

Tim Porteous
Acting Manager, Environmental Policy

Environmental Policy Department Report – June 2009

1. Landscape project progress

The proposed Regional Policy Statement (RPS) contains policies that require district and regional plans to identify outstanding natural features, landscapes and significant amenity landscapes using a specified set of criteria. Method 49 of the RPS outlines that Greater Wellington will lead the preparation of a “regional landscape character description”. This description in itself will not identify outstanding natural features, landscapes and significant amenity landscapes but is intended to provide an agreed methodology to consistently define and describe the region’s landscapes and natural features. It is then up to the councils to work with their community to determine significant areas.

1.1 Wellington region landscape GIS geodatabase project

As a precursor to preparing a regional landscape character description, it was recognised, in discussion with the region’s city and district Council’s, that it was important to firstly pull together a computer based database of all information that could contribute to describing the regions landscapes.

This work has now been complete and the digital information has been provided to the region’s city and district councils.

1.2 Wairarapa landscape character description

Rather than attempting to prepare a landscape character description in one region-wide project, Greater Wellington decided to proceed with parts of the region. The decision as to which area was first was based on consultation with the region’s city and district Council. Greater Wellington is currently calling tenders for a consultant to undertake the landscape character description of the Wairarapa (Masterton, Carterton and the South Wairarapa Districts).

The project is due to start in July 2009 and will take approximately one year to complete.

2. Waste Minimisation discussion document

A submission was made on the Ministry for the Environment’s discussion document *Waste Minimisation in NZ*. The document outlined preferred policy options to begin implementing the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 including reducing waste, using resources efficiently, recovering resources from the waste stream and managing residual waste better.

Greater Wellington's submission supported much of the direction of the discussion document and noted the initiatives that we have in place that support the targets in the discussion document.

Concerns were expressed over two matters in the document:

- Target 10 in the discussion document requires that, by 2020, regional councils will have investigated all contaminated sites identified as high risk, and will be implementing an action plan for their management and/or remediation. Greater Wellington acknowledged the need to investigate the highly contaminated sites that are most likely to pose an environmental health and personal safety risk. However, we noted that the Council does not have the resources to investigate and manage/remediate all sites and was therefore unlikely to be able to meeting the target.
- The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 imposes a levy of \$10 per tonne of waste. Landfill operators will start paying the levy from 1 July 2009. Our submission recommended exempting three types of material from the waste levy:
 - material resulting from clean ups from significant weather events or other natural events and
 - contaminated material from contaminated orphan sites i.e. any site where no liability can be attached to the original polluter(s).
 - other situations where waste collection/cleanup/disposal is for the purpose of "public good".

We suggested that the levy, if applied to the above types of waste, has the potential to act as a disincentive to undertaking "clean-up" works.

3. Proposed NES for sea-level rise

The Ministry for the Environment has commenced work on a National Environmental Standard for sea-level rise. This standard is intended to complement existing planning mechanisms including the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement, regional policy statements and regional and district plans by providing a nationally consistent set of figures for projected sea-level rise.

Specifically, the two main objectives are to:

- provide national consistency on the magnitude of sea-level rise to plan for when identifying areas of coastal risk and assessing applications for resource consent.
- assist local authorities to undertake effective planning by reducing the current level of risk of litigation.

The figures for sea-level rise would be included by reference within the NES, meaning that they could be revised and updated easily without the need for a lengthy statutory process as scientific understanding and certainty improves.

Ted Taylor
Manager, Environmental Monitoring and Investigations

Environmental Monitoring and Investigations Department Report – June 2009

1. Hydrological monitoring

A summary of our rainfall, river and groundwater monitoring for April and May 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/section2534.cfm>.

2. Rainfall and river flows

2.1 Rainfall

April had more rainfall than normal around Wellington City, Lower Hutt and Porirua, but was extremely dry in the east of the Wellington region. Rainfall in the Tararua Range and on the Kapiti Coast was about average for April. From 27 to 29 April a strong north-westerly flow brought several fronts to the region resulting in heavy rainfall in the Tararua Range, Wellington City and the Hutt Valley.

In the Wairarapa, April's rainfall was well below average, particularly in the east where rainfall was as low as one-third of the monthly average. This followed on from a dry March. Some 'spillover' rainfall occurred during the event of 27-29 April, although this did not reach eastern Wairarapa. A southerly airflow on the last two days of April brought some much-needed light rain to the Wairarapa plains and eastern hill country.

