OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Agenda for a meeting of the Regulatory Committee to be held in the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on Wednesday 2 August 2017, following the Policy Committee

Membership:

Cr Bryan Scott (Chairperson)
Cr Sam Neill (Deputy Chairperson)
Cr Graeme Bell
Cr Doug Brown
Cr Michael Deaker
Cr Carmen Hope
Cr Trevor Kempton
Cr Michael Laws
Cr Ella Lawton
Cr Andrew Noone
Cr Gretchen Robertson
Cr Stephen Woodhead

Apologies: Cr Noone

Leave of Absence: Cr Neill

In attendance:

Please note that there is an embargo on agenda items until 08:30am on Monday 31 July 2017

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

PUBLIC FORUM

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2017, having been circulated, for adoption.

ACTIONS: (Status report on the resolutions of the Regulatory Committee)

No current actions to be reported

PART A – REPORTS FOR NOTING

Item 1
2017/0907 **Biosecurity and RMA Monitoring Report.** DEMO, 18/07/17 -
This report describes the regulatory activity for the reporting period of 27 May to 14 July 2017.

Item 2
2017/0947 **Rabbit Serum Results 2017,** DEMO, 25/06/17 -
This report provides a summary of the wild rabbit serum samples collected across sites in Otago during the period December 2016 and March 2017.

Item 3
2017/0942 **RMA, Biosecurity Act and Building Act Enforcement Activities for the period from 27 May to 30 June 2017.** DPPRM, 11/07/17 -
This report details the Resource Management Act 1991, Biosecurity Act 1993 and Building Act 2004 enforcement activities undertaken by the Otago Regional Council during the period 27 May to 30 June 2017.

Item 4
2017/0950 **Consent processing, consent administration and Building Control Authority update.** DPPRM, 18/07/17 -
Detailing consent processing, consent administration and building control authority activity for the period 27 May to 30 June and 1-14 July 2017.

Item 5
2017/0955 **Progress Report 1C - Deemed Permit Replacements and Water Groups,** DPPRM, 19/07/17 -
This report notes progress on Project 1C implementation of the Regional Plan: Water policies for the period 26 May to 14 July 2017.

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Regulatory Committee held in the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on Wednesday 14 June 2017, 4:21pm

Membership:	**Cr Bryan Scott** (Chairperson) **Cr Sam Neill** (Deputy Chairperson) **Cr Graeme Bell** **Cr Doug Brown** **Cr Michael Deaker** **Cr Carmen Hope** **Cr Trevor Kempton** **Cr Michael Laws** **Cr Andrew Noone** **Cr Gretchen Robertson** **Cr Stephen Woodhead**
Apologies:	Cr Deaker, Apology was accepted.
In attendance:	Peter Bodeker (CE) Nick Donnelly (DCS) Gavin Palmer (DEHS) Fraser McRae (DPPRM) Scott MacLean (DEMO) Michele Poole (Acting DSHE) Lauren McDonald (Committee Secretary)

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA
The agenda was confirmed.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST
No conflicts of interest were advised.

PUBLIC FORUM
No public forum was held.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 May 2017, having been circulated were adopted on the motion of Crs Scott and Neill.

ACTIONS

Status report on the resolutions of the Regulatory Committee

Report No.	Meeting	Resolution	Status
2017/0569	8/2/17	*That the Chief Executive be requested to provide a paper to the next committee round on establishing effective Council management communications in regards to constituent complaints.* Resolved at the 3/5/17 meeting - That the Committee endorses the proposed process in responding to enforcement related complaints made by constituents to Councilllors, with the amended wording to section 2.8 of the report (removal of the wording "when necessary".)	CLOSED
2017/0593	8/2/17	*That ORC approach central government ministers with the intention of improving and further resourcing lagarosiphon control management in the Southern Lakes.* Public presentation made to Council on 17 May 2017 by LINZ, NIWA and Boffa Miskell on Lagarosiphon in the Otago Region.	CLOSED LINZ made a presentation to Council 17/5/17. Minister has been written to and CE has been in correspondence with Mr Jackie Dean

Cr Noone left the meeting at 4:24pm

PART A – REPORTS FOR NOTING

Item 1
2017/0803 **Biosecurity and RMA Monitoring Report.** DEMO, 31/05/17
This report described the regulatory activity for the reporting period of 14 April to 26 May 2017

Mr Bodeker reaffirmed Council's responsibility in regard to myrtle rust infestation currently identified in the North Island. He confirmed that MPI is the lead agency with ORC undertaking activity in support of the MPI programme.

A request was made for the Rabbit Co-ordination Group agenda and action plan to be provided to councillors for each meeting.

Mr Maclean confirmed the Rabbit Coordination Group agenda and action plan will be provided with the Director's report for future meetings.

Moved Cr Woodhead
Seconded Cr Hope

That this report is received.

Motion Carried

Item 2

2017/0813 **RMA, Biosecurity Act and Building Act Enforcement Activities for the period from 14 April to 26 May 2017.** DPPRM, 26/05/17

The report detailed the Resource Management Act 1991, Biosecurity Act 1993 and Building Act 2004 enforcement activities undertaken by the Otago Regional Council during the period 14 April to 26 May 2017.

Moved Cr Neill
Seconded Cr Kempton

That this report be noted.

Motion Carried

Item 3

2017/0835 **Consent processing, consent administration and Building Control Authority update.** DPPRM, 29/05/17

The report detailed consent processing, consent administration and building control authority activity for the period 13 April to 26 May 2017.

Cr Bell raised a concern in regard to an upcoming RMA consent hearing.

Cr Kempton left the room at 4:33pm due to conflict of interest as a member of the hearing panel.

