

Report 08.342
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Committee Regulatory Committee
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Decisions on non-notified resource consent applications

1. Purpose

To report on decisions made under delegated authority on non-notified resource consent applications.

2. Non-notified resource consents

A total of 84 resource consents were approved between 7 April 2008 and 16 May 2008. These are summarised in the table below.

	Coastal permit	Discharge permit	Land use consent	Water permit
CDC		1	7	
HCC		1	1	3
KCDC		2	8	6
MDC		1	15	5
PCC	2	1	2	1
SWDC		2	11	3
UHCC		1	4	1
WCC	2	1	2	1
Total	4	10	50	20

2.1 Consent trends

This compares to a total of 62 granted in the previous reporting period (1 March 2008 to 4 April 2008), and comparative consent data is provided below.

	Coastal permit	Discharge permit	Land use consent	Water permit
CDC		1	10	3
HCC			5	
KCDC			12	
MDC		2	4	1
PCC		2	2	
SWDC		3	7	2
UHCC		2	2	1
WCC	1		1	1
Total	1	10	43	8

The number of land use consents granted for bore construction continues to remain above average, particularly on the eastern side of the region (CDC, MDC and SWDC). This is in part due to the ongoing low groundwater levels being experienced in this part of the region.

A number of existing abstraction consents are approaching their expiry date in the KCDC area; this has led to an increase in the number of water permits granted as consent holders submit applications to continue their activities.

2.2 Significant non-notified resource consents

Neptune Power Limited

A coastal permit was granted to Neptune Power Limited authorising the placement and use of a prototype tidal energy-generation turbine in the Cook Strait.

This is a novel method of power generation in New Zealand, and little local data is available on the potential environmental effects of the use of such a structure. The consent requires comprehensive monitoring of the turbine and associated effects. The results of this monitoring will provide a better understanding of the ecology, tidal currents and other environmental factors in the area and will be used to inform the development of a longer-term, larger scale project.

Karori Wildlife Sanctuary

The Department of Conservation (DoC) has been granted resource consent to trial the use of hydrochloric acid in the Kaiwharawhara Stream to lower the stream pH and facilitate removal of Brown Trout. Removal of trout will allow native fish to recolonise the headwaters of the stream. If the treatment is successful DoC will place a porous structure in the stream to prevent re-invasion by Brown Trout but still allow passage by native fish, which can climb and wriggle through small spaces and wetted surfaces.

3. Communication

No further public communication is necessary for this report.

4. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 1. Receives the report; and*
- 2. Notes the contents.*

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