

# Gravel Take

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## From the Main Channel

This newsletter has a circulation of approximately 450. Many receive a copy electronically but some 250 people are mailed out a printed version. If you are on the mailing list but would prefer to receive a copy electronically then please forward to me your email contact details.

At our recent Gravel Liaison Committee meeting David Moore, representing the river rating districts in the southern area, congratulated the gravel extractors for embracing the gravel management charge and the programme of work it helps to fund. Evidence of this commitment is reflected in the fact that from the total invoiced in 2008-09 only \$640.00 is outstanding.

## Rolling Stones

**Ashley River Bed Level Investigation** - Report R09/71 has been completed. It determines the minimum bed levels necessary to ensure that the integrity of the flood protection system is maintained. The key recommendations are;

1. Adopt the levels as proposed,
2. Adopt 3,250 m<sup>3</sup>/sec as the design flow, and
3. Increase the frequency of surveys in the reach downstream of SH1 to 5 yearly and in areas where large scale extraction occurs to annually.



Remember me ???

**Department of Conservation Consultation** - A recent meeting with representatives from DoC's Christchurch Conservancy Office has clarified many of the issues surrounding consultation when applying to extract gravel from within or adjacent to a Reserve Area. Basically reserves fall into one of three categories, DoC controlled, vested, or control/manage. The majority of these reserves within riverbeds are vested in Local Government, predominantly Environment Canterbury. Management, for the purposes the reserve was designated for (e.g. river control) is the responsibility of the vested body. DoC can only require concessions and royalties on reserves administered by the Crown. The policy does allow the vested body to impose the same requirements. As part of a review of the Conservation Management Strategy, consideration will be given to Environment Canterbury's responsibilities in managing river rating districts. It will also consider how extraction assists in general river control and flood risk mitigation. The review is currently on-hold as DoC works with LINZ on a shared land information management system to cover all Crown lands. LINZ control Crown land that is above the tidal influence and is navigable and is not controlled by DoC. In essence this is all the rest of the riverbed that is not privately owned. As landowner they control access.

## Gravel Liaison Committee

The committee met on Wednesday 23 October 2009.

Tables and graphs were presented for each Management Area showing Consented volumes, Number of consents, number of consents exercised, volumes extracted and percentage extracted vs consented for both the 2007-08 and 2008-09 years. In the southern area covered by the South Canterbury Gravel Agreement consented volumes and extracted volumes are the most closely aligned. A graph showing total extraction from each area for the period from 1993 to 2008 clearly demonstrates the regional growth in demand although extraction from and north of the Ashley River did not exhibit the same growth.

A Review of the 2008-09 year, a Preview of the 2009-10 Year and a 5 Year Forward Programme were presented.

<b>REVENUE</b>	2008-09 Budgeted	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Budgeted
	<b>\$486,522.00</b>	<b>\$570,638.22</b>	<b>\$500,519.00</b>
General Rates	\$219,852.00	\$219,852.00	\$233,849.00
Gravel Charge	\$266,670.00	\$245,609.00	\$266,670.00
Additional Funding (Gravel Charge shortfall plus work brought forward)		\$105,177.22	
<b>WORK PROGRAMME</b>	2008-09 Programmed	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Programmed
	<b>\$486,522.00</b>	<b>\$570,638.22</b>	<b>\$500,519.00</b>
Gravel Resource Management	\$50,000.00	\$53,562.10	\$54,000.00
Advice and Auditing Gravel Applications	\$61,500.00	\$35,869.18	\$35,000.00
Surveys	\$239,500.00	\$276,744.69	\$247,750.00
Lidar Surveys			\$50,000.00
Reports and Investigations (NB: Ashley report and Selwyn Lidar survey and report brought forward into 2008-09)	\$61,670.00	\$103,800.05	\$99,670.00
Plant, vehicles	\$1,000.00	\$640.56	\$1,000.00
Misc	\$20,000.00	\$22,231.65	\$13,099.00
Carry-over in expenditure 2007-08	\$53,000.00	\$77,790.00	

