

## REPORT

Water Take Permit from the Taratahi Water Race for a Proposed Gravel Extraction Operation Greater Wellington Regional Council Resource Consent Application and Assessment of Effects on the Environment

Prepared for Wairarapa Aggregates Ltd

**DECEMBER 2008** 



Water Take Permit from the Taratahi Water Race for a Proposed Gravel Extraction Operation

Greater Wellington Regional Council

Resource Consent Application and Assessment of Effects on the Environment

# **QUALITY ASSURANCE STATEMENT**

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# **WAIRARAPA AGGREGATES LTD**

Water Take Permit from the Taratahi Water Race for a Proposed Gravel Extraction Operation Greater Wellington Regional Council Resource Consent Application and Assessment of Effects on the Environment

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Purpose of this Document

Wairarapa Aggregates operates solely in the Wairarapa area and provides a regionally significant source of aggregates to the three Wairarapa districts. It is anticipated that there will be an ongoing demand for aggregate to be supplied within the area, and in order to satisfy that demand, Wairarapa Aggregates (the applicant) will need to continue to provide aggregate products from within the region.

This document provides the information necessary to accompany an application for a water take consent to authorise the taking of water from the Taratahi water race to provide water wash aggregate, associated with the ongoing operation of the proposed gravel extraction and cleanfill operation. This document has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Resource Management Act 1991 (the RMA). It includes a description of the proposal to take water from the Taratahi water race and the statutory framework within which the activities must be assessed, an assessment of the actual and potential effects of the activities on the environment, and the ways in which any adverse effects arising from the activities can be avoided, remedied or mitigated.

A resource consent application has already been submitted to Greater Wellington Regional Council for a stormwater discharge permit for the proposed gravel extraction operation (May 2008). The application includes an assessment of effects relating to the discharge of water from the proposed operation.

As part of the initial proposal it was intended to use groundwater for washing aggregate as part of the processing operations. However following discussions with Greater Wellington it was determined that the ground water aquifer at this location is already under pressure for the extraction of water. The cost of undertaking investigatory work to determine the amount of water available was considered too costly to pursue.

The alternative is to take water from the Taratahi water race. A surface water take permit has previously been granted by Greater Wellington (WAR920007) for Renalls Haulage Ltd (a previous occupier of this site) to take 10 l/s out of the Taratahi water race. The water take permit expired in 2001 and was not renewed. This application seeks the right to take an equivalent volume of water from the Taratahi water race as was earlier allocalled to Rennalls Haulage Ltd to Kiwi Lumber/Wairarapa Aggregates.

Resource consent has also been sought from Carterton District Council for activities associated with the mineral extraction activity, and the construction and ongoing operation of a cleanfill operation on the same site. A resource consent application to Carterton District Council was submitted in May 2008. It has yet to be determined by the Council.

# 1.2 Consent Sought

The proposal is located within the Wairarapa Region which is governed by the Greater Wellington Regional Council. The proposal therefore must be assessed under the Regional Freshwater Plan. The following resource consent is now being sought from GWRC:

### Water take consent (section 15 Resource Management Act 1991)

 To take water from the Taratahi Water race to provide washwater for a gravel extraction and associated cleanfill operation.

Pursuant to section 123 of the Resource Management Act 1991, a term of 14 years is sought for the consent, although it is noted that the works will take place over a maximum of 7 years once they have commenced. It is expected that the actual take will be intermittent, although consent is sought to take the water at any time.





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# 2 Proposal

#### 2.1 Introduction

This section of the application provides a background description of the proposed water take from the Taratahi water race. The water take is proposed as part of the gravel extraction part of the operation, as there is a certain percentage of the gravel yield that is required to be washed before being utilised. It is proposed that over the 7 years of extraction, 300 000m³ of gravel will be excavated from the site. This equates to approximately 50 000m³ of aggregate per year. It is anticipated that approximately 10% of the extracted aggregate will be washed from the total yield, which equates to 5000m³ of extracted gravel.

The applicant proposes to install a pump that is able to pump the required volume of water from the Carterton District Council administered storage pond, located within the Taratahi Water race. Water is proposed to be pumped, to the Kiwi Lumber site adjacent to the Taratahi storage pond, and across to where the mobile aggregate crusher is to be set up. It is proposed that the water take will only occur at times when crushing is required. It is anticipated that crushing (and subsequent washing) will be carried out in three week periods sporadically over the year, which, when combined, will be for approximately four months of each calendar year.

As Carterton District Council administers the Taratahi water race, consultation has been carried out with the Council's Operations Manager to provide detail of the proposed quarry and cleanfill operation, along with the associated water take. Written approval has been obtained from Carterton District Council to extract the 10 litres per second from the Taratahi water race (refer to Appendix A).

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# 3 Environmental Setting

## 3.1 Site Description

The proposed Kiwi Lumber Quarry site is located immediately to the north of the active Kiwi Lumber site at Waingawa, which is adjacent to State Highway 2. The site is located approximately 6 km WSW of Masterton, 1.6 km SW of the Waingawa River and 1.2 km N of State Highway 2. The NZ Grid Reference for the site is 2727665E, 6023465N. The site is located entirely within Carterton District. The location of the site is shown in Figure 3.1. The site is legally described as Lot 3 DP 383510 and contained within Certificate of Title 168187.

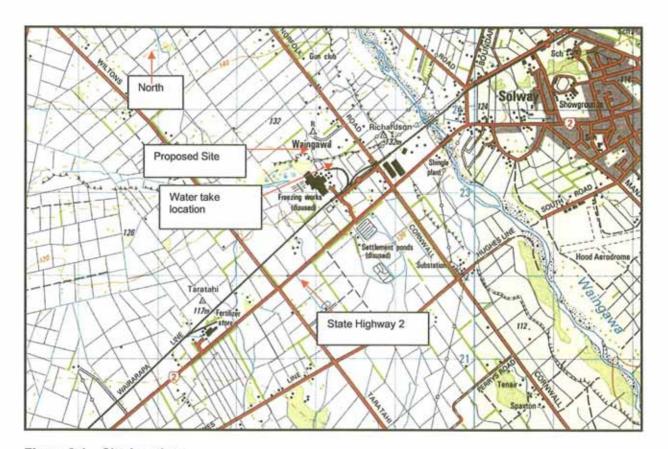


Figure 3.1 – Site location

The site covers an area of approximately 11.6 hectares. The proposed extraction area is approximately 700 metres long from SW to NE, with a maximum width of 290 metres from the entrance gate in the middle of the southeastern boundary to the northwestern boundary. The majority of the natural ground slopes gently from a level of 130m above sea level in the NE to 122m in the SW. The only significant natural topographic feature is a 3m high ridge that runs approximately East-West across the western end of the site, where a splay off the Masterton Fault has lowered the ground level in this area. It should be noted that the Masterton Fault that runs across this site is identified in the New Zealand Geopreservation Inventory with a C3 rating. A C3 rating recognises the feature as a regionally important feature which is



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vulnerable to significant modifications by human actions. It is not anticipated that extraction will take pace into the fault feature itself, as this area contains material that is not economically viable to extract. To the south of this ridge the natural ground surface becomes very flat and develops into an oval shaped, heavily vegetated wetland, which is the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust (QE2) covenanted area.

The southwestern and northwestern boundaries of the site are marked by fences and are adjacent to similar flat pasture that covers the proposed extraction area. The northeastern boundary runs adjacent to the Taratahi water race that brings water from the Tararua Hills in the NW, and there is also a radio mast along this boundary (owned and operated by Radio New Zealand), which is approximately 50m high. The stream is approximately 2.5m wide and 0.25m deep and flow is controlled further upstream. The area of the radio mast has been specifically excluded from the proposed extraction area. The southeastern boundary runs along old fill from the demolition of the freezing works for the first 150m, and then for 250m along natural ground formed by the excavation and access the ramp into the old excavation area. The most western 220m of the southeastern boundary runs adjacent to the QE2 wetland area, which is surrounded by a fence but also has a 5m wide ditch on the proposed extraction area side of the fence.

The proposed quarry site is located on land owned by Kiwi Lumber (Masterton) Limited (Kiwi Lumber). Wairarapa Aggregates has signed a Profit a Prendre agreement with Kiwi Lumber to extract and utilise the sand and gravel resources at the site for a period of seven years, with the ability to negotiate a further seven years. The area to be utilised is largely undisturbed pasture, although approximately 10% of the site is occupied by an existing disused quarry excavation. There is also a small area of apparently clean fill within this quarry excavation, which has a maximum depth of 4.0 metres. Three small topsoil mounds are located on the site from pre-stripping of the excavation.

## 3.2 Surface Water Resources

The site does not intercept any surface water courses. The extraction area will not affect the water race that runs along the eastern boundary of the site, nor the QE2 covenanted area along the southeastern boundary. There will be a 10m standoff to the crest of the excavation from both the water race and the ditch adjacent to the QE2 area, in accordance with the Carterton District Plan Rural Industrial Zone permitted activity rules.

