

Gravel Take

Inside this issue:

Rolling Stones cont.d	2
Gravel Demand	3
Tailings	4
Tailings cont.d	5
Environmental Calendar	5
Did You Know ?	6

From the Main Channel

To ensure your application to 'take gravel' has the best chance of being processed within the statutory timeframes you need to ensure it is as complete as possible. Many of the Assessments of Environmental Effects that have been provided are lacking in their determination of 'Gravel Availability'. Applicants in the southern area consult with Bruce Scarlett, prior to applying, on the availability of the resource and include the outcomes of that consultation in their application. It is in your interests to consult before applying, whether you are a first time applicant or an experienced extractor seeking renewals or new consents.

The first hour of consultation is free. Please take the offer of that 'free consultation' so that we can discuss your requirements and either endorse them or recommend amendments. This may save you both time and expense, two savings worth making in today's economic climate

My contact details are on page 6.

Rolling Stones

WAIMAKARIRI RIVER BED LEVEL INVESTIGATION (ECan Report No. R08/11):

The above report dated January 2009 has been released. It explores the history of flooding and human responses to that flooding, with particular emphasis on sedimentation of the Waimakariri River from the Lower Gorge to the Coast.

The changes in mean berm, mean channel (fairway) and channel invert (lowest) levels, between 1960 and 2008 are recorded and analysed.

By comparing a variety of indicators, recommended bed levels have been determined.

The recommended bed levels are intended to:

- Maintain a minimum fairway and berm flood capacity to meet scheme objectives.
- Limit berm edge heights to enable erosion risk to be managed, and to protect existing infrastructure such as bridges and intakes.
- Reduce the variability of mean bed level slope, without introducing large changes in slope, to assist with river bed stability and consistency of bedload transport capacity.
- Maintain a consistency of flood capacity over the length of the scheme.

The report will soon be available via our website but in the interim please contact me for an electronic copy. If you don't have access to the internet then a hardcopy can be printed for you.

CONSENTS MONITORING CHARGE—NEW ANNUAL FLAT RATE

Environment Canterbury is implementing a new, more equitable system regarding consent monitoring charges.

Consultation with the community as part of the LTCCP process in 2008/2009 led to a decision to introduce a new annual flat rate charge for consent monitoring and reduce the hourly charge. This change reflects a fairer system and ensures quality and consistency in protecting our environmental resources.

Cont'd on page 2

'FREE OFFER'

'FREE OFFER'

**CONSULT
BEFORE
APPLYING**

**1 hours
consultation
free**

Rolling Stones cont.d

CONSENTS MONITORING CHARGE Cont'd

All consent holders will be affected by the new charging structure and will receive more information shortly.

Information will also be available on our website www.ecan.govt.nz.

NATURAL RESOURCES REGIONAL PLAN CHAPTER 3 AIR QUALITY:

As of 11 June 2009 "Rule AQL42A Handling of bulk materials as part of a quarry or mining activity not permitted by Rule AQL42—permitted activity" is operative. The rule states;

"Except as provided for in Rule AQL42 the discharge of contaminants into air from extraction, handling, processing, conveying, or storage of bulk materials as part of a quarry or mining activity which is not undertaken within a permanent structure which is fully enclosed on industrial or trade premises or involving, or as part of, industrial or trade processes where;

(a) the rate of open cast extraction does not exceed

(i) 100 tonnes per hour; or

(ii) 250 tonnes per hour and 1250 tonnes per calendar day if the extraction does not occur for more than 21 days per calendar year; and

(b) the rate of size reduction, screening, processing or pneumatic conveyance does not exceed 100 tonnes per hour; and

(c) the quantity of material handled (other than in the processes described in (b)) does not exceed

(i) 100 tonnes per hour; or

(ii) 250 tonnes per hour and 1250 tonnes per calendar day if the extraction does not occur for more than 21 days per calendar year; and

(d) the amount of bulk material stored does not exceed 1000 tonnes at any time when the material is of a particle size of less than 3.5mm;

is a permitted activity."

With the following conditions;

1 "The dispersal or deposition of particles shall not cause an objectionable or offensive effect beyond the boundary of the property where the discharge originates."

2 If the rate of size reduction, screening, processing or pneumatic conveyance exceeds 50 tonnes per hour in any one hour, any discharge of contaminants to air shall not be located within;

(i) 200 metres of any sensitive activity located on a different property; and

(ii) if the activity involves blasting, 500 metres of any sensitive activity located on a different property.