### GENERAL BUSINESS

- Urban Development Strategy - Gravel Management Strategy, Laurie McCallum (Environment Canterbury Programme Manager UDS) presented an outline of the study currently underway into the geology, demand (projected out initially to 2026, then 2041) and constraints for land based gravel extraction for the Christchurch City, Selwyn and Waimakariri Districts. The final report is due Dec 2009 at which time individual councils will formulate policies etc as to how the findings are to be progressed - i.e. planning mechanisms and issues, land ownership, quarry management.
- Consents Processing - the receipting process for applications has been tightened in line with the revised RMA requirements. The assessment of environmental effects, particularly gravel availability, is now more closely scrutinized. If you have not provided sufficient evidence supporting the availability and sustainability of your proposed extraction your application is likely to be returned under Sec88 of the RMA as incomplete.
- NRRP Chpt 3 Rule AQL42A Discharge to Air - the flow chart for determining whether a separate consent may be required for the discharge to air from extraction activities was circulated. To date most extractors have been able to tailor their operations to fit within the 'permitted' activity conditions.
- NRRP Chpt 6 Rule BLR3 Excavation, drilling, tunneling or disturbance within the bed - the rule including the process to be followed to operate as 'permitted' and the ramifications of non-compliance needs to be more widely publicized e.g. Environment Canterbury's Living Here publication .
- Contact Details for parties that need to be consulted with - contact lists and/or maps to be prepared outlining points of contact for various organizations and the areas individuals are responsible for etc.

**Quarry**; an excavation or pit, usually open to the air, from which building stone, slate, or the like, is obtained by cutting, blasting, etc.  
 Origin: 1375–1425; Middle English *quarey* (n.)  
 Medieval Latin *quareia*, variation of *quareria* derived from  
 Old French *quarriere*  
 Vulgar Latin *quadrāria* place where stone is squared, deriv. of Latin *quadrāre* to square

## Gravel Demand

As at 1 October 2009, (July 2008 figures in brackets) there were 223 (210) chargeable consents with a total consented annual volume of 2,908,910 m<sup>3</sup> (2,904,577).

The table below summarises activity since January 2009.

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

Management Area	Number of Consents	Annual Volume (m <sup>3</sup> )
Northern	13 (19)	49,400 (89,200)
Waimakariri/Ashley	10 (10)	418,033 (277,300)
Central	11 (6)	165,000 (216,000)
Southern	34 (36)	269,400 (179,500)