The floor of the existing old quarry excavation is currently at or near the ground water level at the site and water discharges from the quarry into drains that exit the site immediately to the east of the entrance gate. The assumed ground water level is approximately at the 123.5 to 124m elevation. The water from the excavation and the surrounding land drains into both the QE2 area to the west and another wetland area to the east, which is within the Kiwi Lumber property. It is intended that water from the water take, after treatment, will join this drainage system.

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# 4 Legislative and Policy Framework

This section provides a brief overview of the legislation and statutory plans that are relevant in providing guidance for the assessment of the application for resource consent to take water from the Taratahi Water race for the proposed gravel extraction operation.

# 4.1 Resource Management Act (RMA) 1991

The overriding purpose of the RMA is 'to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources'. Part 2 of the RMA, sections 5 to 8, outlines the broader principles that are to be considered for any resource use, development or protection. These principles are then elaborated in local authority planning documents.

Any activity can be authorised by a rule (either in a Regional Plan or District Plan), a resource consent, or through a designation.

The RMA sets out the circumstances in which resource consents for activities are required. The following sections are important for the applications. Section 14 sets out restrictions on water takes as follows:

#### 14 Restrictions relating to water

- (1) No person may take, use, dam, or divert any-
  - (a) Water (other than open coastal water); or
  - (b) Heat or energy from water (other than open coastal water); or
- (c) Heat or energy from the material surrounding any geothermal water—unless the taking, use, damming, or diversion is allowed by subsection (3).
- (2) No person may-
  - (a) Take, use, dam, or divert any open coastal water; or
- ( b) Take or use any heat or energy from any open coastal water,—
  in a manner that contravenes a rule in a regional plan or a proposed regional plan unless expressly allowed by a resource consent or allowed by section 20A (certain existing lawful activities allowed).
- (3) A person is not prohibited by subsection (1) from taking, using, damming, or diverting any water, heat, or energy if—
  - (a) The taking, use, damming, or diversion is expressly allowed by a rule in a regional plan and in any relevant proposed regional plan or a resource consent; or
  - (b) In the case of fresh water, the water, heat, or energy is required to be taken or used for-
  - (i) An individual's reasonable domestic needs; or
  - (ii) The reasonable needs of an individual's animals for drinking water,— and the taking or use does not, or is not likely to, have an adverse effect on the environment; or
  - (c) In the case of geothermal water, the water, heat, or energy is taken or used in accordance with tikanga Maori for the communal benefit of the tangata whenua of the area and does not have an adverse effect on the environment; or
  - (d) In the case of coastal water (other than open coastal water), the water, heat, or energy is required for an individual's reasonable domestic or recreational needs and the taking, use, or diversion does not, or is not likely to, have an adverse effect on the environment; or
  - (e) The water is required to be taken or used for fire-fighting purposes.

Thus a consent will be required for the taking of water from the Taratahi water race.



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Resource consent applications must be prepared in accordance with section 88 of the RMA. Applications must include a full description of the activity or activities, and an assessment of any actual or potential effects on the environment, as well as outlining the ways in which significant adverse effects can be 'avoided, remedied or mitigated'. Such assessments must be prepared in accordance with the Fourth Schedule of the RMA, which sets out the matters that should be included in the AEE and those that should be considered in its preparation.

When considering resource consent applications, the consent authority must have regard to the matters outlined in section 104(1) of the RMA. This section is subject to the overriding purpose of the RMA contained in Part 2, which also guides a consent authority in its consideration of an application.

In assessing a resource consent application a consent authority can, under the provisions of section 108 of the RMA, impose consent conditions, as considered necessary, to avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of the activity on the environment.

#### **Relevant Planning Documents** 4.2

#### 4.2.1 Regional Freshwater Plan for the Wellington Region

The Regional Freshwater Plan for the Wellington Region (the RFWP) became operative on 17 December 1999. The purpose of the RFWP is to provide a framework for the integrated and sustainable management of Wellington's water resources. Objectives and policies contained in Sections 6 of the RFWP are relevant to the water take from the Taratahi water race.

The relevant objectives and policies in the RFWP relate to maintaining the life-supporting capacity, natural character and amenity values of waterbodies, while allowing for their use and development provided that adverse effects are avoided, remedied or mitigated. As discussed in Section 5 of this application, the proposed water take is not anticipated to have an adverse effect on the water flow within the Taratahi water race, or on natural character or amenity values in the area.

The proposed water take has been assessed against the Greater Wellington Regional Freshwater Plan. The proposed water take does not meet the permitted activity standard of Rule 7(a), as the rate of take exceeds the permitted 2.5 l/s. Therefore the proposed activity defaults to the following Rule of the Freshwater Plan.

#### Rule 16 Taking, use, damming or diversion of water, or the transfer to another site of any water permit to take or use water.

- That is not specifically provided for any other rules in this Plan; and
- Which cannot meet the requirements of those rules; and
- That, for takes of water from the Lower Hutt Groundwater Zone (Taita Alluvium/Waiwhetu aquifers), would not cause the maximum rate of takes authorised by resource consents to exceed 32.85 million cubic metres per year; and
- Which is not a non-complying activity in Rules 17, 18 and 19.

Pursuant to this Rule, the proposed activity therefore requires a resource consent, to be assessed as a Discretionary Activity in terms of the Resource Management Act 1991.

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#### 4.2.2 Objectives and Policies

The following objectives are considered to be relevant with regard to the proposed water take from the Taratahi water race:

- 6.1.1 People and communities are able to take, use, dam, or divert surface water, and take and use groundwater, while ensuring that the flows in rivers, and water levels in lakes and wetlands, are sufficient to maintain the natural and amenity values of water bodies.
- 6.1.3 Water abstracted from rivers, streams, lakes and aquifers is used efficiently and water conservation is promoted.
- 6.1.4 The flows in rivers and water levels in lakes and wetlands are, as far as practicable, consistent with the values of the tangata whenua.

The relevant policies are listed and commented on below:

- 6.2.2 To manage the flows in rivers and streams not identified in Policy 6.2.1 by having regard to:
  - the significance of natural, amenity, and tangata whenua values; and
  - the scale/magnitude of any adverse effects on natural, amenity and tangata whenua values; and
  - the reversibility of any adverse effects on natural, amenity and tangata whenua values.

The Taratahi water race is not identified within Policy 6.2.1, therefore Policy 6.2.2 is particularly relevant.

It is not considered that the proposed water take will cause the proposal to be inconsistent with the above policy. The effects on the environment are discussed more in section 5. No mitigation measures are considered necessary in terms of the water take. However for information, a range of mitigation measures are proposed in terms of the gravel extraction operation including the use of the water and discharge. These are detailed further in the attached Quarry Management Plan (Appendix B).

- 6.2.7 To encourage users to take groundwater as an alternative to surface water resources where:
  - the groundwater is of sufficient quality and quantity for the prospective use; and
  - there are no significant environmental, technical, or financial constraints associated with abstracting groundwater.

The applicant has considered the use of groundwater for washing aggregate as part of the processing operations. Greater Wellington Regional Council has advised that the groundwater aquifer at this location is already under pressure in terms of water that is available to be extracted. The ability to gain access to ground water requires extensive investigatory work to determine the amount of water resource available. It is therefore considered that there may well be potential adverse environmental effects of extracting water from the aquifer, and the cost of determining that potential jeopardized the financial feasibility of the proposed quarry and cleanfill operation going ahead. Therefore in this case the taking of groundwater was not a feasible option.

6.2.10 To allow water permits to be transferred where there will be net benefits to the community and where there will be no additional adverse effects caused by the change in the location of a water take.

Renall Haulage Ltd previously held a right that allowed the take of 10 l/s out of the Taratahi water race. This use right expired in 2001.

Essentially a take of 10 l/s has been consented in the past in this location for an industrial related activity. The proposed water use is of a similar nature and equivalent benefit to the community.

6.2.11 To have due regard to the relevant provisions of this Plan, such as Policies 6.2.1 to 6.2.3, when considering water permits for the take of water for water races.



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The proposed water take is not from a water body as identified in either Policy 6.2.1 or Policy 6.2.3, as it is directly from the Taratahi water race, which is sourced from the Waingawa River.

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# 5 Assessment of Effects

### 5.1 Introduction

The proposed water take from the Taratahi water race has the potential to have adverse effects on the environment in a number of ways. Outlined below is an assessment of those potential adverse effects and the measures proposed to avoid, remedy or mitigate them.

## 5.2 Effects on Water Flow of the Taratahi Water race

It is proposed that Wairarapa Aggregates will take 10 l/s out of the water race, as part of the gravel extraction and cleanfill operation that is proposed on site. This proposed activity is subject to a separate resource consent to Greater Wellington Regional Council. Carterton District Council which administers the Taratahi water race, has identified that there is approximately a 25 l/s surplus from within the water race. Wairarapa Aggregates has been in consultation with the Carterton District Council and has received written approval to draw 10 l/s from the Taratahi water race for the washing of aggregate. Carterton District Council has considered that the proposed 10 l/s will not have any effect in terms of the capacity and flow of the Taratahi water race.

Wairarapa Aggregates proposal is consistent with the previous water take notified use right that was in place on the water race.