A point of order was raised as the matter was outside the committee's jurisdiction.

Action: Cr Bell to provide the Chief Executive with the details of the constituent complaint.

Moved Cr Woodhead
Seconded Cr Hope

That this report be noted

Motion Carried

Cr Kempton returned to the meeting at 4:39pm

Item 4

2017/0819 **Progress Report 1C - Deemed Permit Replacements and Water Groups,** DPPRM, 24/05/17

The report noted progress on Project 1C implementation of the Regional Plan: Water policies for the period 18 April to 26 May 2017.

Moved Cr Robertson
Seconded Cr Hope

That the report is noted.

Motion Carried

The meeting was declared closed at 4:40pm

Chairperson

REPORT

Document Id: A1015216

Report Number: 2017/0907
Prepared For: Regulatory Committee
Prepared By: Director Environmental Monitoring and Operations
Date: 18 July 2017

Subject: **Biosecurity & RMA Monitoring Report 27 May-14 July 2017**

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1. Précis

This report describes the Regulatory activity for the reporting period 27 May-14 July 2017.

2. Biosecurity

2.1 Myrtle Rust

ORC biosecurity staff remain on standby to assist MPI with the Myrtle Rust response but at this stage it has not been requested.

2.2 Aquatic pest activity

Lagarosiphon covering an area of 3.5 ha in Paddock Bay in Lake Wanaka has been sprayed by LINZ contractors.

Signage developed by the ORC is to be erected below the Kawarau Falls at Lake Wakatipu in an effort educate boat users about the risk of transferring Lagarosiphon from Kawarau River into Frankton Arm. Further initiatives are being considered by the Wakatipu weed management group to prevent the spread of Lagarosiphon into the lake.

2.3 Marine biosecurity

A staff member attended a marine pest identification training workshop this reporting period. The workshop, facilitated by the Ministry for Primary Industries and NIWA, covered marine pest management roles and responsibilities, marine pathway plans and marine pest identification. This was valuable staff training and provided useful insights to consider as Council reviews the Regional Pest Management Plan for Otago.

2.4 Wallaby activity

Approximately 4100 hectares of land has been inspected this reporting period in Central Otago, North Otago and the Maniototo. This was undertaken by staff and contractors using specially trained wallaby detection dogs. No evidence of wallaby activity was found.

A farm manager in the Tarras area reported seeing a wallaby during this reporting period. He took note of its location and contacted the ORC immediately. Staff deployed to the area and located it at night using night vision thermal imaging equipment. The animal, a barren female, was promptly dispatched. This is an excellent example of the community and the Council working together for a successful outcome.

Suspected wallaby scat found near Boundary Creek Manuherikia West Branch was sent to Landcare Research for DNA testing and returned a positive result for wallaby DNA.

A member of a hunting party shot and killed a male wallaby on a North Otago station in the Kakanui Mountains. ORC staff carried out inspection and confirmed the kill. The surrounding sign indicated the wallaby was a lone animal.

A sighting was reported in the Macraes area. This is as yet unconfirmed but further surveillance is being carried out in that area.

A single wallaby was sighted crossing SH85 near Brothers Peaks. This sighting has been confirmed and further surveillance of that area is being carried out.

2.5 National wilding conifer programme

Land Information New Zealand has developed and released a Wilding Conifer spatial mapping tool. This will greatly assist in measuring the progress of the national programme and give users the ability to map new infestations. The tool was launched by the Minister of Land Information and the Minister of Conservation. The Otago Regional Council was acknowledged by the Minister of Conservation at the launch for its contribution to and funding of wilding control efforts in Otago.

During the launch, it was also announced that Otago will have another new management Unit, the Lammermoor's, funded for control as part of the national programme.

2.6 Nassella

Property inspections in the Cardrona Valley were carried out this reporting period with 901 plants located and destroyed. The majority of these plants were seedlings. Ranging will be carried out in Nov-Dec to locate seeding plants which are more visible at that time of year.

Two landowner "field days" were held in the Roxburgh area this reporting period. A total of 220 plants were destroyed during the field days.

2.7 Rabbits

Rabbit inspections have continued over this period with the focus on Central Otago and the Otago Peninsula. Follow up and auditing of Rabbit Control Plans is also continuing.

There are a number of rabbit poison operations being undertaken this winter. ORC staff have been working with landowners and contractors providing guidance in regard to poisoning best practice.

K5 update summary:

- The Project Steering Group has made a decision to revise the timeframe for the release of RHDV1 K5 to March 2018.
- Key project risks, programme and communications plan have been revised to reflect the revised planned release timeframe of March 2018.
- ACVM (Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines) application - a deviations application has been prepared and submitted to ACVM.

- ACVM has requested further information in respect of the deviations sought and this has been submitted.
- ACVM is currently considering the application
- Unwanted organism application - this has been completed in draft and will be submitted alongside the final ACVM application.
- Planning is underway for release process and roll out.
- Stakeholder engagement is ongoing in line with confirmed strategy.
- Website resource is complete and ready to go live.

2.8 Rabbit complaint procedures

From time to time, Council receives complaints from land occupiers, regarding rabbit infestations. These are usually regarding rabbits on a neighbouring property but can occasionally be from someone complaining that they have "too many" rabbits on their own property.

Each complaint is logged in our incidents database. The complaint is then assigned to a compliance officer for follow up. The compliance officer will contact the complainant (in most cases) for further detail if required.

If a property inspection is required, it will be programmed in for inspection. The property in question will be inspected and assessed against the Maximum Allowable Limit identified in the Pest Management Plan for Otago 2009, which is set at 3 on the McLean Scale (referred to in the RPMP as MAL3). Neighbouring properties will also be assed at the same time, including the complainant's property if necessary.