### Consent Decisions Notified to Applicant

Northern	0	0
Waimakariri/Ashley	0	0
Central	1	1,000
Southern	3	26,000

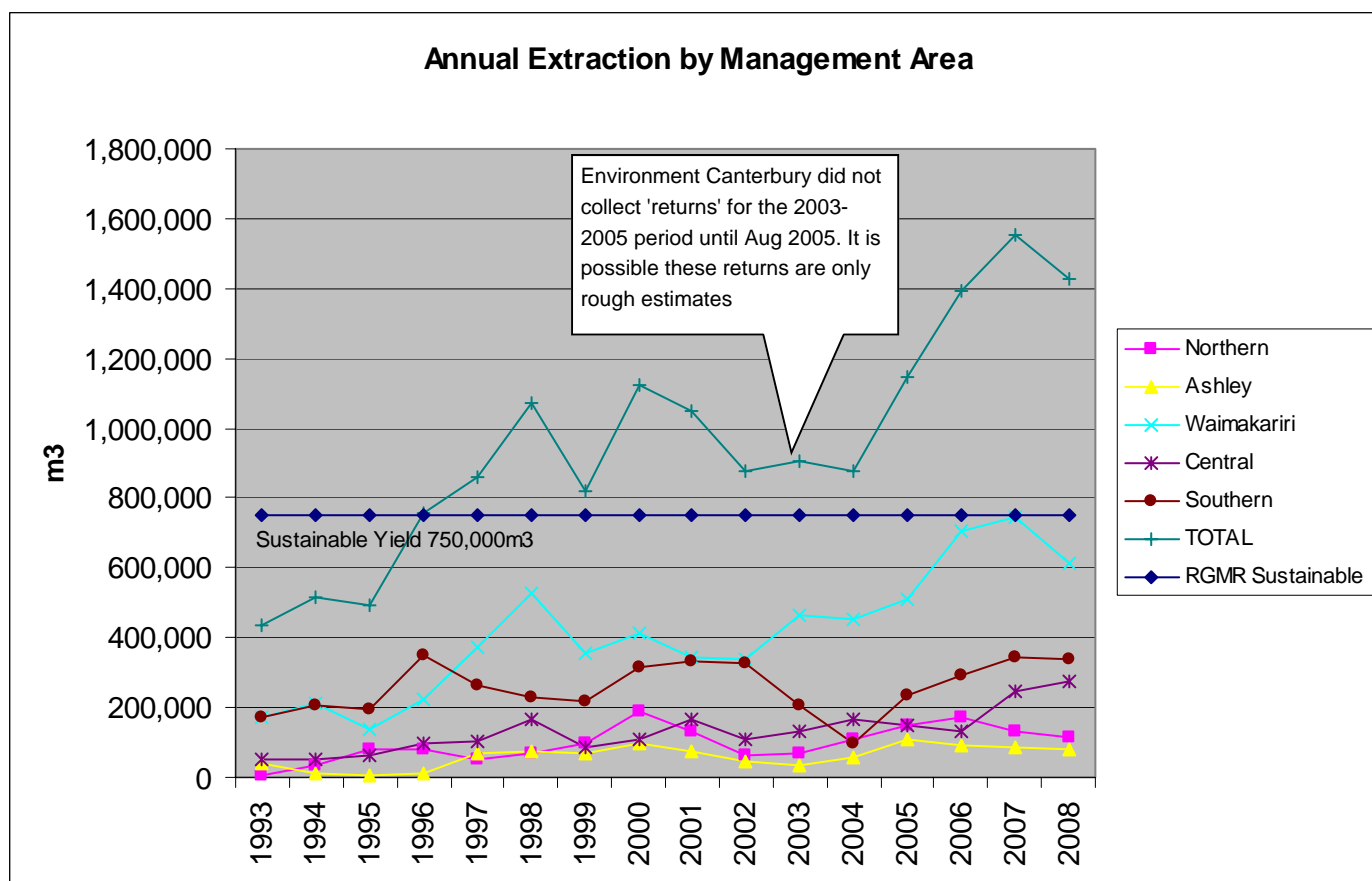
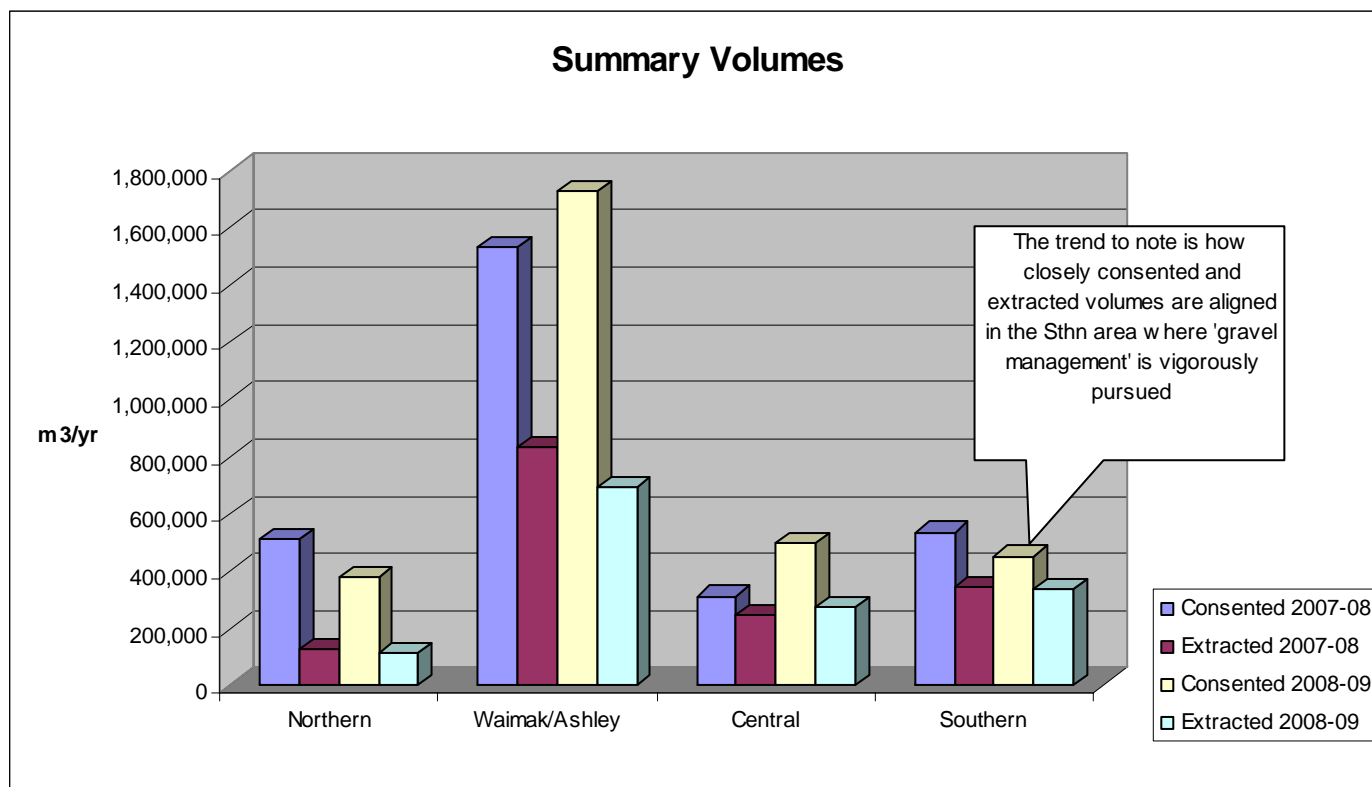
### Applications in Process