Wairarapa Aggregates proposes to operate the water take only sporadically for up to 3 week periods, which are anticipated to equate to approximately 4 months of water extraction over any calendar year. Water extraction will only occur when there is a sufficient amount of aggregate required to be washed, which will result in the 3 week window for washing to occur within. There will be significant periods when there will be no extraction from the Taratahi water race by the applicant.

Once extracted water has been taken from the Taratahi water race, it is proposed to pump the water onto the Kiwi Lumber Site where it will be used it to wash aggregate located within the quarry operation area.

Water that has been used on site for the washing of aggregate will be treated on site to ensure that any wash water exiting the site is not carrying sediment that could cause an adverse effect on the downstream receiving environment. Once washwater has been satisfactorily treated by the sediment control measures proposed by the applicant in the attached Quarry Management Plan (including a Sediment and Erosion Control Plan), wash water will be discharged to land and then make its way into the QE2 site adjacent to the quarry operation site.

#### 5.3 Downstream Effects

The water, once used, will be discharged from the extraction site into the wider environment on the same basis as stormwater management is undertaken on the site. This includes semiment control as now described.

A sediment control pond is proposed to be established prior to any physical works. It is anticipated that the flow of stormwater along with wash water leaving the site, will be captured by this sediment control pond. It is proposed to locate it in the path of the existing stormwater flow from the site. Once sediment

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laden stormwater has been treated by the sediment control pond, stormwater will be discharged to the land directly to the east of the sediment control pond. The overland flow of stormwater will take this stormwater through a vegetated area before entering into an unnamed stream. It is anticipated that the vegetated area between the discharge point and the stream, will act as a filter and will entrain finer sediment that is unable to be captured by the sedimentation pond. It is proposed that prior to any continuous period of washing occurs on site, a silt fence will be erected along the existing unnamed stream. This will be in place as a precautionary measure, when stormwater flows leaving the site are expected to be at the highest rate. Once the stormwater has entered this stream, it will ultimately end up in the QE2 wetland. It is considered that the proposed stormwater treatment measures will ensure that the potential adverse effects on the water quality of both the stream and the QE2 wetland will be appropriately avoided, remedied or mitigated and that any potential effects on the water quality will be no more than minor.

It is anticipated the majority of water from the site will ultimately be discharged to water. Any potential adverse effect on aquatic life would come from sedimentation as a result of the discharge of stormwater. Sediment is a component of most natural aquatic systems and is transported as either suspended sediment or as bedload, mostly at times of high river flows and floods. Increases in suspended sediment reduce water clarity and increase turbidity, potentially affecting the aquatic life resident in a watercourse. From an aquatic ecology perspective, any activity resulting in an increase in silt levels in watercourses, particularly during low flow periods, is of concern because of these potentially adverse effects.

A proposed sediment control pond for the site has been designed to Greater Wellington Regional Council Guidelines (Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines for the Wellington Region). This will ensure that stormwater is satisfactorily treated before being discharged. As a further precaution, the discharge point is to land, which will allow for an area of vegetated land to filter out finer sediment that may not be contained by the sediment control pond. It is anticipated that once the water enters into the unnamed stream, and ultimately the QE2 site, it will be satisfactorily treated. Therefore, it is considered that any effects on the aquatic habitat have been satisfactorily avoided, remedied or mitigated and the effects on the aquatic habitat will be no more than minor.

#### 5.4 Alternatives

The availability of a water resource is crucial to the processing operations of a quarry operation, as aggregate extracted requires washing before being sold for construction projects. The applicant has considered other options of sourcing water for the gravel extraction operation.

The construction of a bore on site has been considered as being an option to source ground water, however discussions with Greater Wellington Regional Council indicated that there is already significant pressure on the aquifer in this general vicinity. In order to extract water from the aquifer, the applicant would have been required to carry out extensive ground water modelling, which was ultimately considered to not be a feasible option due to financial constraints of preparing such information requirements.

Transporting water onto the site to wash the required material is not considered a feasible option as it may still require resource consent for the water take elsewhere, and also costs will be increased exponentially due to the cost of having the water transported onto site. Transporting water onto site for washing purposes is considered to be an inefficient method of sourcing water.

Extracting water from the Taratahi water race is considered to be the most efficient and pragmatic source of water to wash aggregate processed on the Kiwi Lumber Site. The Taratahi water race runs along the northern boundary of the site, and is therefore in a close proximity to the operation area of the quarry. Furthermore, the Taratahi water race has already been subject to a water take of 10 l/s, which is consistent with what the applicant is applying for as part of this application.





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#### 6 Notification

Under Section 93 (1) of the Act, an application for resource consent need not be notified if the Council is satisfied that the adverse effects of the activity on the environment will be minor.

The assessment of effects on the environment demonstrates that the adverse effects of the proposed activity on the environment are likely to be no more than minor. It is requested that the Council should therefore consider the assessment of the resource consent application on a non-notified basis in accordance with Section 93 (1) of the Act. If the application cannot be considered on a non-notified basis, then consideration to notifying the application on a limited notification basis should be considered.

Written approval has been obtained from Carterton District Council to allow the proposed gravel extraction and cleanfill operation to extract 11 litres per second from the Council administered storage pond for the duration of the proposed extraction activity. The assessment of effects on the environment demonstrates that there is likely to be insignificant or nil effects on any other persons as a result of granting this resource consent application.

Appropriate measures have been proposed and are anticipated to mitigate, avoid and remedy any potential or actual adverse effects that may be generated by the proposal. It is also considered that the activity will not have any adverse effects on the environment which are any more than minor.

#### 7 Conclusion

Pursuant to section 104B of the Act, the Council may grant or refuse consent to a Discretionary Activity, and if granted may impose conditions under section 108 of the Act.

The assessment of the application against the provisions of the Resource Management Act and the Regional Fresh Water Plan has concluded that:

- 1. The proposed activity is consistent with the purpose and principles of the Resource Management Act. 1991:
- 2. The proposed activity will have no adverse effects on the environment which are any more than minor: and.
- 3. The proposed activity is not inconsistent with the objectives, policies, rules, or other provisions of the relevant district plans and other relevant planning documents;

Based on this assessment, it is considered that consent should therefore be granted in terms of section 104 of the Act, subject to reasonable and necessary conditions, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Resource Management Act.

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# **Appendix A: Written Approval from Carterton District** Council

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# Carterton District Council

13 May 2008

Callum Sayer

P O Box 9624

Te Aro

Wellington

Dear Callum,

Subject: Wairarapa Aggregates Ltd Water Take, Taratahi Water Race, Waingawa

I am writing to you in response to your request to take up to 111/s of water from the Taratahi Water Race at Waingawa for approximately 350 hours per annum.

The actual water take to be spread over the year as your operations demand. The water will be used during the winning and processing of gravel from a land based extraction operation.

I can confirm that the Carterton District Council gives approval for this, subject to the following conditions;

- CDC may restrict or cease supply at any time, subject to verbal notification, if it
  experiences difficulties with the network such as a failure of the intake structure
  or if its consented take is restricted under the step down procedure in its resource
  consent as a result of low river flows,
- That your proposed water take shall not cause a noticeable reduction in the flow downstream of the extraction point,
- That the potentially contaminated water will be treated and returned to the network after use in accordance with a resource consent that will be obtained by your Company from Greater Wellington Regional Council,
- That this approval is for Three years and may be renewed thereafter upon request subject to water availability and conditions at that time,
- That this approval cannot be transferred to another party,
- That the water take can only be used for the intended purpose.

If you have any queries, please contact me.



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# Appendix B: Quarry Management Plan

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# **REPORT**

# Kiwi Lumber Proposed Quarry Site, Masterton Quarry Management Plan

Prepared for Wairarapa Aggregates Ltd

NOVEMBER 2008



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This disclaimer shall apply notwithstanding that the report may be made available to other persons for an application for permission or approval to fulfil a legal requirement.

# **QUALITY ASSURANCE STATEMENT**

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# **REVISION SCHEDULE**

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1	Nov 2008	Erosion and Sediment Control Plan added	RDW	NJK	NJK

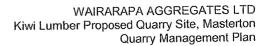
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# Kiwi Lumber Proposed Quarry Site, Masterton **Quarry Management Plan**

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Status: Final Project number: Z1449801



# 1 Introduction

# 1.1 General Background to the Quarry Management Plan

MWH New Zealand Limited has developed this Quarry Management Plan (QMP) on behalf of Wairarapa Aggregates Limited for its proposed quarry at the Kiwi Lumber site in Waingawa, near Masterton. The QMP is intended to operate in conjunction with any resource consent conditions and to thus contribute to ensuring that potential environmental effects associated with quarrying at the site are appropriately managed and controlled. Wairarapa Aggregates will operate the Kiwi Lumber Quarry site in accordance with this management plan. The QMP will be reviewed every five years by Wairarapa Aggregates.

The QMP covers the import of clean fill to the site as part of the remediation activities, a summary of information regarding the water take agreement with Carterton District Council and a site specific Erosion and Sediment Control Plan. This QMP updates the previous version dated May 2008 by providing additional detail on erosion and sediment control measures.