If any of the properties are found to have rabbit numbers in excess of MAL3, a Rabbit control Property Plan (property plan) is requested of the land occupier, in accordance with the procedures set out in the RPMP.

In the property plan, the occupier must detail how they intend on reducing and maintaining rabbit numbers at or below MAL3 over the following 3 years.

Property plans are subsequently audited each year to ensure they have been implemented.

For those property occupiers that contact Council seeking advice on how to control rabbits, they are referred to a range of resources available relevant to their situation. For small peri-urban lifestyle blocks, there are options available to enable the occupiers to carry out their own control, or employ a contractor. For residential property occupiers, control options can be very limited. Often the best option is to install rabbit proof fences to prevent rabbits from entering their properties and causing a nuisance.

3. Marine Pollution response readiness

ORC has 28 staff trained in marine oil spill response, including some Port Otago Limited staff. To ensure a continual state of readiness, several training exercises are held each year. One such training exercise was held during this reporting period. A Maritime New Zealand staff member from MNZ's Marine Pollution Response Service in Auckland was on-site to assess the exercise and "revalidate" the staff involved. The exercise involved scenario planning, staff tasking, oiled wildlife recovery planning and

"on-water" equipment deployment. All staff involved were revalidated successfully. A number of other agencies attended and took part in the successful exercise including POL, Department of Conservation and the Yellow Eyed Penguin Trust.

Staff deploy an oil "skimmer" during a marine oil spill training exercise on the Otago harbour.

Rapid deployment and harbour booms are set in place during a marine oil spill training exercise on the Otago Harbour.

4. Recommendation

That this report is received.

Scott MacLean
Director Environmental Monitoring and Operations

REPORT

Document Id: A1020572

Report Number: 2017/0947
Prepared For: Regulatory Committee
Prepared By: Environmental Services
Date: 25 June 2017

Subject: **Rabbit Serum Results 2017**

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1. Précis

Wild rabbit serum samples were collected across 10 sites in Otago during February and March 2017 as part of the Otago Regional Councils long term monitoring of Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease Virus (RHDV). An additional 10 sites were sampled between December and January at sites where K5 had been expected to be released in the autumn 2017. Sera were tested for antibodies using a competition ELISA to determine immunity levels to RHDV within the wild rabbit population.

Those samples with detectable antibody levels at the 1:40 dilution or greater were considered to be immune to the virus. Samples where antibodies were not detected or only detected at the 1:10 dilution were not considered immune.

At two of the 10 long term monitoring sites where rabbit numbers were low and attaining sample sizes greater than 15 has been difficult, immunity rates were again low at 9% and 12%.

Overall immunity at our long term monitoring sites ranged from 9% to 87% across all sites in Otago, with the average immunity of all 10 sites 66%. This level of immunity was similar to the previous sampling of 2015, where immunity was 62%, and also similar to levels found in 2009 and 2011. The average immunity for a subset of eight of the 10 sites sampled that had consistently averaged between 70 and 76% between 2009 and 2015 peaked at 80% this year, and this is likely to be a more representative estimate of immunity levels across Otago.

At our pre-K5 release sampling sites immunity ranged between 3% and 90% with average immunity the same as to that found at our long term monitoring sites.

The average immunity to RHDV across Otago appears to be showing an increasing trend. However, rates of increase between sites remain highly variable.

2. Introduction

First discovered in China in 1983 and illegally introduced into New Zealand in 1997 (Czech variant), rabbit haemorrhagic disease virus (RHDV1) infects European rabbits (*Oryctolagus cunniculas*) causing the rapid development of acute rabbit haemorrhagic disease (RHD). There are now several variants of the virus, one of which the Korean variant (K5), is subject to an import application by ECan to have it introduced into New Zealand. Another virus, RHDV2, was discovered in Europe and has since become

established in Australia. Although it causes death in a similar way, RHDV2 is a separate virus rather than a variant of RHDV1. It is different from the RHDV1 virus in that it has the ability kill young rabbits 3-4 weeks old as well vaccinated rabbits and has been found to jump species and cause the death of European Brown hares in both Europe and Australia.

RHDV1 causes susceptible rabbits to suffer blood clotting within vital organs and usually die within 50hrs of contracting the disease. Rabbits under 10 weeks of age usually survive viral challenge and become immune for life. The offspring of these immune rabbits are protected by maternal antibodies for a time before becoming susceptible after a few months. Some rabbits may also become immune through exposure to a benign rabbit calici virus (RCV) which is also present in New Zealand. The K5 variant is purported to be able to overcome the immunity given by RCV and hence the interest in having it imported into NZ.

The Otago Regional Council has carried out long term monitoring of RHD since its outbreak in Otago in September 1997. Monitoring is carried out every two years across 10 permanent monitoring sites spread throughout Otago and aims to understand how well the virus is working in relation to rabbit immunity. This year because of the possibility of the release of RHDV1 K5, an additional 10 sites across Otago with high rabbit numbers were chosen and samples taken to establish baseline data before release of K5.

Sampling involves the taking of 30 rabbit serum samples as well as information on breeding status and rabbit age over the period mid-February to early March. Rabbit spotlight night counts were also carried out across the monitoring sites as part of a wider programme monitoring rabbit population trends across Otago.

3. Methods

Rabbits were shot at night under spotlight using either a .22 or 12G shotgun and blood extracted immediately using a 5ml syringe with 18gx40mm needle inserted into the heart. At least 2ml of blood is drawn off and transferred into a labelled 9ml vacutainer with z serum clot activator. Rabbit sex, breeding and body condition were recorded and an eyeball taken for aging.

