre-hearing likely in mid July.

4.2 Upcoming consent applications

South Waitohu Stopbank: A proposed 780 m stopbank adjacent Mangapouri Stream in Otaki, by Greater Wellington, Flood Protection.

Hutt River stopbank, Boulcott: Applications by Greater Wellington, Flood Protection to construct a new stopbank in the vicinity of Boulcott and Hutt Golf Courses. Lodgement expected later in 2009.

Waiwhetu Stream Remediation: Full applications for remediation of Waiwhetu Stream, following on from the March 2008 trial-excavation consents.

Westchester Drive Extension: A roading project connecting to the current Mark Avenue extension, north of Newlands, likely to be lodged in late April/early May.

Kaitoke abstraction - GW Water Group: Applications to increase water abstraction from the Hutt River at Kaitoke (to lower the minimum flow from 600L/sec to 400L/sec).

Puketiro Windfarm: We anticipate applications for a 40-plus turbine windfarm in the Puketiro forest area will be lodged later in the year.

Greytown Wastewater - South Wairarapa District Council: Replacement applications for discharges from the Greytown wastewater treatment plant, lodged in December 2007 and being assessed for completeness.

Wellington Waterfront Limited: Consents to authorise the existing use of structures within the CMA in the vicinity of Queens Wharf, and allow vehicle use around Shed 6.

Aotea Block Stages 10 and 11: Earthworks associated with subdivision at Aotea, Porirua.

Wairarapa Aggregates Ltd: Quarrying of old river gravels at Waingawa Industrial Estate, adjacent a wetland.

4.3 Other applications

Other non-notified applications of note are discussed in report 08.501.

4.4 Department projects

Dairy effluent workshop with Fonterra

Due to a disappointingly low response rate to advertising, the June workshop has been postponed until a later date (probably towards the end of the year) when we are able to strike up more interest. I am keen that we continue to work with Fonterra on this initiative rather than go it alone, and Fonterra have assured me they will also work behind the scenes to ensure a higher response rate to the postponed session. It is critical that we improve the quality of dairy discharge applications and level of compliance performance amongst consent holders – and I believe the workshop is one of the tools we can use to get the message across effectively.

Agrichemical Waste Collection

We have completed yet another successful annual agrichemical waste collection across the region. The MfE part-funded collection focuses on unwanted and often highly hazardous chemicals which often lie abandoned in on-farm stores. Following media releases to promote registration, contractors subsequently collected 1.5 tonnes of chemical. The chemical will be either treated at Transpacific in Seaview, and intractables (unable to be treated in New Zealand) will be prepared for export to highly technical chemical treatment facilities overseas. Well over half of the chemical collected a deemed intractable.

We will decide shortly whether we will (with MfE's continued support) undertake a collection in the 2008/09 year. Anecdotal accounts suggest there is still much out there, and the risk and consequence for the environment posed by these chemicals being left or dumped inappropriately is reasonably significant.

Notified and limited notified consents – in progress

Applicant	Proposal	Date Consent Lodged	Date Submissions Closed	Number of Submissions Received	Pre-hearing Held	Hearing Held / Process Delay	Hearing Committee Members	Date Decision Released	Granted or Declined
South Wairarapa District Council WAR970080	To discharge treated wastewater to land and to Donalds Creek, Featherston.	13/05/97		9	12/12/03	Hearing delayed as applications on hold. Updated AEE expected in August 2008.			
Stronvar Properties Ltd WAR 060160	Various activities associated with subdivision including discharges of communal waste water, soil disturbance, taking water, and constructing an amenity and treatment dam, Stronvar, Masterton.	24/07/06	15/12/06	24	-	Further information supplied late February 2008. Information currently being externally reviewed.			
Webstar (Blue Star Print Group Limited) WAR 070015	To discharge particulates and other contaminants to air from three heatset lines, driers and thermal oxidisers associated with printing operations, Ngamutawa Rd, Masterton.	08/02/07	22/02/06	2	08/05/07 08/11/07	11/04/08	Cr Baber, Cr Buchanan, Liz Burge (iwi appointee)	Decision released on 29/4/08. Granted.	No appeals received.