# 1.2 Objectives of the Quarry Management Plan

The purpose of this QMP is to help achieve the following:

- 1. To ensure the efficient, effective and safe extraction of gravel and sand;
- 2. To ensure that the operation of the quarry is not a source of nuisance to adjoining landowners;
- 3. To manage and control any environmental effects resulting from the quarrying activities;
- 4. To ensure that the site is rehabilitated according to the agreed end-use objectives;
- To ensure good communication between the quarry operator, the land owner and joint venture party, adjoining landowners, the Carterton District Council and the Greater Wellington Regional Council.

# 1.3 Site Details and Background to Proposed Quarry

#### 1.3.1 Location

The proposed Kiwi Lumber Quarry site is located immediately to the north of the active Kiwi Lumber site at Waingawa, which is adjacent to State Highway 2. It is approximately 6 km WSW of Masterton, 1.6 km SW of the Waingawa River and 1.2 km N of State Highway 2. The NZ Grid Reference for the site is 2727665E, 6023465N. The site is located entirely within Carterton District. The location of the site is shown in Figure 1.

Note: The disused freezing works adjacent to the site has now been demolished. Figure 2 shows and aerial photograph of the proposed Kiwi Lumber Quarry site.

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Figure 2: Aerial Photograph of Proposed Kiwi Lumber Quarry Site



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#### 1.3.2 History and Ownership

The proposed quarry site is located on land owned by Kiwi Lumber (Masterton) Limited (Kiwi Lumber). Wairarapa Aggregates has signed a Profit a Prendre with Kiwi Lumber to extract and utilise the sand and gravel resources at the site for a minimum period of 7 years. The area to be utilised is largely undisturbed pasture, though approximately 10% of the site is occupied by an existing disused quarry excavation. There is also a small area of clean fill within this quarry excavation, which has a maximum depth of 4 metres. Visual inspections of the fill indicate it is comprised of bricks, wood and gravel, and with no possible contaminants were identified therefore can be considered as 'clean'. Three small topsoil mounds are located on the site from pre-stripping of the excavation.

Immediately along the southeastern boundary is the active Kiwi Lumber site, which mostly consists of a stocking area for timber and areas of fill or waste wood, pallets, etc. Prior to Kiwi Lumber obtaining this site it was the site of a freezing works (as shown in Figure 1), which has now been demolished. Some materials from demolition of the works have been tipped around the site, in particular along the eastern section of the southeastern boundary of the proposed extraction site (see Figure 2). It is not known what is within this tip. The proposed extraction site is specifically located outside any previous areas of fill, apart from the clean fill located within the existing excavation.

#### 1.3.3 Site Layout

The current layout of the site is shown on the plan in Appendix A, based on a survey carried out in November 2007 by MWH. The site covers an area of approximately 11.6 hectares. The proposed extraction area is approximately 700 metres long from SW to NE, with a maximum width of 290 metres from the entrance gate in the middle of the southeastern boundary to the northwestern boundary. The majority of the natural ground of the site slopes gently from a level of 130m above sea level in the NE to 122m in the SW. The only significant natural topographic feature is a 3m high ridge that runs approximately East-West across the western end of the site, where a splay off the Masterton Fault has lowered the ground level in this area (see Figure 2).

The Masterton Fault that runs across this site is identified in the New Zealand Geopreservation Inventory with a C3 rating. A C3 rating recognises the feature as a regionally important feature which is vulnerable to significant modifications by human actions. It is not anticipated to extract into the feature itself, as located from it to the QE2 covenanted site is material that is not economically viable to extract. To the South of this ridge the natural ground surface becomes very flat and develops into an oval shaped, heavily vegetated wetland, which is a Queen Elizabeth II National Trust (QE2) covenanted area (Figure 2).

The southwestern and northwestern boundaries of the site are marked by fences and are adjacent to similar flat pasture that covers the proposed extraction area. The northeastern boundary runs adjacent to a water race that brings water from the Tararua Hills in the NW, and there is also a radio mast along this boundary, which is approximately 50m high. The radio mast is owner and operated by Radio New Zealand, and has a radius of a copper mat surrounding it to increase efficiency. The copper mat is unable to be modified or moved, therefore has been excluded from the extraction area. The stream is approximately 2.5m wide and 0.25m deep and flow is controlled further upstream. The area of the radio mast has been deliberately left out of the proposed extraction area. The southeastern boundary runs along old fill from the demolition of the freezing works for the first 150m, and then for 250m along natural ground formed by the excavation and access ramp into the old excavation area. The most western 220m of the southeastern boundary runs adjacent to the QE2 wetland area, which is surrounded by a fence but also has a 5m wide ditch on the proposed extraction area side of the fence, as shown in Figure 3.







The old excavation is approximately 4m deep and occupies the central part of the site, as shown on the plan in Appendix A. An access gate to the excavation is located in approximately the middle of the southeastern boundary, and a 4 to 5m wide road runs west from the gate down to the quarry floor. The main excavation area has dimensions of approximately 100m by 150m and comprises a flat quarry floor formed in natural ground at approximately the 124m elevation, with two 4 to 5m high gravel stockpiles situated along the eastern face. There is also a small (60m x 70m x 4m) tip in the southwest corner of the excavation, which appears to constitute "clean" fill, comprising bricks, earth and general rubble. There is no indication that the tip contains any potential contaminants, though the surface has been grassed over. The excavation slopes have been cut at approximately 70 degrees and are stable. The excavation is shown in the photographs in Figures 4 and 5.





November 2008 Our ref: QMP Draft Report, doc

Figure 5: Eastern Extension to Old Quarry Excavation, Partially Backfilled with Soil and Inert Fill - Looking South



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To the east of the main area of the excavation there is another section of the old quarry that has been partially backfilled with earth and topsoil over the floor or the excavation, as shown in Figure 5. This section of the quarry contains the main drainage ditch that exits the excavation to the South, adjacent to the entrance gate. The easternmost part of this old excavation has been completely backfilled. The fill is likely to be a mixture of concrete, bricks, general rubble and lumber waste amongst others. This tip is not included within the extraction area or the site boundary.

Three small topsoil bunds are located to the NW of the old excavation area, the largest being 90m long, 20m wide and 3m high. They are all currently stable and grassed over.

Immediately to the west of the entrance gate there is flattish ground on either side of the access road into the excavation, up to 20m wide, partially covered in some quarry waste and soil.

#### 1.3.4 Geology

The geology of the site comprises Quaternary alluvium formed within old river terraces of the Waingawa River. The alluvium comprises predominantly gravel and cobbles with a matrix of coarse sand, with a small amount of fine and medium sand and minor silt (estimated at approximately 5%). There are occasional lenses of laminated sands with gravel. The gravels and cobbles are well compacted and poorly sorted, the clasts being generally subrounded to subangular and flattish, with some indistinct current bedding. Most cobbles are up to a maximum diameter of 0.25m, though there are rare larger boulders up to 0.4m in diameter. Figure 6 shows the typical materials that will be quarried on site. The site is covered with up to 0.3m of topsoil and 0.5m of subsoil and low quality, weathered gravel and sand.

The existing excavation and a number of 6m deep exploration pits across the site have confirmed the presence of similar gravel and sand materials across the site, to a reasonable degree of certainty.

Based on the proposed extraction area outlined in Appendix A, the total potential resource for the site is approximately 275,000m³ of material, assuming a maximum extraction level of 124m, which is approximately the groundwater level. Allowing for approximately 5% fines, this would give a total resource of just over 261,000m³ of gravel and sand. The actual reserves available for extraction, processing and sale will depend on the accessibility of the resources within these extraction limits.

The only significant structural feature on the site is the small East-West trending ridge in the western portion of the site, which appears to be formed by an offset of a splay off the Masterton Fault (see Figures 2 and Appendix A). The Masterton Fault is an active fault and the main offset can be traced for a number of kilometres from the railway bridge at Masterton to west of the proposed quarry site. The QE2 covenanted wetland area is directly formed as a result of the movement of this fault, with the land to the south of the ridge having subsided. The land to the south of this ridge is either at or below the 124m level and hence there will be no extraction in this area (see Appendix A).

It is possible that other small faults will be encountered during excavation of the mineral resource, which should be noted and surveyed, and if necessary inspected by a suitably qualified engineering geologist or geotechnical engineer. The location of these faults will have an impact on the location of structures for quarry after use.





Figure 6: Typical In-Situ Profile of Gravel, Cobbles and Sand Forming Cut Slope in Old Excavation

#### 1.3.5 Water Resources

The site does not intercept any surface water courses. The extraction area will not affect the water race that runs along the eastern boundary of the site, nor the QE2 covenanted area along the southeastern boundary. There will be a 10m standoff to the crest of the excavation from both the water race and the ditch adjacent to the QE2 area, in accordance with the Carterton District Plan Rural Industrial Zone permitted activity rules.

