

By email

30 August 2013

File Ref: N/50/06/01

Andrew Dooney
Environmental Regulation
Greater Wellington
[Internal]

142 Wakefield Street
PO Box 11646
Manners Street
Wellington 6142
T 04 384 5708
F 04 385 6960
www.gw.govt.nz

Dear Andrew

Further information request under section 92(1) of the RMA 91 - WGN130264 [32238] - Hutt River and specified tributaries Resource Consent Application

I refer to your letter dated 27 June 2013 regarding the above.

Please find attached the following additional information associated with the Hutt River and specified tributaries.

- Effects of Flood Protection activities on Aquatic and Riparian Ecology in the Hutt River
- Environmental Monitoring Plan for operations and Maintenance activities – Western Rivers [draft for discussion]

The following table itemises the responses to specific questions raised in your 27 June letter. The outstanding items will be submitted in October as part of the draft Code of Practice.

Question	Further Information Request	Comment
	–	
2	Alton Perrie – final report	The macroinvertebrate re-colonisation studies undertaken by GWRC Investigations on the Hutt River during gravel extraction activities have not been completed due to delays in sample processing. We are anticipating that this report will be available by the 14 October 2013.

1247103-V1



4	Detailed description of how riprap will be managed in areas suitable for Inagna habitat	Refer to the attached report <i>Effects of Flood Protection activities on Aquatic and Riparian Ecology in the Hutt River</i> . Recommendations on how inanga spawning habitat will be dealt with are made in Section 7 (Mitigation) and 8 (Monitoring).
8	Draft monitoring plan	Refer attached – <i>Environmental Monitoring Plan for Operations and Maintenance Activities – Western Rivers [draft for discussion]</i>
9	Flood event water quality monitoring	Water quality (TSS) results for small, moderate and large flood events in the Hutt River are given in Table 5-4. <i>Effects of Flood Protection activities on Aquatic and Riparian Ecology in the Hutt River</i> .
10	Mitigation planting using natives	Refer attached aerial plans which are draft and will be submitted as final plans on the 14 October 2013.
11	Summary of exclusion periods	<p>A summary of exclusion periods is given in Section 7 (mitigation) in relation to aquatic ecology. <i>Effects of Flood Protection activities on Aquatic and Riparian Ecology in the Hutt River</i>.</p> <p>For recreation the only specific mention in the Hutt application is in Section 4.2.4.5 (gravel extraction) which notes that the period 23 Dec – 15 Feb is a restriction in the former consent, to avoid ‘peak angler use and recreation users’.</p> <p>The proposed conditions in Appendix J of the application say:</p> <p>‘Conditions are proposed around times of the year and times of the day when certain works, or in some cases no works, should be undertaken. The applicant is happy to receive feedback from, and discuss with, the interested/affected parties when those times might be. Contingency works are proposed to be exempt.’</p>
12	Proposed limits on bed-recontouring and gravel	No limits are proposed on bed recontouring. In practice the amount and location would be

	extraction.	<p>determined by the relationship between the Code of Practice, conditions and the adaptive management regime.</p> <p>Gravel extraction limits both wet and dry are determined by the amount of gravel coming into and out of the Hutt River system this process is described in section 3.4 and 4.2.4 of the Hutt River/Te Awa Kairangi resource consent application.</p>
MWH report		
13	Plans	A catchment plan showing the reached managed by Flood Protection, and showing SoE water quality monitoring sites, is included on page 2 of the report. <i>Effects of Flood Protection activities on Aquatic and Riparian Ecology in the Hutt River.</i>
14	Details and description of fish, periphyton, macrophyte	A full description of the composition of fish, benthic communities and bird life is provided for the application area in Section 3 (pages 5 to 20) of the report. <i>Effects of Flood Protection activities on Aquatic and Riparian Ecology in the Hutt River.</i>
15	Water quality analysis in the Hutt River during base flow conditions	A description of water quality during base flow conditions is provided in Section 3 (page 7 and Table 3-2). <i>Effects of Flood Protection activities on Aquatic and Riparian Ecology in the Hutt River.</i>
16	Ecological description of the tributaries	An ecological description of the tributary reaches included in the application is provided in Section 3.1.2, Tables 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-4 (for Akatarawa River), table 3-6 and figures 3-1 to 3-8. <i>Effects of Flood Protection activities on Aquatic and Riparian Ecology in the Hutt River.</i>
17	AEE of channel and bank maintenance on tributary streams	The activities likely to occur in the tributary stream are listed in Table 5-1 and, where applicable are assessed in 5.3.2, 5.4.1, 5.8, 5.10.2, and 5.10.4. <i>Effects of Flood Protection activities on Aquatic and Riparian Ecology in the Hutt River.</i>

Please feel free to contact me on 04 830 4045 if you have any questions or concerns

Yours sincerely

Tracy Berghan
Principal Planner Advisor, Flood Protection

DD: 04 934 1484
tracy.berghan@gw.govt.nz

Copy: Jenny Clafferty - T&T

