

Regional Fast Facts

Fortnightly news from Environment Canterbury

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Commissioners impose moratorium for Hurunui River: Environment Canterbury Commissioners voted to impose a moratorium on the Hurunui River to take, dam, divert or use water at their meeting on Thursday July 22, 2010. The moratorium will be in effect from August 2, 2010 until October 1, 2011, however there is provision for it to be lifted earlier or be extended beyond that date. Existing resource consents will not be affected by the moratorium, however new consent applications submitted after August 2 will not be processed and returned to the applicant.

Pareora River Plan comes to fruition: The Proposed Pareora Catchment Environmental Flow and Water Allocation Regional Plan will be publicly notified on Saturday August 7. It was approved by Environment Canterbury Commissioners at their public meeting on July 29. The plan will be open to public submission from Saturday, August 7 until Friday, October 1. Detailed information is available in the July council agenda at <http://ecan.govt.nz/news-and-notice/minutes/pages/council-agenda-290710.aspx>

Air quality update for Canterbury: Environment Canterbury's Pollution Hotline has received 615 complaints of smoky chimneys in Christchurch as of July 30. Christchurch has recorded 12 high pollution nights so far this year. Ashburton has recorded 10, Timaru 42, Rangiora 10 and Kaiapoi 23 high pollution nights. Information on how the rules affect your area:
<http://ecan.govt.nz/services/online-services/monitoring/air-pollution/Pages/high-pollution-nights.aspx>

Canterbury Water Management Strategy – terms of reference for four zone committees: Environment Canterbury Commissioners have approved the terms of reference for the Waimakariri, Selwyn-Waihora, Ashburton and Lower Waitaki-South Coastal Canterbury zone committees which are being established under Canterbury Water Management Strategy. Commissioner Rex Williams has been appointed to Waimakariri; Commissioner Donald Couch to Selwyn-Waihora; Commissioner David Caygill to Ashburton and Commissioner Peter Skelton to Lower Waitaki-South Coastal Canterbury. For more information go to www.canterburywater.org.nz

Canterbury Water Management Strategy regional appointments group: Environment Canterbury Commissioners approved the membership of the CWMS Regional Committee's appointments group at their July meeting. The appointments are Grant McFadden (water management policy advisor), Graeme Sutton (Irrigation NZ), David O'Connell (Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu), David Caygill (Environment Canterbury commissioner, water portfolio), Brian Lester (chief executive Ashburton District Council) and Murray Rodgers (Water Rights Trust).

Company fined for illegal dumping: A Christchurch company, J Mould Demolition, was fined \$7000 and ordered to pay costs to Environment Canterbury after being found guilty of dumping demolition waste on the property of Andrew John Pattullo at 81-83 Conservators Road, Yaldhurst, west of Christchurch without resource consent. Mr Pattullo was prosecuted and fined for unauthorised discharges to air and land in late 2009 in a separate case.

The latest Lower Waitaki resource consent decisions are online at:
<http://ecan.govt.nz/get-involved/consent-projects/waitaki-consents/lower-waitaki/Pages/decisions.aspx>

Reminder - Environment Enhancement Fund: Environment Canterbury is inviting applications to its Environment Enhancement Fund and the Honda TreeFund until August 31, 2010. For more information, visit www.ecan.govt.nz/EEF or contact Nicola Hunt, Environment Enhancement Fund Co-ordinator on 03 371 7192, nicola.hunt@ecan.govt.nz.

Latest consent hearing decisions online at:
<http://ecan.govt.nz/news-and-notice/notices/pages/hearing-decisions.aspx>