The floor of the existing old quarry excavation is currently at or near the ground water level at the site and water discharges from the quarry into drains that exit the site immediately to the east of the entrance gate. The assumed ground water level is approximately at the 123.5 to 124m elevation. The water from the excavation and the surrounding land drains into both the QE2 covenanted area to the west and another wetland area to the east, which is within the Kiwi Lumber property. The water which currently leaves the site appears to be clean and shows no obvious high sediment load, though as soon as it leaves the proposed extraction area it mixes with water from the backfilled excavation that runs along the eastern part of the southeastern boundary.

Rain that falls on the flat pasture land across the site soaks into the soil and runs off into either the old excavation or directly towards the QE2 wetland in the southwest corner of the site. There is likely to be very limited run-off from land surrounding the excavation to the north into the excavation, considering that the



topography is essentially flat and that there are no physical features, such as depressions or gullies that would tend to concentrate water towards the site.

#### 1.3.6 Vegetation

The entire site is covered with grass with some mature exotic trees along the southwestern, northwestern and southeastern boundaries of the site. These are not expected to be removed as a result of quarrying activities and will act as additional screening for visual impact and noise. There are three native trees at the eastern end of the East-West ridge in the western part of the site, probably kanuka/manuka, which are likely to require removal as part of quarrying activities. The eastern extension to the old excavation has been partially backfilled with topsoil and has formed a small wetland area in places (see Figure 5), with tussock grass and gorse becoming established along with pasture grass. The QE2 covenanted wetland and its specific vegetation will not be impacted by the quarry, with a standoff from the excavation to the wetland boundary and water run-off controls to prevent discharge of sediment into the wetland area (see Section 2.2.7).

All topsoil will be stored on site and seeded with grass for later restoration of the quarry.

## 1.3.7 Archaeology

The site for the proposed extraction area is either pasture, an existing excavation or an area of backfill/tipping from previous quarrying operations or industrial activities. There are no obvious archaeological sites associated with the excavation footprint and the Carterton District Plan does not show any sites as being registered. Considering the existing land use it is unlikely that there would be any significant sites. Occasional artefacts that may be uncovered during removal of the topsoil will be recorded and notified to the appropriate authorities (local lwi and the Carterton District Council, refer to section 3.7).

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# 2 Quarry Operations and Development

#### 2.1 Overview

The purpose of the quarry operation is to extract the gravels and sands below the ground surface for use as building, construction and roading aggregates. The process of transforming the in-situ gravels and sands into aggregate products comprises firstly stripping of the vegetation, soil and low quality subsoil mixed with gravel and sand, which overlie the mineral resource. The next step is to excavate the gravels and sands with the use of heavy machinery. The extracted mineral is then either stockpiled as "run of quarry" material and later processed, or transported directly to an on-site processing plant where it is screened and crushed to produce different aggregate products of different size ranges and grades. A small proportion of the crushed product (approximately 20%) will be washed to produce concrete aggregates. The following sections provide a more detailed description of these activities.

# 2.2 Brief Description of Activities

## 2.2.1 Vegetation Removal and Site Preparation

This will include removal or any trees, bushes or turf on the site. It may not be possible to separate the turf from the topsoil, which will be stockpiled separately. As discussed in Section 1.3.6, there are only three trees that are likely to need removal, with the remaining trees around the perimeter being left in place. The remainder of the site is covered with grass and occasional gorse and broom bushes. A vegetation and landscape management plan (VLMP) for the site is not considered necessary, considering the small amount of vegetation requiring removal. There are no buildings that require removal.

# 2.2.2 Soil and Overburden Stripping and Stockpiling

Topsoil and subsoil stripping will be carried out using an excavator and truck to transport the materials to the stockpile area. The stripping will be similar to the existing excavation, as shown in Figure 7 below.



Figure 7: Pre-stripped Northern Section of Existing Excavation - Looking Northeast



Since the overburden is only a maximum of 700mm thick, there will be no issues with respect to the stability of any cut slopes formed in this material. The stripped topsoil and materials will be stored in bunds similar to those already on the site. They will be grassed over to prevent dust issues and will be constructed no more than 7m high with slopes at a maximum angle of 1 vertical to 2 horizontal (approximately 27 degrees), to maintain long-term stability. The precise position of topsoil and subsoil bunds will be determined during detailed quarry planning and operation, but will most likely be distributed around the perimeter of the site close to where they are excavated. A three metre standoff will be established between the toe of the slope of any bund and the crest of the quarry excavation. The bunds will help mitigate any visual impact and will provide a buffer against noise from the site. They will also be important in diverting clean run-off water around the site and limiting the amount of storm water run-off from outside the site boundary.

Based on an average thickness of 0.6m, the total volume of topsoil that will need to be removed during the life of the quarry is approximately 56,000m³. The volume of the existing topsoil bunds, which will need to be relocated at some time during the operation, is approximately 3600m³.

Topsoil and subsoil overburden will be removed on a periodic basis in advance of the main extraction activities, in order to minimise disturbance to the site and reduce the amount of topsoil storage required at any one time. Since the excavation will be progressively restored as it is being worked, the total amount of soil to be stored will be significantly less than the total volume for the whole site.

## 2.2.3 Sand and Gravel Extraction

Gravel and sand extraction will be carried out using a backhoe excavator operating from behind the crest of the slope. The digger will load out the gravel and sand onto the quarry floor, forming a pile of excavated material. This will then be picked up by a front-end loader and taken for stockpiling as run-of-quarry material, or directly to the processing plant, depending on the production requirements at the time.

No blasting is required to excavate this material.

The slopes will be excavated at a similar angle to those currently in existence on the site, at between 60 and 70 degrees (2V:1H) as shown in Figure 8 on the following page. These slopes are currently stable at these angles. However, when working behind the crest of the slope, the tracks of the excavator must remain perpendicular and not parallel to it, to ensure that minor degradation of the face crest does not destabilise the excavator and to allow for rapid pullback in the case of instability.

Final, long-term excavated slopes will be cut at an angle of 1V:2H (approximately 27 degrees), unless buttressed by restoration fill, in which case they will be steepened, though at present this is not considered to be required.





Figure 8: Existing Quarry Excavation Face, up to 4m High - Looking Northeast

Maximum slope heights in the excavation will be up to 6m in the northeast corner of the site, reducing to effectively zero in the far western part of the site, but generally ranging between 4 and 5m in height.

## 2.2.4 Quarry Development and Extraction Limits

The maximum extraction limits for the excavation are shown on the plan in Appendix A. The actual extraction limits will be governed by stability requirements, proximity to water courses, soil storage bunds, operational requirements and stand-offs to vegetation, but will not exceed those shown on the plan. The excavation extraction limit represents all the material available down to just above the water table at the 124m elevation and will be taken to the site boundary where no stand-offs are required.

The precise layout of the quarry faces over the proposed life of the quarry will depend on the actual production requirements and practical excavation constraints. However, the excavation will be developed initially by advancing the existing quarry faces to either the southwest, towards the western limits of the site, or to the northeast. Because of the East-West ridge formed by the fault, the excavation in the far western portion of the site will terminate effectively along the base of the ridge and the southern limit of the excavation will have no cut slope.

There is a requirement within the Profit a Prendre to "ensure that no more than 60% of the Land constitutes the open quarry or quarries area from time to time and to lay down the balance of the Land from time to time in good quality pasture throughout the term of this Profit a Prendre." This will then limit the overall quarry working area and allow the excavation to be progressively restored.



#### 2.2.5 Mineral Processing

Minerals will be processed by means of a mobile screening and crushing unit to produce the required aggregate products. Approximately 20% of the product will be washed to produce concrete aggregates. The existing quarry floor is sufficiently large enough to accommodate this mobile plant and provide good access for mobile equipment and stocking areas. Processing is likely to be on a periodic basis, once existing stockpiles are close to depletion, but may be permanent, depending on production requirements.

The mobile screening, crushing and washing plant will always be located on the floor of the excavation, which will limit visual impact, noise and dust effects. The location of the process plant may vary within the quarry floor from time to time, depending on the proximity of the excavation to the plant area.

The washing process for the concrete aggregates will produce some silt laden water which will require settling out before it is discharged from the site. This is further discussed in Section 2.2.7 below.

# 2.2.6 Storage, Distribution and Access

Gravel and sand will be stored on site on the floor of the excavation, close to the process plant area. There is currently sufficient flat space to establish a stocking area for the maximum amount of gravel required at any one time, which would be approximately 8,000 to 10,000m³, of which the majority would be roading base course aggregate (80%) and the remainder sealing chip and concrete aggregates. The maximum dimensions likely for any stockpiles on site would be between 7m and 8m in height, giving a diameter of approximately 22 to 23m, assuming an angle of repose of the processed materials of 35 degrees, which will produce stockpiles with volumes between 8000 and 10,000m³. Depending on the actual layout of the plant area, it is likely that the stocking area would consist of a number of smaller stockpiles, between 4 and 5m high, with diameters of between 10 and 15m and volumes of 1000 and 3000m³ respectively. There would be no operational requirement to cover the stockpiles or to place them in specific stocking bays.

Imported clean fill will also be stockpiled on site before being placed in the worked out excavation as backfill. As with the mineral products, these stockpiles would be limited to 7 or 8m in height, with diameters of 20 to 25m. Again, there will be adequate space within the floor of the excavation to accommodate clean fill stockpiles which will be present prior to backfilling activities.