The following notes relate to advice received from the Consents and Compliance Sections as to how they propose to deal with the issue.

1. Rule AQL42A became operative on 11 June 2009. This means that every gravel consent that does not meet the criteria of AQL42 (existing handling of bulk materials prior to 1 June 2002) or AQL42A (handling of bulk materials as part of a quarry or mining operation) technically needs a permit to discharge to air.

2. While there will **not** be a non-enforcement call made for those applications issued previous to 11 June 2009, Enforcement have indicated that, because of workload, they are unlikely to actively chase existing holders of gravel consents (i.e. those issued or receipted prior to 11/06/2009) to get discharge permits *unless* they are subject to a complaint or are breaching the dust control condition of their consent.

3. Consents receipted after 11 June 2009 *may* require a discharge permit. We are currently in the process of modifying the application form for gravel excavation to include information on how to determine whether proposals will also require a permit. This will include a flow chart as a guide

4. Any gravel consents that do require an accompanying discharge permit will require an additional deposit of \$292.50 (including GST) to cover the cost of processing and issuing the discharge permit.

Aggregate – any of various loose, particulate materials, as sand, gravel, or pebbles, added to a cementing agent to make concrete, plaster, etc.

Latin, circa 1400—*aggregatus*, (literally “associated with”, united in a flock), past participle of *aggregare*, from ;

ad - “to” and *gregare* “herd”, so “to lead to a flock”.

Gravel Demand

As at 1 July 2009, (July 2008 figures in brackets) there were 231 (210) chargeable consents with a total consented annual volume of 2,869,860 m³ (2,904,577).

The table below summarises activity since January 2009.

Consents Granted Jan-July 2009 (Jan-Dec 2008 figures in brackets)

Management Area	Number of Consents	Annual Volume (m ³)
Northern	12 (19)	47,000 (89,200)
Waimakariri/Ashley	8 (10)	168,133 (277,300)
Central	11 (6)	165,000 (216,000)
Southern	27 (36)	251,500 (179,500)

Consent Decisions Notified to Applicant

Northern	1	20,000
Waimakariri/Ashley	1	200,000
Central	1	8,000
Southern	8	101,500

Applications in Process

Northern	3	102,400
Waimakariri/Ashley	43	1,041,500
Central	3	25,000
Southern	17	59,500

Annual Summary (1 July—30 June)

	Consented Volume (m ³) as at 1/07/2009 (2008 in brackets)	Returns Volume (m ³) 1/07/08— 30/06/09 (07—08 in brackets)
Northern	394,727 (513,627)	101,372 (106,984)
Waimakariri/Ashley	1,691,983 (1,530,350)	525,044 (850,893)
Central	512,800 (314,100)	68,880 (92,052)
Southern	270,350 (536,500)	279,552 (359,703)
TOTALS	2,869,860 (2,894,577)	974,848 (1,409,632)

Tailings

New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice 34-2001:

Are you aware that when working in close proximity to transmission towers, poles and lines you are required to comply with the above code of practice?

Some consents include a condition to this effect.

The sections particularly relevant to the extractive industry relate to minimum clearances for all operations and depth of excavation limits.

There is also a requirement for the owner/operator of plant likely to be used in close proximity to transmission lines to affix an approved warning notice stating "WARNING, KEEP CLEAR OF POWER LINES" in a conspicuous place as near as practicable to the operators position and to maintain the notice in a legible condition.

I have an electronic version of the code I can forward to anyone who wants a copy, alternatively you can download it from www.energysafety.govt.nz

Transpower who operate the high voltage network have additional procedures contained within their Corridor Management Plans. As well as compliance with the above code they will seek to;

- *protect* the land immediately under existing lines from activities that undermine the safe and efficient operation. This will be done by seeking clear space, to a horizontal distance measured 12m either side of the centre of the line and NZCEP 34-2001 distances around support structures etc.
- *manage* activities within close proximity of transmission lines. This zone extends to 32m either side of the centre of the line. NZCEP 34-2001 distances may also apply.
- *inform*, where relevant, on any risks where activities occurring at a greater distance from transmission lines may cause operational or public safety issues.

They also generally request a condition relating to the discharge to air of dust e.g.