Palliser Bay Station WAR 060200	To discharge treated wastewater to land from a communal wastewater treatment and disposal system.	28/11/06	22/02/07	1	-	Awaiting confirmation of final design of wastewater system. Likely to be signed off with agreed conditions.			
G & W Bugden (O'More Partnership) WGN070242	To undertake works to construct and operate a cleanfill (including assoc discharges), Judgeford, Porirua.	12/12/06	02/05/07	13	31/05/07	Hearing held on 3 and 04 April 08	Cr Baber, Christine Foster, Ra Pomare (iwi appointee)	Decision was released on 19/6/08. Granted.	Appeals close 10/07/08.
Hutt City Council (Limited Notified) WGN070019	To undertake erosion mitigation works in Wainuiomata River, including disturbance and diversion work.	07/08/06	20/10/06	1	20/12/06 15/02/07	HCC revising plans (reducing the scope of the works). Amended proposal to be submitted.	-	-	-
Wellington City Council WGN070230	To discharge contaminants to land and air from a sludge dewatering plant, Wellington.	27/04/07	13/07/07	95	16/10/2007 Second pre-hearing held, 19/05/08	On hold at applicant's request to carry out trials of discharging sludge to land.	-		
Winstone Aggregates Ltd WGN0237	To pipe and reclaim four intermittent streams and to discharge contaminants to water from a quarry overburden area, Belmont.	07/05/07	10/07/07	24	30/08/07	Hearing commenced on 12/05/08, reconvened on 12/06/08.	Cr Baber, Cr Bruce, Christine Foster	Decision pending, likely to be before 31 July.	

Masterton District Council WAR 070077	To undertake various activities associated with the proposed long term upgrade and operation of the Masterton wastewater treatment plant at Homebush, east of Masterton.	16/05/07	01/08/07	69	12/11/07	Applicant altered proposal so hearing scheduled for March delayed. Awaiting amended/new applications which are likely to be re-notified.			
Greater Wellington Flood Protection Dept (Limited Notified) WGN 070242	To construct structures and undertake works including gravel extraction in the Waitohu Stream and associated stream bed disturbance.	10/05/07	22/06/07	2		Pre-hearing meeting held 15/04/08. Conditions being drafted with a view to an agreed outcome being reached.			
Kapiti Coast District Council (Limited Notified) WGN080150	To undertake various activities associated with the construction of Section 5 (Otaihanga Rd to Te Moana Road) of Western Link Road.	09/10/07	07/12/07	5		Peer review of wetland effects identified major gaps in applicant's assessment, which are currently being addressed. Resolution of issues raised by some submitters still outstanding.			

Mill Creek (Meridian) WGN080368	To undertake stream works, land disturbance, discharge contaminated storm water to land/water and contaminants to air in association with constructing roads, fill sites and platforms for the establishment of a wind farm.	12/03/08	16/06/08			Commencing week beginning 11 August 08.	David Hill, David McMahon, Pamela Peters		
Transpacific WGN080440	To discharge contaminants to air from the operation of a liquid and hazardous waste processing plant.	23/04/08	On hold for further information. Yet to be notified.						
NZSF Timber Investments (No. 3) Ltd. (Limited Notified) WGN080361	To undertake various activities associated with forestry logging, Flighty's Road, Pauatahanui.	07/03/08	20/05/08	3	Pre-hearing meeting to be held in July.				
Best Farms Ltd WGN080494	Earthworks and reclamation of streams associated with sub-division activities, at Best Farms, Churton Park.	29/05/08 Application rejected (lack of information)							

Hunter Hills Ltd WGN080520	Earthworks associated with new car haulaway area, at Lincolnshire Farms, Newlands.	17/06/08							
Hunter Hills Ltd WGN090003	Earthworks associated with a 100 lot subdivision, at Lincolnshire Farms, Newlands	03/07/08							
T & T Landfill WGN070260	Discharges associated with the operation of a demolition fill.	14/06/08	On hold for further information. Yet to be notified.						
Kelson Heights Ltd. WGN080187	143 lot subdivision	13/11/07	On hold for further information. Yet to be notified.						

Mike Pryce
Manager, Harbours Department

Harbours Department Report – July 2008

1. Harbour navigation aids

The main Beacon Hill radar required repairs, and information was provided by the back-up radar whilst it was out of service.

All other navigation aids operated satisfactorily.

2. Oil Pollution

Manager Harbours revalidated his Regional on Scene Commanders qualification at a retraining course at Te Atatu, Auckland, between 16 and 20 June 2008.

Manager (Emergency Management) revalidated his Oil Spill Response Manager course.

No oil spills were reported during this period.

3. Harbour events of interest

Another large tanker to visit the port arrived at the Seaview tanker berth on 14 June. The 74,998-tonnes-deadweight tanker *Breezy Victoria* discharged petrol.

Work on preparing the hulk of the trawler *Seafire* continues slowly, but is now almost ready for scuttling.