Collected blood was centrifuged the following morning to separate the serum, which was then drawn off into labelled micro-titre tubes before being frozen. Serum samples were sent to the Hopkins Research Centre at Massey University to be tested for RHDV antibodies using the Cuppuci competitive ELISA test. As part of the test, serum is diluted at a rate of 1:10 and 1:40 to determine the level of antibodies within each sample. Those samples that were seropositive at 1:40 dilution were considered to be from rabbits immune to RHDV. Samples that were seropositive at the 1:10 dilution or seronegative were classed as not immune.

Eyeballs were fixed in 10% formalin for 2 weeks before the eye lens was extracted and dried at 85^0C for 72 hours. Eye lenses were then weighed and the age estimated using the formula of Dudzinski & Mykytowycz (1961). Age data, sex, body and breeding condition were matched with immunity status of the individual rabbit for analysis.

4. Results

A total of 255 samples from the long term monitoring sites were sent for testing. Immunity to RHDV over the 10 monitoring sites varied from 9 to 87% (Fig 3). The average immunity across all sites was 66% (Fig 1.) and this was not significantly different (t-test p>0.05) to that recorded in 2015 (62%).

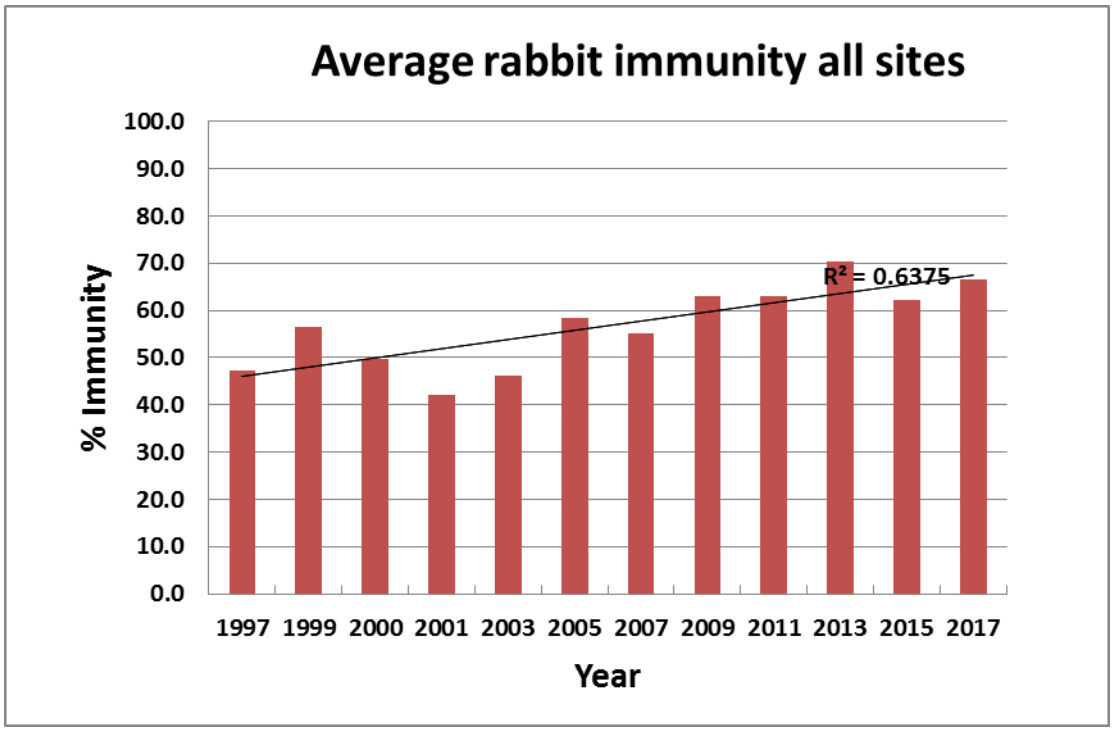

Fig 1. Average rabbit immunity by year across all 10 monitoring sites

Both the Tarras and Poolburn sites had the highest immunity of all sites at 87%, and this was a marked increase in immunity for these sites from previous years. In comparison at the two sites, Hillend and Manorburn, rabbit numbers were again very low, so only 11 and 8 rabbits were able to be obtained from each site. These sites had the lowest immunity of 9% and 12% respectively.

If the sites of Manorburn and Hillend are excluded from the analysis due to the statistically inadequate sample sizes, the average immunity for the remaining subset of 8 sites was higher at 80% (Fig 3.). This was not significantly different to the 72% average immunity for the 8 sites in the previous sampling in 2015 (t-test p>0.05) and similar to the preceding years of 2013 (76%), 2011 (72%) and 2009 (74%).