Trucks will be loaded directly from the stockpiles into haul trucks, which will then exit the quarry via the main access ramp in the middle of the southeastern boundary of the site. The main quarry ramp is unlikely to change its position during the life of the quarry and the weighbridge will be located close to the gate, on a 10 to 12m wide area of natural ground above the quarry excavation (see plan in Appendix A). This area will need to be levelled and cleared of a minor amount of quarry waste, but will be suitable for temporary buildings such as the weighbridge, office and toilet, making sure that there is a standoff of at least 5m to the edge of the existing quarry excavation. A provisional location for the weighbridge and offices is shown on the site plan in Appendix A. The existing gate will be used for access to the site. From the site to the public road a dedicated road will be constructed across the Kiwi Lumber site.

## 2.2.7 Water Management

Water management at the site is an integral part of the operation and is required to minimise any potential effects of the quarrying activities on watercourses and land outside the site boundary (refer to Appendix C – Erosion and Sediment Control Plan).

The site naturally drains to the south and southwest into the wetlands formed by the subsidence of ground to the south of the Masterton Fault. The existing excavation currently drains to the east via a cut ditch in the quarry floor (see Figure 5), where it meets another ditch emerging from the base of the filled part of the old excavation (see Figure 6). At this point another ditch takes run-off water south, away from the site, to a culvert under the access road immediately to the east of the site entrance gate. The drains are shown on the plan in Appendix A.



Because the site does not intersect any watercourses and because of the very shallow gradient of the natural ground surface, the amount of runoff is likely to be restricted to rainfall immediately within the quarry excavation and the immediate area surrounding the site. A minor amount of high-level ground water would also be expected to seep into the excavation from adjoining land during and after major rainfall events. As quarrying proceeds, surface water run-off will either enter the quarry excavation directly, or be directed to the low-lying area adjacent to the QE2 wetland in the southwestern corner of the site. Currently, in this area a 5m wide ditch in front of the existing boundary fence to the wetland serves to control water run-off from the site (see Figure 4). This ditch flows directly into the wetland area. As the excavation approaches the wetland area, a 10m standoff will prevent mixture of any sediment laden water within the excavation from mixing with the undisturbed water in the wetland and the boundary ditch. Grassed topsoil bunds placed around the perimeter will be sufficient to prevent any excess run-off water from outside the site entering the excavation.

The water race running along the northeastern boundary is at a level above the majority of the surface of the site and it is unlikely that any sediment laden water will enter the stream as a result of quarrying operations. A 10m standoff from the perimeter of the excavation to the edge of the water race will help mitigate disturbance of the boundary area and prevent leakage into the excavation, with the perimeter bund protecting against flooding of the workings. Flooding of the Waingawa River is not likely to affect the site, since it is at least 1.5km away from the river and raised approximately 6m above the normal river level.

Materials excavated from the extraction area will be immediately placed on the quarry floor, thereby containing within the excavation any sediment laden water that runs off these materials. At the western end of the site, where there is no retaining cut slope, it will be necessary to construct a bund to control run-off from the extracted mineral into the perimeter ditch.

Run-off water control within the quarry will be concerned with significant discharges of any sediment laden water from the quarry excavation into the wetlands to the south of the site, particularly the QE2 covenanted area, and especially during storm events. Quarry run-off water will be controlled by a sump excavated below the current quarry floor level of 124m, into the water table, which will be sized to manage the 5% AEP storm event. The location of the sump should ideally be fixed within the quarry, since it will need to be a permanent feature that may need to be used at very short notice. The best location for a sediment retention pond/sump is in the eastern extension of the existing quarry excavation (refer to Appendix C), where there is presently a small area of wetland and some drains, as shown in Figure 5. Based on the Wellington Regional Council Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines, the size of the retention pond needs to be approximately 2% of the total catchment of 11.6 Ha in order to efficiently settle out sediment. This gives a total area of approximately 2400m<sup>2</sup>.

The proposed site allows for an 80m long by 25 to 35m wide pond, running along the existing northern edge of the excavation, as shown on the site plan in Appendix A. This corresponds to a recommended length to width ratio of 3:1 for efficient settlement and mitigation of short circuiting. Whilst this pond/sump would be large enough to treat the run-off from the site, the proposed operation of the quarry will mean that only a total of 60% of the surface will be exposed at any one time. In this case a smaller pond will be adequate for the initial operation (1400m², with dimensions 70m x 20m – Refer to Appendix C), which could then be either extended or dug out as the quarry operation develops.

The only other major source of sediment will be from the washing of the run-of-quarry material as it is processed into saleable aggregate products. Again, settlement of fines will be within ponds/sumps dug into the floor of the quarry. It will be important to have separate sumps to the main run-off pond, since these will have higher volumes of sediment, but a controlled rate of discharge, and discharge into the ponds will be periodic, during operation of the plant. The main run-off pond (refer to drawings C01, C02, C03 in Appendix C) will have lower quantities of sediment but is designed for higher rates of flow, to take account of the 5% AEP rainfall event. The location of these sumps will change depending on the location of the processing plant and whenever they fill up with sediment. The quantity of fines is not expected to be large and they will be incorporated into the backfill of the excavation as quarrying proceeds. Based on a maximum silt content of 5% and that only 20% of the mineral processed will be washed for concrete aggregates, a total of approximately 5,300m³ (refer to Appendix C) of material will need to be settled out during the life of the quarry. This would require a maximum pond area of approximately 60m x 30m with a depth of 3m, but in reality will comprise a number of smaller ponds which will be backfilled or dug out progressively as they silt up.



Water that is required to be used for the washing of the aggregate on site will be extracted from the Carterton District Council administered storage pond, which is fed from the west by the water race running along the northern extent of the proposal site. An agreement between the applicant and Carterton District Council has been reached, allowing the proposed quarry operation to extract 11 litres per second from the storage pond for its proposed extraction duration (Appendix B). The agreement will allow for ample water supply to wash the extracted material, and will negate the requirement to construct a bore to take water form the aquifer.

There is sufficient space within the existing quarry excavation to excavate the initial settlement pond and storm water control sump prior to commencement of operations. The precise location of the initial ponds will be determined based on the production requirements at commencement of operations, but will be within the existing quarry excavation. Subsequent ponds will be located depending on the development of the quarry and the location of the process plant.

### 2.2.8 Rehabilitation and Landscaping

The Profit a Prendre document between Wairarapa Aggregates and Kiwi Lumber states that: "At the termination of this Profit a Prendre to leave the Land in a tidy condition with the open quarry and quarries area level and in a condition which complies with all the provisions of all resource consents and local body requirements and which shall be left in a state no lower than 0.5 metres above the highest level that the winter water table reaches under the Land during the term of this Profit a Prendre. In addition, the Grantee shall lay down all of the Land (excluding the accessway) in good quality pasture and shall provide 5 building sites suitable for residential construction on land in the areas designated by the Grantor."

Backfilling of the site for restoration purposes will occur periodically during the operation. Backfill will comprise clean fill imported from off-site. Backfill will be stored in stockpiles on the quarry floor before being transported to the final location within the worked out excavation. The final level of the backfill will depend on the maximum winter water table level, which will be more accurately established by observation and measurements during the life of the quarry (refer to Appendix C), but is currently assumed to be at between the 123.5 and 124m elevation. In order to ensure stability and to reduce the effects of bulking, the tipped materials will be compacted by earthmoving equipment. Where houses are planned, the developer will specify the compaction requirements for the building foundations (refer to Consent Application).

Topsoil and subsoil will be placed from the stockpiles over the fill and the excavated slopes of the excavation, and the land will be given over to pasture, except along the access route and where the house construction platforms will have been designated. The final landform will be a shallow depression, with final slopes of 1V:2H around the perimeter, generally between 4 and 7m high, but open to the southwest, where the ridge means that there will be no excavation face.

No buildings should be located within 20m of the fault trace that forms the ridge and the precise location of the fault will need to determined during development of the quarry.



### 3 Environmental Effects and Management Measures

### 3.1 Noise

Noise levels will be governed by the guidelines within the Carterton District Plan, covering rural industrial areas. These are as follows. No activities, except temporary activities, may generate noise which exceeds the following limits measured at the boundary of any site zoned rural environment:

55 dB(A) L10 from 7am to 7pm daily 45 dB(A) L10 and 75dB(A)LMax from 7pm to 7am daily

These levels will be monitored periodically during the operation of the quarry, particularly at the start up of operations. All noise levels will be measured in accordance with NZS 6801: "Measurement of Sound - Methods of Measuring Noise: 1991", and assessed in accordance with NZS 6802:1991 " Assessment of Environmental Sound - Assessment of Noise in the Environment: 1991", or in accordance with any subsequent New Zealand Standards that concern the measurement and assessment of noise in the environment. The noise will be measured with a sound level meter complying with the International Standard IEC 651 (1979): Sound Level Meters, Type 1. The main sources of noise will be the process plant, the excavator, loader and haul trucks.