"The consent holder shall ensure that the discharge of dust and/or particulate matter from the gravel extraction and/or wider activities within the site do not create any dust hazard or nuisance to Transpower's Roxburgh – Islington A transmission line, including its support structures".

Website: ECan is in the processing of up-grading the website with rollout due later this year.

In the interim we have the first 3 pages of a 'gravel' site on-line. Whilst it is only the beginning, with many links etc. still to be developed, it contains some helpful information and advice.

Visit the gravel page at www.ecan.govt.nz and follow the link Our Environment/Land/Gravel.

As always, your thoughts and feedback would be appreciated.

Bed Level Reports: These have been completed for several rivers with reports due on the Ashley and Selwyn rivers before the end of the year and the Orari and North Ashburton rivers by July 2010.

The reports, prepared by the River Engineering Section, determine the factors affecting bed levels and propose minimum bed levels that don't compromise the integrity of the river protection works.

The Minimum Bed Levels utilized presently in determining availability are in many instances the bed level at the time of the design of river protection schemes. The Bed Level Reports are a continuing refinement of these levels.

The levels are combined with the latest Bed Level Surveys, your 'gravel returns' and future consented volumes to determine the volumes available for allocation. These volumes are continually updated.



Tailings cont.d

Stockpiling: Many consents have a condition that states ‘no stockpiling’ and yet we see all manner of stockpiles at some sites. Many are euphemistically called ‘working stockpiles’ and are somehow deemed to be ‘exempt’ from compliance. A stockpile, regardless of it’s purpose or the duration it is in place, depending on size and positioning, has the potential to cause ‘adverse effects’ .

When applying for a consent please consider the following points to avoid any un-necessary non-compliance issues.

- If you are intending to stockpile within the riverbed including the berm, **for any reason**, please complete Sections B.2.a; Description of Proposed Activity and B.6.a.iv; Deposits and Stockpiles, in the application form.
- If you propose to put up windrows (stockpiles) of gravel in the bed to dewater prior to loading and carting away please state that in Part B.2.f ; Method of Excavation where you are requested to detail how the gravel will be excavated and include the stockpiling details in the other sections listed above.

Compliance Monitoring Costs: Most consents have a condition requiring you to notify the RMA Compliance and Enforcement Manager 2 days before commencing works. That information is noted and a site visit to check on compliance issues considered. As you are aware such a visit brings not only a Compliance Monitoring Report but an account for costs.

I am aware of some consent holders who after notifying change their plans, then receive an account for a Compliance Report where no extraction has occurred. If you have a change of plans notify ECan immediately. In these difficult economic times who wants to pay for something they didn’t need.

Environmental Calendar

	May	June	July	August	September	October	November
Mudfish							
Brown Trout							
R/bow Trout							
Inanga							
Salmon							
Eels							
Brook Trout							
Galaxids							
Lamprey 3-4 yrs							
Lamprey Juveniles							
Birds							

River Resident
Upstream Migration
Spawning
Downstream Migration
Birds-Wintering Over
Birds-Nesting-Rearing
At Sea

DISCLAIMER: This calendar is a summary of activity likely to be taking place and is included as a guide only.

Did You Know ?

The Olympic Delivery Authority is the body tasked with delivering the 2012 Olympic Games venues to the City of London.

It's mission is *"to deliver venues, facilities and infrastructure and transport on time and in a way that maximises the delivery of a sustainable legacy within the available budget"*.

In designing the legacy many of the requirements for the 'games' are temporary elements. These elements will be designed with reuse and recycling in mind. Within the Sustainability Policy adopted there is a Sustainable Development Strategy.

Some of the key elements are;

90% by weight of all the material produced in demolishing buildings that currently occupy the sites of the 2012 Olympic venues will be re-used or recycled.

20% by value of the materials used in the permanent venues will have previously been used elsewhere or will be a recycled product.

25% by weight of all aggregate used in the venues and infrastructure will be recycled.

700-1000T of York stone and 300T of Granite setts available for reclamation will be used as paving.

2012 Olympic Games Logo

One year's research and £400,000 worth of Graphic Design. The jagged emblem, based on the date 2012, comes in a series of shades of pink, blue, green and orange and will evolve in the run-up to the Games.



"It is an invitation to take part and be involved."

Michael Chivers

Gravel Resources Officer
Environment Canterbury

DDI (03) 364 9867
Email: michael.chivers@ecan.govt.nz
P O Box 345
CHRISTCHURCH 8140