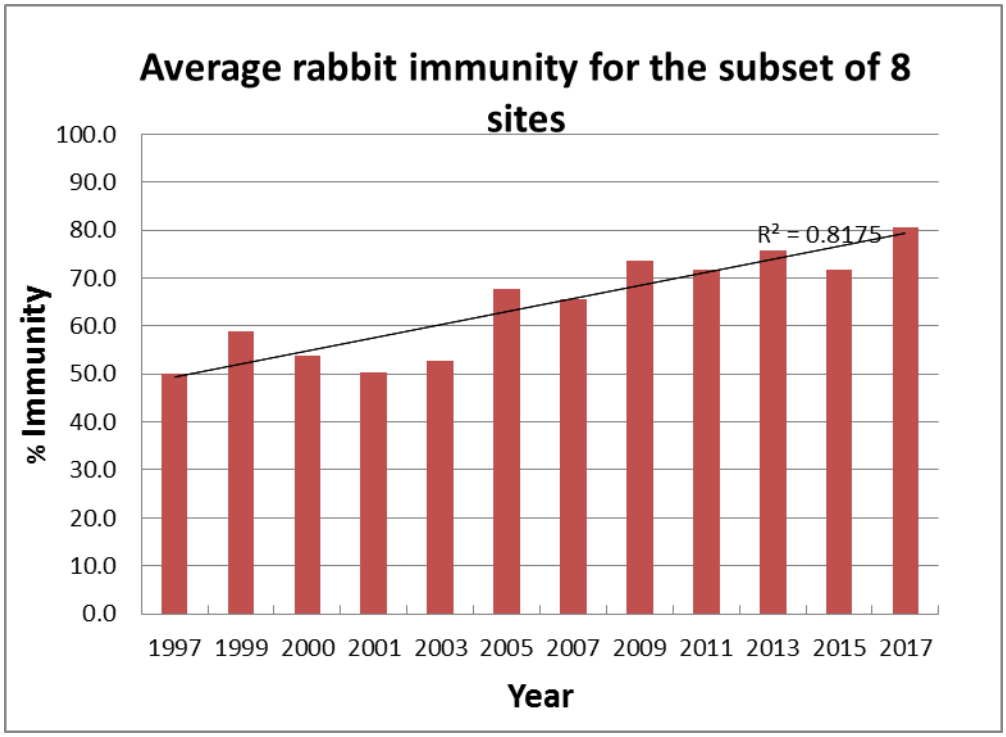

Fig 2. Average rabbit immunity by year for the 8 sites

Of the subset of 8 sites, Tarras 2 had the lowest immunity at 67% while the Ida valley and Tarras 1 had the highest immunity at 87%. Bannockburn 83% immunity, the Fruitlands sites 77% and 83% and Dunback 77% immunity. The long term trend for increasing immunity within the rabbit population continued across all sites, with considerable variation in the rates of increase between sites (Fig 3).

Demographic analysis of the population indicated the highest proportion of rabbits sampled was within the 17 to 30 week age bracket corresponding with the 2016 spring-summer cohort. The peak of seropositive rabbits was from 20-30 weeks indicating the virus was active over the spring-summer 2016/17 period. On the long term monitoring sites the median age of rabbits was 28 weeks and this is similar to the median age found in previous years. Across all 20 sites, 76% of seropositive rabbits were less than a year old.

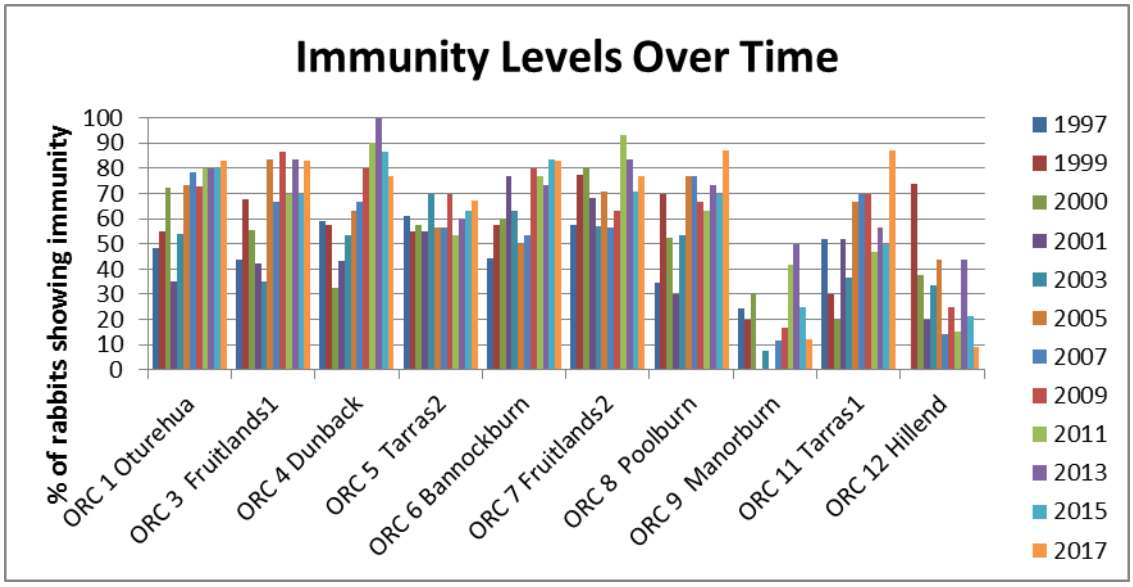

Fig 3. Average immunity levels at each site over time

At the K5 sites a total of 303 samples were taken across 10 sites. These sites showed immunity ranging from 3% at Moeraki, to 90% at both the Ida Valley and Arrowtown (Fig 4.). Average immunity across all sites was 66% and this was the same average immunity found for our long term monitoring sites. Again if the outliers of Moeraki and Island Block with low immunity are excluded the remaining eight sites give an average immunity of 80% which again concurs with what we found for the long term monitoring sites.