May 2009 was generally wetter than average in the Wellington region. Particularly high rainfall compared to average was recorded in Petone, Lower Hutt, Wainuiomata and southern Wairarapa. In these places rainfall was double the long-term average for the month. The Tararua Range and Kapiti Coast had about average rainfall for May.

The rainfall pattern is a reflection of the dominance of southerly airflows during May, which brought regular rainfall and led to lower than normal temperatures. The most significant storm of the month was a prolonged southerly storm on 23-24 May, although no serious flooding resulted.

2.2 Rivers

In general, river flows were below average during April, due to low rainfall for the first few weeks of the month. As this followed on from dry conditions during March, by mid-April some of the rivers were experiencing their lowest

flows of the year to date. On 22 April, Kapiti Coast District Council turned off the public water supply take from the Waikanae River due to the low flows, for the first time this year. Heavy rainfall at the end of the month in the western part of the region boosted river flows, although there were no significant floods.

River flows were considerably higher in May than in April, and experienced regular 'freshes' as a result of the frequent storms. Average river flows for the month were above the long-term average for May, and were particularly high in rivers with catchments exposed to southerly rainfall (eg, Wainuiomata River). The highest flows during the month tended to occur during the storm of 23-24 May. In general, the floods were not significant. The exceptions were the Huangarua River (east of Martinborough) and lower Wainuiomata River, which experienced floods of about a 2-year return period. It was the largest flood in the Huangarua River since July 2006.

3. Groundwater levels

Groundwater levels during May 2009 tended to gradually increase, as a result of increased recharge from rainfall and river flows.

3.1 Lower Hutt groundwater zone

Groundwater levels in the artesian Waiwhetu aquifer remained around or above average for this time of year. Levels at the McEwan Park monitoring site were above average for May, and continued to increase during the month.

3.2 Kapiti Coast groundwater zones

Groundwater levels in Kapiti Coast aquifers remained average or above average during May.

The water level in the Waikanae aquifer recovered following short-duration use of the Waikanae borefield in late April. The borefield was used when flow in the Waikanae River was low, but it was turned off again following recovery in river flow.

3.3 Wairarapa groundwater zones

Groundwater levels in the Wairarapa were generally increasing by the end of May but were under pressure in April as the dry conditions led to a late season use of irrigation.

4. Soil moisture

Soil moisture in the Wairarapa increased significantly during May, and by the end of the month had returned to its pre-summer level at most of our monitoring locations. The soil moisture deficit that persisted through April is now expected to have been eliminated.

5. Climate Outlook

NIWA's climate outlook through to July 2009 favours 'normal' rainfall throughout the Wellington region, normal stream flows in Wellington, and

below normal stream flows and soil moisture in the Wairarapa. The La Nina has now faded, and neutral conditions prevail in the tropical Pacific.

6. Wairarapa drought

The department provided hydrological information to the Wairarapa Drought Committee at its meetings of 28 April, when it was decided that a drought should be declared, and 15 May after the Minister had declared a drought. Following a request at the April meeting it was agreed that the “irrigation season” could be extended into May and this advice was passed on the irrigators.

7. 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.

Two river alarms were triggered in the western part of the region on 29 April. In the Wairarapa one event on 23 May triggered three alarms. The significance of both events was at the low end of the scale.

The blocked outlet from Lake Onoke was blocked twice for a total of 15 days in April but open all of May.

Water levels in Lake Wairarapa were higher than the target level in April as a consequence of the Lake Onoke outlet blockages, remaining above the target in May

8. Recreational bathing water monitoring

This programme that collects samples from selected rivers and beaches and tests these for bacterial contamination was completed for the year at the end of March. The results of this monitoring have been analysed and the annual report completed, the key findings of the report are the subject of a separate committee paper.

9. Didymo

The next round of surveillance monitoring will be carried out in June.

10. Air quality monitoring

10.1 National environmental standard for air quality

There were no exceedances of the NES-AQ recorded during the period.

11. Coastal monitoring

Reports have been received documenting the findings of fine-scale ecological monitoring undertaken in the Porirua Harbour, Whareama Estuary and

Castlepoint Beach during January. This monitoring is being undertaken annually for 3-4 years to establish a baseline, then the frequency will reduce. The monitoring is based on an extension of tools included in the National Estuary Monitoring Protocol and includes an assessment of sediment grain size and chemistry (eg, nutrients), and sediment dwelling plants and animals. The Porirua Harbour monitoring results will be reported in detail to the August meeting of the committee.