Northern	2	30,000
Waimakariri/Ashley	25	863,000
Central	2	30,000
Southern	6	128,000

### Annual Summary (1 July—30 June)

Management Area	Consented Volume (m <sup>3</sup> ) as at 1/07/2009 ( 2008 in brackets )	Returns Volume (m <sup>3</sup> ) 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



## Tailings cont.d

### South Canterbury Gravel Agreement.

The biannual meeting was held on Monday 16 November 2009.

A good attendance again emphasised the importance of this 'agreement' but more importantly the commitment the members have made to managing the available resource. Many of the initiatives proposed and implemented by this group have resulted in benefits to extractors in the rest of the region. There is no reason why this model could not be duplicated in or extended into the other management areas. Please contact Michael Chivers if you would like more information.

Items discussed:

Compliance:

- Generally high degree of compliance however there is some tardiness in furnishing gravel returns.
- Accuracy of recording volumes extracted needs to be improved.
- Most extractors are responsible and highly aware of the requirements relating to birds nesting and rearing their young in the riverbeds.

Consenting:

- Applicants need to consult with any 'affected' parties prior to applying to ensure their applications are processed within the agreed timeframes.

Engineering:

- The lower reaches of all rivers, excepting the Orari and the Rangitata, have been worked out. Latest figures for the Pareora indicate that, apart from the Holme Station Bridge reach, the bed is lower than the minimum bed levels recommended in the Pareora Bed Level Investigation Report, in some places by up to 500mm.

General Business:

- Because consents are for short durations consideration needs to be given to aligning applicant's proposed start date with the consent decision date to allow extraction to take place within the contractor's planned time-frame.

## Environmental Calendar

	October	November	December	January	February	March	April
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 ?

### AGGREGATES FROM THE SEA

17% of the sand and gravel needs of England and Wales are dredged from the sea (5 yr average 2000-2004). Accounts for over 40% of sand and gravel produced in South East England, 90% of the sand produced in South Wales, 2,500 jobs in the equivalent of 50 medium sized land based pits

20M tonnes per year. (10.5M cubic metres), 63% of that total is used in construction in Great Britain, 29% is exported and 8% is used for beach replenishment. Since 1955, 500M tonnes (260M cubic metres) have been dredged.



70 Licences (2005) cover 1179 sq km, approx 0.136% of the UK Continental Shelf, issued for 15 years with 5 year review periods. In any 1 year 12% of the 1179 sq km is dredged (140 sq km)

25 vessels operate, each with a capacity of up to 5,000T of sand and gravel, dredging capacity up to 2,600 tonnes per hour, can load in 3 hours with a cycle time of 12-37 hours depending on port of discharge and can self discharge in 3-4 hours.

Products: 0-4mm sand, 4/10, 10/20 and 20/40mm gravels, predominantly for the concrete industry.



A proportion of the revenue generated from the Aggregates Levy is transferred to the Marine Aggregate Levy Sustainability Fund for re-research aimed at minimising effects.

#### Marine Aggregate Usage



Information and photographs courtesy of British Marine Aggregate Producers Association



**Environment  
Canterbury**  
Your regional council

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