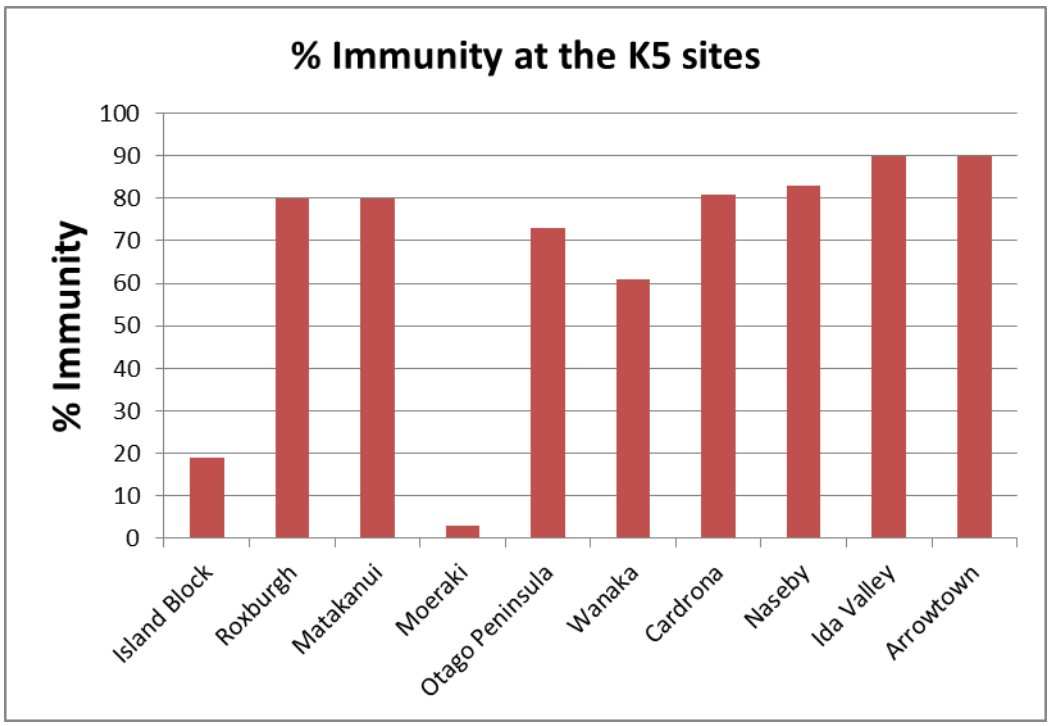

Fig 4. Percentage immunity across K5 sites

5. Discussion

Average rabbit immunity to RHDV1 across all long monitoring sites in Otago was higher (66%), although not significantly, than the previous sampling period in 2015. Similarly at the K5 sample sites the average immunity was also 66%. When the two long term monitoring sites that had low sample sizes and low immunity are excluded from the analysis, the average immunity across Otago is 80%. This higher level of immunity is likely to be more representative of immunity levels across Otago.

In comparison, Environment Canterbury have also shown average immunity levels in 2015 at their MacKenzie Basin study sites to be in the range of 60 to 70% (B. Glentworth, pers. comm.) and in Marlborough 64% (S. Sam, pers. comm.). Results for this year's sampling were not available at the time this report was prepared.

The very low immunity for two of the long term monitoring sites can perhaps be explained by the low numbers of rabbits at these sites and the inability of the virus to cause an epidemic, whereas at the K5 sites the low immunity is more difficult to explain given these sites were chosen due to their high rabbit numbers and epidemics should have easily become established. Possible hypotheses for the low immunity at the Moeraki site might be based on the environmental conditions, such the salt laden environment the rabbits were shot from, whereas environmental factors associated with the Island block site are more difficult to distinguish.

Although antibody testing provides a useful estimate of immunity at a given point in time for a rabbit population, it fails to adequately identify the causes of changes in immunity. Age data in our sampling allows us to exclude an increase in the number of older immune rabbits as a cause for an overall increase of immunity because the median age of immune rabbits has stayed more or less the same since sampling began in 1997 and 76% of seropositive rabbits were less than a year old.

Other possible scenarios for an increase in immunity are that the virus is becoming less virulent and so there are more survivors after each epidemic. This is possible, but virus isolated from infected rabbits from different parts of Otago by Landcare Research in 2014 and used to inoculate healthy sero-negative rabbits still shows a high virulence in many areas.

The presence of a benign rabbit calici virus (RCV) in NZ which causes immunity but not death may be also be a cause for increases of immunity. This has certainly been the case in Australia, and it is for this reason the K5 variant, which has the ability to overcome the protective effects of the benign virus, has been introduced into Australia. Rabbit population decreases of up to 42% have been reported since the release of K5 into Australia in April 2017.

In terms of what an increasing immunity means for rabbit populations in Otago, ORC spotlight rabbit counts have shown a cyclical trend in the rabbit population every 4-5 years since the arrival of RHDV. Certainly rabbit numbers appear to have shown an increase in peri-urban areas due to pest controllers being constrained by what techniques they can now use to control rabbits. This has come about though both changes in public perception and acceptance of traditional forms of rabbit control (shooting and

poisoning) as well as health and safety issues. It now seems that the only means of reducing rabbits in these areas is with a biological control.

However, the overall long term trend in rabbit numbers across wider Otago does not appear to be increasing with increasing immunity. Rabbit spotlight counts show rabbit abundance at less than 4 per spotlight km for much of Otago, and this is similar to Marlborough (<3 per spotlight km) and parts of Canterbury's MacKenzie Basin where rabbit numbers continue to remain low (<4 per spotlight km) despite little secondary control (B. Glentworth pers. comm.).

It is difficult to determine how much these trends in rabbit population might be attributed to traditional primary and secondary control measures. However, anecdotal evidence from landholders this year and through ORC compliance inspections indicate that in many areas rabbit numbers are being suppressed by RHD and the rates of increase are well below those seen pre-RHD.

Although RHD is both highly variable in nature and predictability as to where and when outbreaks may occur, evidence indicates that RHD will work best at those sites with very low rabbit numbers as rabbits at these sites generally show the least immunity.