11.1 Whareama Estuary

Overall the results show that the dominant intertidal habitat is generally in "fair" to "good" condition. This is despite measurements from sediment plates buried in the estuary during the 2008 survey revealing a high sedimentation rate (average 14.5mm over January 2008 to January 2009). Excessive inputs of sediment are largely a natural phenomenon given the erosion-prone mudstone soils in the catchment. While the very muddy and poorly oxygenated nature of the sediments are a concern (they create poor conditions for plants and animals), there was a slight improvement in the estuary's biological community in 2009 which is attributed to a lower proportion of muddy sediments in 2009 compared with 2008.

11.2 Castlepoint Beach

The 2009 results for a range of physical and biological indicators of beach condition were similar to 2008 and showed that the dominant intertidal habitat was generally in good condition. The beach sediments consisted of well-oxygenated sands, with a typical exposed beach benthic invertebrate community, dominated by crustaceans and beetles.

12. Soil quality monitoring

The 2008/09 State of Environment soil quality monitoring was completed in April and we are currently awaiting the results. Consistent with the long-term programme 23 samples were collected from dairy farms.

13. Te Hapua wetland

Work is progressing on a joint study, with the Kapiti Coast District Council, with the aim of understanding the relationship between the Te Hapua wetlands, groundwater and land use. Installation of bores and/or monitoring equipment has been completed.

14. Project Summary

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

- With the assistance of a pedologist from Landcare Research, we will be undertaking assessments of soil quality at a number of locations within the Mangatarere catchment. This work forms part of "Project Mangatarere" and will provide valuable information of the impacts of various landuses in the catchment on soil health and the potential for contamination of ground and surface waters.

- The lower valley component of the Wairarapa Groundwater model is well advanced and preliminary work has been carried out on the upper valley component.
- Application was made to the Community Irrigation Fund to provide for accelerated studies of Wairarapa water resources. This was based on the need for this information to assess feasibility of irrigation infrastructure proposals. We presented our application to an assessment panel on 20 May.

Al Cross
Manager, Environmental Regulation

Environmental Regulation Department Report – June 2009

1. Consent statistics

The following consents processing data reflects the entire region. In the period from 4 April to 21 May 2009 we have received 61 consent applications. This compares with 97 received for the same period last year.

Over the same period, we have processed 43 consents. This compares with 99 over the same period last year.

Our median processing time for non-notified consents (excluding s37 time extensions) for the year from 1 July drops to 16 working days.

While notified processing workloads remain reasonably high, non-notified consent processing numbers remain low compared to the same time last year. Notified and limited notified consents are discussed in section 2, and a summary of those consents already notified or served on affected parties (limited notified) is also attached for information.

2. Major resource consents and other matters

2.1 Key notified consents update

Reporting, hearing or decision work has remained high in this period with Masterton Waste Water, T&T Landfill, Transpacific Technical Services, Westchester Drive, and Davis Sawmill Ltd (limited notified consent), and further assessment and pre-hearing work on Featherston Waste Water.

Fully Notified

MDC – Masterton Wastewater Treatment Plant

A final decision granting the ‘replacement’ consent applications for continuing discharges from the Masterton Wastewater Treatment Plant was released on 29 May, following an earlier release of an interim decision to enable comment on the workability of conditions. The consent enables the continued operation of the treatment plant. The main discharge permits have a duration of 25 years, and include conditions which focus on monitoring and reporting.

In an unusual situation, an appeal has already been received, prior to the final decision being released. The actual period for appeals to be lodged with the Environment Court closes in late June.

The applications involved discharging treated effluent to the Ruamahanga River at Homebush, and to 75 hectares of land (new proposal) in the general vicinity of the Masterton Wastewater Treatment Plant; the construction of new ponds constructed in a less flood-prone location, and a 100 year stopbank constructed to protect the ponds; and a landfill eventually developed to receive sewage sludge.

Wellington City Council – Westchester Drive

A joint hearing was held from 25 to 27 May. Issues included the removal of habitat from Stebbings Stream, stream mitigation and potential impacts of sediment discharges, as well as impacts relating to the functioning and use of a new road.