To comply with the District Plan standards and to ensure noise does not exceed acceptable levels a range of operational practices will be implemented, including the following:

- a. Managing the time and location of particularly noisy operations around the site.
- b. The mobile processing plant will be located on the floor of the existing quarry, which will reduce the noise level at the boundary of the quarry.
- Machinery will be regularly maintained to ensure that noise produced from machinery is kept to a practicable minimum.
- d. Bunds will be constructed where appropriate on quarry boundaries to reduce the effects of noise beyond the boundary of the quarry.

To ensure that the noise performance standards set in the District Plan are met, monitoring will be carried out on representative occasions using appropriate equipment, methods and personnel.

### 3.2 Traffic

Whilst the effects of traffic on public roads outside the quarry site are generally beyond the control of Wairarapa Aggregates and outside the scope of the QMP, practicable steps to reduce any effects of traffic directly related to the quarry operation will be taken, particularly related to noise and dust. These will include:

a. Generally restricting quarry dispatch times to the following hours:

Monday to Friday 6:30am – 6:30pm Saturday 6:30am – 4:00pm

- b. All Wairarapa Aggregates owned and operated vehicles will be regularly maintained and checked to ensure that appropriate noise and emission suppression devices are installed and operating effectively.
- c. Any customer whose vehicle is noted as having excessive emissions due to lack of maintenance will be requested to rectify the problem and warned that they may be refused products on their next visit if the problem persists.
- d. Loader drivers will be appropriately trained to help ensure that customers trucks are loaded securely. It is the responsibility of the individual truck drivers to make sure their load is secure before they drive on a public road.



#### 3.3 **Dust (Air Quality)**

Dust can be generated by many different activities that are carried out at the quarry site including: crushing, extraction, trucks and machinery. Wairarapa Aggregates will ensure that adequate measures are taken to control the emission of dust from all parts of the site. The objective of this section of the QMP is to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse nuisance or amenity effects of dust from quarry operations beyond the boundaries of the quarry site. Of the potential discharges to air, particulate emissions of dust have the greatest potential for off-site effects. However, provided the operation site is well controlled and the activities well managed, particulate emissions can be kept at a level where any adverse health or nuisance effects, or damage to vegetation will not occur.

Measures to implement the air quality objectives will include the following:

- a. Locating the mobile processing plant within the excavation and away from the quarry boundaries.
- Maintaining large volumes of water on site, which will be available for dust suppression purposes.
- Ensuring that areas of exposed material with dust generating potential, such as ungrassed topsoil and subsoil bunds, are kept to a practicable minimum.
- Vegetating topsoil and subsoil bunds as soon as possible to limit dust generation potential.
- Using a water tanker to spray water on working areas during dry and windy weather conditions.
- Ensuring that potentially dusty activities are not carried out when weather conditions could give rise to offsite dust emissions.
- Regularly undertaking proper maintenance and tuning of the vehicles and equipment, which also assists in avoiding any off-site effects.
- Requiring the quarry manager or his or her nominee to record daily:
  - visual emission of dust;
  - sources of visual emission of dust;
  - measures initiated in response to visual emission of dust to prevent recurrence or mitigate effects:
  - water cart use (yes/no);
  - weather conditions (wind strength and direction, rainfall).

The operator will comply with the conditions of any discharge permit issued by the regional council, and any relevant associated land use consent conditions. This is likely to include regular monitoring, general operations to limit generation and discharge of dust (as outlined above) as well as implementing measures to reduce discharges if they are found to approach unacceptable levels.

### 3.4 Landscape and Visual

The effect of quarrying on the landscape will be minimal, since the site is located in a flattish area of ground, the excavation will be partially backfilled and the maximum depth of the excavation will be approximately 6m in the northeast corner (with the current ground level at 130m). The nearest dwellings are approximately 250m to the east, 350m to the northeast and 850m to the southwest, and the site is not visible from these locations.

### Rehabilitation and End Use Objectives 3.5

The provision in the Profit a Prendre to restore the land to good pasture is in keeping with the existing land use of the quarry site. The provision for five building sites suitable for construction will require some land to be left unrestored at the end of the quarry life, though the foundations will be on compacted cleanfill material.

It will be important to ensure that any cleanfill that is deposited on the site goes through some form of screening process to ensure that it meets the Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) cleanfill guidelines. To achieve this the following actions are proposed:

- Ensure that any cleanfill brought to the site has been inspected/and signed off by the truck driver as being able to comply with the GWRC guidelines for cleanfill; and
- the site manager will visually inspect any cleanfill for any obvious signs of non-compliance with the GWRC guidelines.

Status: Final

Project number: Z1449801

November 2008 Our ref: QMP Draft Report. doc



Specific procedures will be in place on site to ensure that these activities are carried out appropriately.

### 3.6 Hazardous Substances

This section of the management plan deals with issues relating to the release of hazardous substances from storage facilities or during their use, transport or disposal within the quarry site. The objective is to avoid, remedy or mitigate the potential for adverse effects on the environment of the storage, use, disposal and transportation of hazardous substances such as diesel and oils.

To meet this objective, the following measures will be implemented:

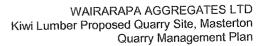
- a. Only the quantities of material necessary for the operation of the quarry will be stored on site.
- b. All transport, storage and operating conditions meet the requirements of licences under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms legislation and the relevant standard for the transportation of hazardous substances NZS 5433.
- c. Fuel, lubricant and waste oil storage, dispensing and operating facilities are designed and operated in such a way that contamination of soil and water is avoided as far as practicable.
- d. Drums and smaller containers will be stored on bunded pads in a designated area.
- e. Vehicles in use on site will be well maintained and operated to ensure that no accidental spillage or loss of fuel or lubricants occurs.

### 3.7 Tangata Whenua

Whilst the quarry area is small, does not cut any water courses and does not appear to have any sites of archaeological interest, it is still important to operate the quarry in a manner which recognises and provides for the relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wahi tapu and other taonga. This is especially important since the wetland to the south of the site may have cultural significance. To achieve this, the following will be implemented by Wairarapa Aggregates.

Tangata whenua will be identified and consultation will be undertaken to develop a procedure to deal with any discovery of koiwi and taonga. Procedures such as the following could be followed should evidence or indications of koiwi or taonga be discovered:

- Immediately koiwi or taonga have been discovered, activity around the area of the discovery will cease and an archaeologist brought in;
- The archaeologist will immediately arrange to secure the area to ensure that the suspected koiwi or taonga remain untouched;
- Tangata whenua and the Historic Places Trust will be advised that it is suspected that koiwi or taonga have been uncovered on the site;
- A representative of tangata whenua will be asked to contact relevant kaumatua who are to guide and advise Wairarapa Aggregates as to the course of action to be followed and to immediately advise the archaeologist of the identity of the kaumatua and such other details as may be appropriate in the circumstances;
- The archaeologist will arrange staff/Carterton District Council to meet and guide kaumatua, police, DOC or Historic Places Trust representatives to the site, and assist with any requests that they may make;
- If the kaumatua are satisfied that the koiwi or taonga are of Maori origin the kaumatua will implement appropriate procedures and will communicate this to Wairarapa Aggregates, NZ Police and other relevant parties;
- Wairarapa Aggregates will ensure that the kaumatua are given the opportunity to perform karakia and other religious or cultural ceremonies and activities considered appropriate in accordance with tikanga Maori (Maori custom and protocol).
- Wairarapa Aggregates will make available on the property other suitable, secure non working areas for the reburial of koiwi or taonga if tangata whenua so wish.