Although RHD might not cause the spectacular knockdowns of rabbit populations we first saw when it arrived, it still appears to be regularly removing a proportion of the rabbit population in many areas complementing secondary control methods. Despite the apparent increase in immunity rabbit populations still remain well below the levels seen pre-RHD.

6. References

Duckworth, Janine. (2015). Kararehe Kino, 26; Vertebrate Pest Research. Landcare Research, Lincoln.
Dudzinski, M. L., & Mykytowycz, R. (1961). The eye lens as an indicator of age in the wild rabbit inAustralia. CSIRO Wildlife Research 6, 156-159.
Glentworth, Brent. Environment Canterbury, Timaru.
Sam, Shona. Marlborough District Council, Blenheim.

7. Recommendation

That this report be received.

Scott Maclean
Director Environmental Monitoring and Operations

REPORT

Document Id: A1019531

Report Number: 2017/0942
Prepared For: Regulatory Committee
Prepared By: Peter Kelliher, Legal Counsel
Date: 11 July 2017

Subject: **Resource Management Act 1991, Biosecurity Act 1993 and Building Act 2004 Enforcement Activities from 27 May 2017 to 30 June 2017**

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1. Précis

This report details Resource Management Act 1991, Biosecurity Act 1993 and Building Act 2004 enforcement activities undertaken by the Otago Regional Council during the period 27 May 2017 to 30 June 2017.

2. Resource Management Act 1991

a) Permitted Activity - Inspections

Table 1. Infringement Notices

Details	Period – 27 May 2017 to 30 June 2017	Total – from 1 July 2016
Discharge of contaminants to land in breach of a regional rule - effluent	0	22
Discharge of contaminants to land in breach of a regional rule - silage	0	1
TOTAL	0	23

Table 2. Authorised Legal Proceedings

Details	Period – 27 May 2017 to 30 June 2017	Total – from 1 July 2016
Discharge of contaminants to land in breach of a regional rule - effluent	0	5
TOTAL	0	5

b) Complaint Response

Table 3. Infringement Notices

Details	Period – 27 May 2017 to 30 June 2017	Total – from 1 July 2016
Disturbing the bed of a wetland	0	1
Disturbing the bed of a river	1	3
Discharge of contaminants to land where it may enter water – petrol	0	2
Discharge of contaminants to land where it may enter water – sediment	0	3
Depositing sediment on the bed of a river	0	1
Discharge of contaminants to land where it may enter water – wastewater	0	7
TOTAL	1	17

Table 4. Authorised Legal Proceedings

Details	Period – 27 May 2017 to 30 June 2017	Total – from 1 July 2016
Discharge of contaminants to land in breach of a regional rule - effluent	0	3
Discharge of contaminants to land where it may enter water – sediment	0	1
Discharge of contaminants to land where it may enter water – sediment; and Damming of water in breach of a regional rule	0	1
Discharge of contaminants to air – burning prohibited materials	0	1
Discharge of contaminants to land where it may enter water – wastewater	1	2
Disturbing the bed of a river	0	1
TOTAL	1	9

Table 5. Abatement Notices

Details	Period – 27 May 2017 to 30 June 2017	Total – from 1 July 2016
To cease discharging a contaminant in breach of a regional rule	0	2
To remove rubbish, material and debris from the head of a gully	0	1
TOTAL	0	3

3. Total Infringements issued and Authorised Legal Proceedings – 1 July 2016 – 30 June 2017

Table 6. Total Infringement Notices Issued (Inspections and Complaint Response)

Details	Total – from 1 July 2016
DAIRY EFFLUENT	
Discharge of contaminants to land in breach of a regional rule - effluent	22
OTHER	
Discharge of contaminants to land in breach of a regional rule - silage	1
Disturbing the bed of a wetland	1
Disturbing the bed of a river	3
Discharge of contaminants to land where it may enter water – petrol	2
Discharge of contaminants to land where it may enter water – sediment	3
Depositing sediment on the bed of a river	1
Discharge of contaminants to land where it may enter water – wastewater	7
TOTAL	40

Table 7. Total Authorised Proceedings (Inspections and Complaint Response)

Details	Total – from 1 July 2016
DAIRY EFFLUENT	
Discharge of contaminants to land in breach of a regional rule - effluent	8
OTHER	
Discharge of contaminants to land where it may enter water – sediment	1
Discharge of contaminants to land where it may enter water – sediment; and Damming of water in breach of a regional rule	1
Discharge of contaminants to air – burning prohibited materials	1
Discharge of contaminants to land where it may enter water – wastewater	2
Disturbing the bed of a river	1
TOTAL	14

4. Recommendation

That this report be noted.

Fraser McRae
Director Policy Planning and Resource Management

REPORT

Document Id: A1021050

Report Number: 2017/0950
Prepared For: Regulatory Committee
Prepared By: Marian Weaver
Date: 18 July 2017

Subject: **Consents and Building Control Report to 30 June 2017, and 1 July 2017 to 14 July 2017**

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1. Consent Processing

1.1 Limited Notification

- Two applications for water permits went to limited notification in this period, both because written approval from an affected party could not be obtained.
- Kyeburn application for deemed permit replacements went to a hearing on 23 June. The hearing was closed on 17 July and the decision is pending.
- Groundwater take in North Otago; hearing was tentatively booked for 30 June but negotiations between parties continuing.

1.2 There are no publicly notified applications, appeals or objections at present.

1.3 The consent order on RM16.179 for Port Otago consents for dump sites off Otago peninsula was received from the Court and the consents have been issued.