This is a roading project connecting Westchester Drive in Churton Park to the current Mark Avenue extension in North Newlands. Notified jointly with WCC, the applications also included a notice of requirement application to change an existing designation for new road alignment. 53 submissions were received with 22 in opposition. A decision expected in the next few weeks.

Other notified applications active during the last period include:

- ***South Wairarapa District Council:*** Replacement applications for discharges from the Featherston Wastewater Treatment Plant. Two pre-hearing meetings with submitters has confirmed acceptance of SWDC'S revised approach for a shorter term consent, focussing on providing monitoring information to better support the development of a long term effluent treatment upgrade option. Final draft conditions still awaiting final approval from remaining submitters prior to approving consent.
- ***Wairarapa Aggregates Limited:*** A proposed aggregate quarry and cleanfill operation, at Waingawa south of Masterton involving discharges of sediment and possibly taking groundwater adjacent Waingawa Wetland. Lodged in June 2008, and jointly notified with the Carterton District Council on 4 March. Confirming and agreeing further information requirements after discussions with applicant.
- ***Transpacific Technical Services:*** Discharges to air from an industrial and hazardous waste processing facility in Seaview. A public health risk assessment to determine possible impacts of associated discharges on public health - has been received. A pre-hearing meeting was held in late March and a hearing is set down for 4 June.
- ***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 has completed trialling sludge disposal at Southern Landfill over this summer. A productive third pre-hearing to report back to submitters was held on 7 April. Possibility that scope of issues in contention may be narrowed.

- ***Masterton District Council:*** Masterton Landfill closure. Applications notified and a pre-hearing possible. Issues include the management of ongoing discharges of landfill gas and leachate (to groundwater and the Ruamahanga River) from the fill.
- ***Juken Nissho Limited:*** Replacement applications for discharges of contaminants from the woodwaste boiler, veneer driers and presses, and various kilns at their Waingawa, Masterton plant. Lodged in January 2008 with updated AEE provided in May. Applications were notified on 8 October 2008. Application is currently being peer reviewed with a view to forming consent conditions, with a view to forming draft conditions for a possible negotiated outcome with applicant and submitters.
- ***Carterton District Council:*** Replacement applications for discharges and upgraded treatment from the Carterton Wastewater Treatment Plant, lodged in October 2008 and waiting for further information (together with an applicant-initiated peer review) to be completed.
- ***South Wairarapa District Council:*** Replacement applications for discharges and upgraded treatment from the Greytown Wastewater Treatment Plant, lodged in December 2007 and waiting for further information. A final decision from SWDC on treatment options is expected soon.
- ***C n D Landfill:*** Extension of the existing CnD demolition fill at Happy Valley, Wellington. Requiring further information with a focus on landfill stability and integrity issues.
- ***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. Applicant providing further information on ecological impacts and sediment control, and a strong possibility that the applications will not be notified.

Limited Notified

Limited notified applications active during the last period include:

- ***Davis Sawmilling Limited:*** Discharges of sediment and other contaminants from the sawmill site platform at Davis Sawmill, Featherston. Pre-hearing meeting was held in late January. Revised short term consent enabling longer term solutions to manage and monitor sediments to be designed put forward, and negotiated outcome gained. Hearing not required.

2.2 Upcoming consent applications

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

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.

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).

Windflow: Establishing a 30 (approx) two-blade turbine windfarm at Long Gully, Wellington.

Lincolnshire Cleanfill: A large cleanfill proposed for the Lincolnshire Farm area north of Newlands.

Horokiwi Quarries Ltd: Replacement consents for gravel and sand extraction from the coastal margin east of Pencarrow Head.

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

Silverwood Stages 3 and 4: Earthworks associated with subdivision at Silverwood, Whitby.

J Burrell: Establishing a cleanfill at Eastern Hutt Road in the vicinity of Silverstream bridges. Processing of GW applications deferred while UHCC process notified applications.

2.3 Other applications

Significant non-notified consents from the period will be reported in the May non-notified consents report.

3. Consent appeals and objections

3.1 Appeals

Meridian Energy Limited: Project Mill Creek

The first call for these appeals is yet to be announced, although we have already entered into discussions with Meridian Energy on appeal matters that relate to the Greater Wellington set of consents. These discussions are an attempt to resolve concerns over consent conditions. The coverage of these discussions and their outcomes will be reported to the Environment Court through the mediation/call-over process.