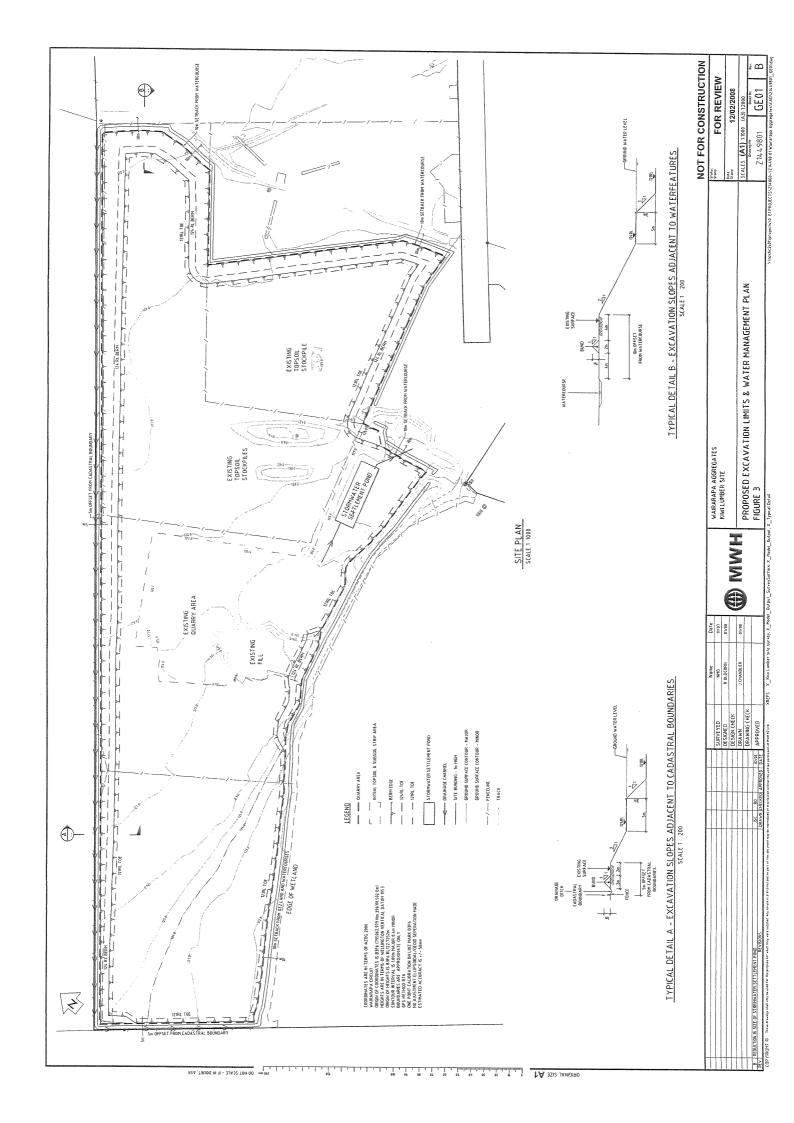
### **Definitions**

Koiwi means human remains such as skeletal material. Taonga refers to cultural artefacts such as implements, weapons or decorations traditionally and historically utilised by tangata whenua and includes parts and remains thereof.

Status: Final Project number: Z1449801



# **Appendix A: Proposed Extraction Limits and Water Management Plan**





# **Appendix B: Carterton District Council – Water Take Agreement**



# Carterton District Council

13 May 2008

Callum Sayer

P O Box 9624

Te Aro

Wellington

Dear Callum,

Subject: Wairarapa Aggregates Ltd Water Take, Taratahi Water Race, Waingawa

I am writing to you in response to your request to take up to 111/s of water from the Taratahi Water Race at Waingawa for approximately 350 hours per annum.

The actual water take to be spread over the year as your operations demand. The water will be used during the winning and processing of gravel from a land based extraction operation.

I can confirm that the Carterton District Council gives approval for this, subject to the following conditions;

- CDC may restrict or cease supply at any time, subject to verbal notification, if it
  experiences difficulties with the network such as a failure of the intake structure
  or if its consented take is restricted under the step down procedure in its resource
  consent as a result of low river flows,
- That your proposed water take shall not cause a noticeable reduction in the flow downstream of the extraction point,
- That the potentially contaminated water will be treated and returned to the network after use in accordance with a resource consent that will be obtained by your Company from Greater Wellington Regional Council,
- That this approval is for Three years and may be renewed thereafter upon request subject to water availability and conditions at that time,
- That this approval cannot be transferred to another party,
- That the water take can only be used for the intended purpose.

If you have any queries, please contact me.





## **Appendix C: Erosion and Sediment Control Plan**



### **Erosion and Sediment Control Plan**

### 1.1 Introduction

This document is supplementary to "Wairarapa Aggregates Ltd. Kiwi Lumber Proposed Quarry Site, Masterton – Quarry Management Plan". The reader is referred to the Quarry Management Plan for any background information including location, land use, depth constraints, water table, location sensitivities and proposed staging of the quarry development.

### 1.2 Stormwater Diversion

The land above the site (to the north-east) is pasture on a flat gradient draining towards the quarry site (refer to figure1, Quarry Management Plan). There is likely to be limited run-off from land surrounding the excavation to the north and west into the proposed site, considering that the topography is essentially flat and that there are no physical features, such as depressions or gullies that would tend to concentrate water towards the quarry. Stormwater approaching from this direction will be diverted along the cadastral boundary draining to the west via a bund and diversion channel (refer to Appendix 1). The bund and channel will run the entire length of the north-western boundary of the site and then down along the Western boundary to the fault line. From here, the stormwater will drain into the water race adjacent to the QE2 wetland via overland flow.

The existing water race and bund running along the north-eastern boundary of the quarry will act as a barrier preventing overland flow entering the site from the east. The existing bund will provide protection for the site in the event of the water race flooding during high flows.

All bunds have been sized using the rational method for a 5 year ARI storm event. This is the design criteria for quarries in accordance with Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines for the Wellington region.

### 1.3 Sediment Retention Ponds

The site does not intersect any watercourses and because of the very shallow gradient of the natural ground surface, the amount of runoff is likely to be restricted to rainfall immediately within the quarry excavation and the immediate area surrounding the site. A minor amount of high-level ground water would also be expected to seep into the excavation from adjoining land during and after major rainfall events.

Particular care must be shown when discharging into the ecologically significant QE2 wetland area to the southwest of the site. Quarry run-off will be controlled by a sediment control pond excavated below the current quarry floor level of 124m, into the water table. The topography of the area shows slopes are much less than 10%, thus according "Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines for the Wellington Region [ESCG GWRC], the pond will be sized based on 200 m³ of capacity for each hectare of contributing catchment. The best location for a sediment retention pond is in the eastern extension of the existing quarry excavation, where there is presently a small area of wetland and some drains, as shown in Appendix 1 (drawings C01, C02, C03).

The way in which the quarry is developed will affect the area of catchment contributing to the sediment control pond. It is proposed to excavate the material from the quarry in three stages (refer to Appendix 1). Each stage of excavation will have separate sedimentation control requirements.

Stage 1 will involve extending the existing quarry area to the north and to the east (refer to Appendix 1). The projected area of exposed surface is 3.2 hectares, thus the required size of the pond for this stage is 640 m³. The excavation runoff from this area will flow into the existing man made ditch in the existing quarry area and then divert via a new drainage channel into the sediment pond. Temporary diversion bunds will be constructed along the existing fences to prevent any clean water runoff entering Stage 1 excavations.

The western temporary bund will be removed when excavations begin for stage 2 and reconstructed so that it runs along the 124 m contour line (refer to Appendix 1). It is assumed that no material will be



excavated below 124 m, giving a 10 m standoff buffer between the excavations and the QE2 wetland. The runoff from this area will be conveyed via a drainage channel, under the access road through a culvert, to the sediment control pond. The total area of contributing runoff will be 4.6 hectares, which includes the Stage 1 area as this will not have been backfilled. This means the size of the sediment pond will need to be increased to at least 920 m<sup>3</sup>.

Stage 3 will involve the excavation of all the material to the north east of the proposed quarry up to the extent of the antenna earthmat wires or the 10 m set back from the water course (refer to Appendix 1 drawing C03).

Before this stage commences, the areas excavated in Stages 1 and 2 will be back filled with topsoil, reinstated and a silt fence constructed on the western edge of the working area. A diversion channel and bund will be constructed along the south-eastern boundary to divert the contaminated runoff into the sediment pond. This will be the critical stage in terms of pond sizing for it involves the largest catchment area. The 6.6 hectares of exposed surface of stage 3 plus 1 hectare of exposed working area means a minimum pond volume of 1500 m³ is required. The design depth of the pond is 1.5 m, thus 1000 m² of surface area is needed for the sediment pond.

Runoff will pass from the sediment pond through an outlet pipe to a vegetated area at the southern end of the quarry which will provide further treatment. Runoff will enter the existing unnamed stream to the south of the site and flow away towards the south.

Sediment retention ponds, silt fences and silt socks will be maintained and monitored as part of the Quarry Management Plan to ensure effectiveness.

### 1.4 Silt Fences

The earth bunds and surface water diversion channels around work areas will ensure no sediment laden water will escape the site via overland flow, thus eliminating the need for perimeter silt fences. However, silt fences will still be needed around topsoil stock piles, as runoff from these areas will be laden with sediment before grass has had time to take hold. Internal silt fences will be positioned at the bottom of cut slopes where no further excavation will take place for long periods of time, or until grass reinstatement is fully established.

Silt fences and filter cloth used in the control of water borne sediment will be regularly maintained in a controlled manner to keep the effectiveness of the devices at a high operational level.

### 1.5 Truck Wash and Filtration System

Cleanliness of trucks leaving the site is to be monitored on an ongoing basis. To ensure mud is not tracked onto public roads by vehicle movements, a truck-wash will be constructed close to the site access (refer to Appendix 1).

The truck-wash will consist of a thickness of approximately 500mm of gravel placed over a concrete pad. Sediment will be trapped in the gravel, with the runoff entering into the sediment retention ponds. Extra capacity of the sediment retention ponds has been considered and added to cater for the water that will be used in order to clean the trucks at the truck wash.

It is recognised that a truck wash primarily deals with preventing mud being tracked onto public roads, but the truck wash will also allow for the cleaning/dampening of trucks to prevent dust nuisance to neighbouring properties as trucks leave the site. It is proposed that a water-blaster and water connection will be available to wash down the trucks.

### 1.6 Sediment Control Drawings

The proposed sediment and erosion control measures are detailed in drawings C01, C02 and C03 (Appendix 1).



## **Appendix 1: Erosion and Sediment Control Plan**