2. Consent Statistics

Table 1. Consents Statistics Summary

	Lodged			Rejected	Decision Given		
Reporting Period	Consents	Variations			Consents	Variations	
		Regular	Water reporting date			Regular	Water reporting date
15/16 year totals	415	40	11	6	353	46	11
16/17 Year total	385	63	14	0	373	70	13
1/7 to 14/7 2017	12	3	0	0	12	8	0

All decisions on consents were given within RMA allowed timeframes.

3. Consent Administration

Table 2. Consent Administration Statistics

Reporting Period	Transfers Received	Transfers Issued	S417 Certs Received	S417 Certs Issued
15/16 totals	**125**	**125**	**4**	**1**
16/17 totals	**263**	**242**	**9**	**12**
1/7-14/7 2017	4	4	0	0

4. Building Consent Authority (BCA) Administration

Table 3: Building Act Statistics

	Building Permits		Certificate of Acceptance		Code Compliance Certificate	
	received	**issued**	**received**	**issued**	**received**	**issued**
15/16 totals	6	6	2	10	2	4
16/17 totals	**3**	**3**	**2**	**2**	**3**	**2**
1/7-14/7 2017			1			

5. Public Enquiries

335 enquiries were received during the 6 week reporting period and appendix 1 shows 2581 over the last financial year.

Table 4. Public Enquiries Statistics

Period	Number of Enquiries
15/16 year total	**2495**
16/17 year to date	**2581**
1/7-14/7 2017	97

6. Recommendation

That this report is noted.

Fraser McRae
Director Policy Planning and Resource Management

Otago Regional Council

Appendix 1 Public Enquires 1 July 2016 – 30 June 2017

Total Number of Enquiries 2581

Enquiry Type	No.	% of Total
Current Consents	918	35.6 %
Mining Privileges	21	0.8 %
Other	234	9.1 %
Permitted Activities	877	34 %
Pre-application	254	9.8 %
Property Enquiries	207	8 %
Students	2	0.1 %
TLA Enquiries	7	0.3 %
Transfers	61	2.4 %

Enquiry Location	No.	% of Total
Central Otago District Council	750	29.1 %
Clutha District Council	149	5.8 %
Dunedin City Council	408	15.8 %
Outside Otago	30	1.2 %
Queenstown Lakes District Council	397	15.4 %
Throughout Otago	61	2.4 %
Unspecified	625	24.2 %
Waitaki District Council	161	6.2 %

Enquiry Method	No.	% of Total
Counter	89	3.4 %
Email	1597	61.9 %
Fax	2	0.1 %
Internet	12	0.5 %
Letter	10	0.4 %
Telephone	871	33.7 %

Public Enquires 1 July to 14 July 2017

Total Number of Enquiries **97**

Enquiry Type	No.	% of Total
Current Consents	43	44.3 %
Mining Privileges	1	1 %
Other	4	4.1 %
Permitted Activities	30	30.9 %
Pre-application	11	11.3 %
Property Enquiries	8	8.2 %

Enquiry Location	No.	% of Total
Central Otago District Council	48	49.5 %
Dunedin City Council	9	9.3 %
Outside Otago	1	1 %
Queenstown Lakes District Council	20	20.6 %
Throughout Otago	2	2.1 %
Unspecified	14	14.4 %
Waitaki District Council	3	3.1 %

Enquiry Method	No.	% of Total
Counter	2	2.1 %
Email	69	71.1 %
Letter	1	1 %
Telephone	25	25.8 %

REPORT

Document Id: A1021565

Report Number: 2017/0955
Prepared For: Regulatory Committee
Prepared By: Marian Weaver
Date: 19 July 2017

Subject: **Deemed Permit Replacement Progress - 26 May 2017 to 14 July 2017**

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1. Background

The Water Plan promotes the replacement of deemed permits and other water permits that expire in 2021 to be held by water management groups. This project implements the Plan policies and this report notes progress.

2. Promotion of Group Formation

A prime focus of the project is to meet with clusters of deemed permit holders based on catchments, in order to outline the steps required for deemed permit replacement and encouragement to form water management groups.

The following Meetings have been held or are planned:

Meetings held	
Crown Terrace	10th May
Coal Creek (Teviot)	10th May
Upper Manorburn	13th June

Upcoming meetings	
Statutory bodies	Early August
Planning consultants	Mid-August
Manuherikia tributaries	4 meetings October

There are no meetings with water users in August and September as this is the busiest time of the year for farmers with lambing and calving. Staff involved in this work will be on leave during this period. Meetings will resume in October.

Group Permit Applications

An application from the Kyeburn group of permit holders for the replacement of 34 permits was heard in late June and the decision is pending.

An application from 3 permit holders in the Eweburn catchment is being processed.

Objectives

Performance Measure 1:

Water taken under deemed permits are replaced by resource permits (water permits) by 2021, less any permits cancelled or surrendered.

Performance Target 2:

50% of the volume of water taken in Otago under consents is being managed by groups at 1 October 2021; 50% of water permits are managed through groups or water allocation committees.

All deemed permits are replaced or have applications lodged by 31 March 2021.

Progress on Objectives:

For reporting purposes a "group" includes existing irrigation companies and Territorial Authorities.

Table 1.Allocated Surface Water

	Total	**Groups**	**TLA**	**Other**	**%Held by Groups & TAs**
l/sec	322,154	69,508	5,685	246,961	23.3%
No. Permits	1,152	131	71	950	17.5%

No change since last report.

Including the impact of the water measuring regulations, (some cancellations and surrenders and consent replacement) the number of deemed surface water permits is slowly decreasing. In April 2014 there were 458, and on 19 July 2017 there were 382 deemed permits.

3. Recommendation

That this report is noted.

Fraser McRae
Director Policy Planning & Resource Management