Appeals have been lodged by seven parties including Meridian Energy Ltd, Ngati Tama, Makara Gaurdians, Ohariu Preservation Society, and several individuals, against the joint GW-WCC-PCC decision to grant consents for 29 turbines at Mill Creek north of Makara. Matters raised by appellants (other than Meridian) in contention relate to landscape and visual effects, impacts on the receiving environment including Makara Estuary, and cumulative effects relating to Project Westwind. The more significant issues relating to GW consents primarily concern the requirements on Meridian through environmental baseline monitoring conditions, flocculation requirements and reporting.

Capital Wharf Limited: Overseas Passenger Terminal (OPT)

The seven day appeal hearing wrapped up on 12 May, several days earlier than expected, primarily due to a shorter case presented by Waterfront Watch and s274 parties.

This is an appeal by Waterfront Watch against the hearing panel's decision to grant consents to redevelop the Overseas Passenger Terminal site at Clyde Quay Wharf. A number of section 274 parties have also joined the appeal, including Chaffers Marina Limited, Chaffers Marina Holdings Limited, John Spry, Grant Hodgson, Malcolm Small, Helene Ritchie, Tomas Huppert, Dennis Foot and John Moore.

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 and additional provision for mariner services in the longer term.

Winstone Aggregates Limited – Belmont Quarry

These appeals have now been resolved following the withdrawal by appellants on noise issues and the signing of consent orders in relation to all other matters, including landscape and dust discharges, in May.

Six appeals including Western Hills Environment Foundation Incorporated (a group comprised of submitters and members of the community), Martha Swanepoel, Rachael Ford, Chris and Sera Solomon, and Stephen Arthur were lodged regarding the joint decision by the Hutt City Council and Wellington Regional Council granting consents for the proposed Overburden Disposal Area (OBDA). The applicant has also appealed one condition of the discharge to air permit (controlling the discharge of dust to air from the proposed OBDA).

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

WCC (Wellington City Council)/Capacity: Moa Point Wastewater Treatment Plant

On 20 April the Minister of Conservation released his decision approving these consents, following the Court's recommendation to the Minister in March. A feature of the consents includes the requirement to apply UV irradiation to largely untreated effluent (usually during storm events where the plant is unable to treat all in-coming influent), possible increased storage options, and stronger monitoring and reporting requirements including improved monitoring of bypass discharges to better determine quality and effects of such discharges. All consents have been granted for a duration of 25 years.

This was 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.

3.2 Objections

Currently there are no objections before us.

4. Compliance and enforcement

4.1 Abatement notices

We issued 6 abatements between 5 April to 22 May 2009 (down on 17 for the previous double-reporting period), for:

- Unauthorised discharges of sediment and other contaminants, and unauthorised stream works.

Abatement notices served are detailed in the Environmental Protection Report (report 09.295).

4.2 Infringement notices

- We have issued five infringement notices between 1 March and 4 April 2009 (up from four issued for the previous period), for discharges of sediment to water in the Porirua Harbour catchment, discharge of hydrocarbons to stormwater, and odours.

Infringements issued are detailed in the Environmental Protection Report (report 09.295).

4.3 Appeals against notices served

Roddy Mckenzie: excavating a watercourse in Lansdowne, Masterton

The hearing by a Justice of the Peace has been set back to enable further evidence to be compiled. A full Court hearing will follow if the JP determines there is a case to hear (in other words possible fault is found in the basis for issuing the infringement notice in the first place).

Horokiwi Quarries Ltd (HQL): sediment discharges from Horokiwi Quarry to Wellington Harbour

We have met with HQL to discuss matters surrounding appeals on both abatement and infringement notices, as we attempt to resolve aspects of concern with the existing abatement notice.

4.4 Prosecution and enforcement orders

Three prosecutions were before the Court in the last period, with monitoring of performance occurring on a further two sets of enforcement orders.

Noel and Elaine Reid, and Stephen Shivas: discharges of piggery effluent to water

On 7 May we laid informations against Noel and Elaine Reid, and Stephen Shivas for a November 2008 incident involving the discharge of pig effluent onto land from an open hydrant causing ponding and subsequent run off into a stream.

An analysis of stream samples confirmed that the incident caused substantial increases in the level of contaminants downstream from where the effluent entered the stream, with bacterial counts similar to those found in raw municipal sewage. Bacterial counts in tap water from a nearby contaminated bore was found to be seven-times the maximum national standard for safe human drinking water consumption. The piggery has had a long history of varying levels of non compliance with resource consent conditions.

First call for this case was on 4 June. The Reids did not provide any instruction to their lawyers in relation to the charges.

Lloyd Raynor: illegal stream works and diverting wetland water

We are still performing the task of bringing together expert evidence in a number of key areas including the 'status' of the watercourse, ecological effects, and typical regulatory of planning evidence, in anticipation of a mid-year Court hearing. The common nature of offending such as this within the region continues to underpin this as an important test case for Greater Wellington.

The prosecution resulted from 200 metres of watercourse adjacent to Lake Wairarapa (a nationally significant water body) being excavated, water being diverted from the Simmonds Lagoon (ecologically significant DoC-managed lagoon), and the cull of hundreds of eels.

Selwyn McLachlan and Matthew Honeyset: discharges of dairy effluent to water

This is a prosecution against Selwyn McLachlan (consent holder) and his farm manager, Matthew Honeyset, for illegally discharging dairy effluent from a travelling irrigator to a tributary of Ruamahanga River. We are yet to receive instructions from the District Court.

4.5 Take Charge

After more than two years, we have now completed our audit of the Grenada North business park and are soon to embark on Naenae business park. A summary of the Grenada work and the process for selecting Naenae are presented in report 09.314.

4.6 Significant incidents

Significant incidents are reported in the Environmental Protection Report (report 09.295).

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 18/12/08	Applicant and submitters working through final stages of agreeing to consent conditions.			
Davis Sawmilling Co Ltd WAR 040165 (Limited Notified)	To discharge contaminants to land (which may enter water) associated with stormwater runoff from timber yard in Featherston	29/11/04	10/12/08	2	270/1/09	Negotiated outcome achieved between submitters and Applicant. Consent approved on 3 June			
Masterton District Council WAR 060047 WAR 980159	To discharge contaminants to land and air associated with the operation of Masterton landfill, transfer station and composting plant, Homebush, Masterton	30/03/06	15/05/09	6					
Stronvar Properties Ltd WAR 060160	Various activities associated with subdivision	24/07/06	15/12/06	24	-	Further information supplied late			

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
	including discharges of communal waste water, soil disturbance, taking water, and constructing an amenity and treatment dam, Stronvar, Masterton					February 2008. Information externally reviewed and further response provided by applicant. Applicant has now requested for application to be placed on hold indefinitely			
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	16/10/07 Second pre-hearing held, 19/05/08 Third pre-hearing held 07/04/09	On hold at applicant's request to carry out trials of discharging sludge to land. Hearing likely to be held in October 2009	-		

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
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	13/3/09	Submitters considering final conditions, anticipated they will withdraw their wish to be heard			
South Wairarapa District Council WAR 080254	To undertake various activities associated with the proposed long term upgrade and operation of the Greytown Wastewater Treatment Plant at Papawai, east of Greytown	28/12/07	On hold for further information. Agreed to timeline for updated AEE to be submitted by 31/03/09. Presently chasing up applicant						
Juken Nissho Ltd WAR 080250	To discharge contaminants to air from woodwaste boiler, veneer driers and presses, kilns at Waingawa, Masterton	29/12/07	06/11/08	7	No	Independent peer review undertaken. Negotiated outcome been progressed			

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
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	Multiple		August and September 2008	David Hill, David McMahon, Pamela Peters	6 March Decision released. Six appeals received to date.	Granted
J V & L A Petrie WAR 080367	To take groundwater from a bore for irrigation purposes	12/03/08	15/05/09	4					
Transpacific WGN080440	To discharge contaminants to air from the operation of a liquid and hazardous waste processing plant	23/04/08	08/08/08	7	25/03/09	Hearing held on 4 June	Cnrs Sally Baber (Chr), Ian Buchanan and Nigel Wilson		

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
Wairarapa Aggregates Ltd WAR 080518	To discharge stormwater from a gravel extraction and associated cleanfill operation to water	04/06/08	01/04/08	13	Applicant currently considering pre-hearing meeting options				
T & T Landfill WGN070260 (joint with WCC)	Discharges associated with the operation of a demolition fill	14/06/08	21/11/08	7		Hearing held on 30, 31 March & 1 April, joint with WCC	Cnr Chris Laidlaw, Robert Armstrong (Chr), Clive Anstey	Decision due 17 June 2009	
Hunter Hills Ltd WGN080520	Earthworks associated with new car haulaway area, at Lincolnshire Farms, Newlands	17/06/08	On hold for further information. Yet to be notified						
Hunter Hills Ltd WGN090003	Earthworks associated with a 100 lot subdivision, at Lincolnshire Farms, Newlands	03/07/08	On hold for further information. Yet to be notified						
JR's Orchards Ltd WAR 080557	To take and dam water from the Papawai Stream and to take groundwater from a bore for irrigation	30/06/08	On hold for further information. Agreed to timeline for updated AEE to be submitted by						

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
	purposes at Papawai, east of Greytown		31/03/09. Presently following up with applicant						
CnD Landfill WGN080462	Extension of construction and demolition fill	04/08/08	On hold for further information and affected party approval						
R& B Steel Ltd	Eastern Hutt Road cleanfill	20/08/08	On hold, deferred under s91 until outcome of UHCC process						
Masterton District Council WAR 090066	To undertake various activities associated with the proposed long term upgrade and operation of the Masterton Wastewater Treatment Plant at Homebush, east of Masterton	20/08/08	15/10/08	30	No	Hearing held 24-27 Feb, 9-13 & 30 Mar 2009	Cr Baber Te Waari Carkeek Rob Van Vorthuysen	4 June	
Carterton District Council WAR 090120	To discharge contaminants to water, land, and air associated with the Carterton Wastewater Treatment Plant	30/09/08	On hold for further information. Yet to be notified						

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
	at Dalefield Rd, Carterton								
Wearne & Jacobsen Ltd (Ninness Funeral Home) WGN090119	Discharge to air from a natural-gas fired cremator	15/10/08	24/03/09	5	No	Submitters did not request to be heard Decision made under delegated authority		22/04/09	Granted
WCC (Capacity) WGN090219	Stormwater discharges to Wellington Harbour and the South Coast	19/12/08	On hold for further information						
M & C Moran WAR090233 (Limited Notified)	To take water from Lake Wairarapa for irrigation purposes	07/01/09	18/02/09	2	No	Submitters requested not to be heard. Applicant agreed to consent conditions Decision made under delegated authority		Granted	18/3/09
WCC WGN090226	Westchester Drive Extension	22/12/08	21/02/09	53 (but includes multiple late submissions)	29/4/09	25-27 May	Crs Baber, Bruce and Stuart Kineer		
South Wairarapa District Council WAR090322	Coastal structures along 25 km stretch of Palliser Bay	27/04/09	05/06/09						

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
HCC Waiwhetu overflows WGN090321	Overflows of sewage effluent to the Waiwhetu Stream	27/04/09							
Horokiwi Quarries	Coastal gravel extraction at Pencarrow	09/10/08							

Mike Pryce
Manager, Harbours

Harbours Department Report – June 2009

1. Harbour navigation aids

The Rear Leading Light batteries were replaced on 13 May. The batteries were thirteen years old. Each battery when new weighs 56 kg (there are twelve of them) and they are located about fourteen metres above sea level in the harbour near Ward Island

On 17 May, Thorndon Container Pile Light collapsed during a northerly storm. Before noon that day, divers were used to check that it was not a danger to navigation. Shipping was warned of the situation. The steel pile was renewed in 1997. It is 25 metres long, with over six metres of the steel pile driven into the seabed, and then filled with concrete and reinforcing steel. The wreckage of the pile was refloated by divers on 28 May and lifted ashore on Aotea Quay for inspection by insurers and engineers.

Steeple Rock Light fendering broke adrift in storm-force southerlies on 22 May and washed up on Petone beach. The wooden fendering was recovered from the beach next day for re-use.

2. Oil pollution

Four reports of “oil pollution” in the harbour were received over this period. Three of the reports were likely to have been storm water discharges, and the other was a false report. No clean-up action was required to be done by GW staff.

The newly appointed GW Wildlife Co-ordinator attended a two day wildlife training course at Massey University at the end of April. Two GW staff attended a four day marine oil spill response course at the NOSSC in Te Atatu, Auckland, in the last week in May. All costs, including staff time was covered by MNZ.

3. Harbour events of interest

A southerly storm on 23 May resulted in all commercial shipping and ferry movements in the harbour ceasing, but all resumed next day when the wind had moderated to only gale-force.

A surfer was killed in Lyall Bay in a tragic collision with another surfer on 1 June.