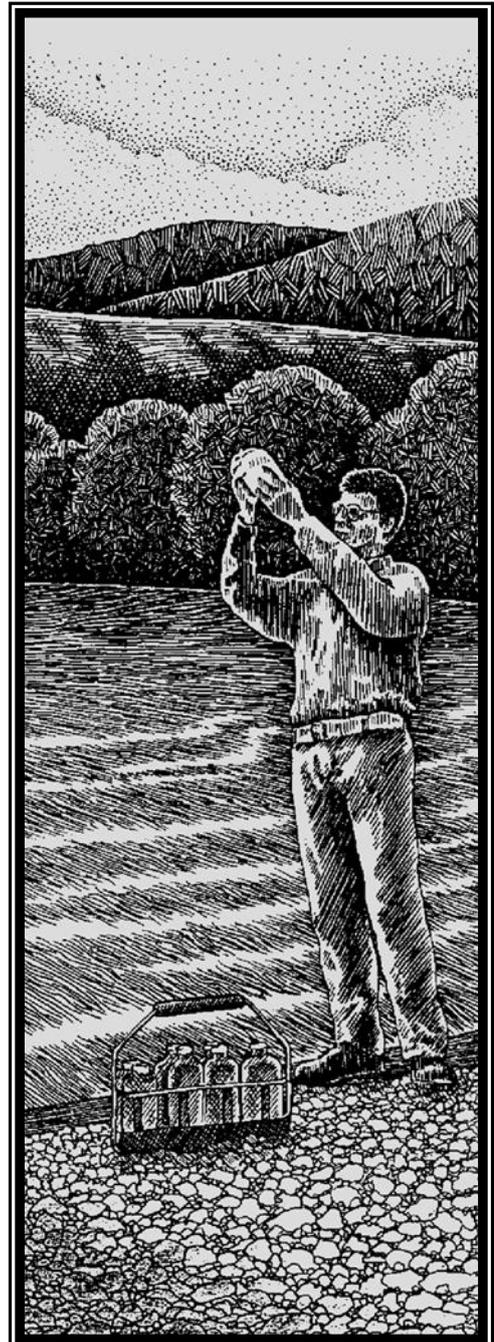


19

Monitoring and Review



19.1 Introduction

The Resource Management Act 1991 requires the Otago Regional Council to gather information and to undertake or commission such research as is necessary to carry out effectively their functions under the Resource Management Act (Section 35(1)). Section 35(2) of the Resource Management Act also requires that the Otago Regional Council monitor:

- (a) The state of the regional environment to the extent that is appropriate to enable the Council to effectively carry out its functions (baseline monitoring or environmental monitoring);
- (b) The suitability and effectiveness of any policy statement or plan, or proposed policy statement or plan for the region, and the exercise of any functions, powers or duties delegated or transferred by it (process monitoring); and
- (c) Compliance of resource consents (compliance monitoring).

This monitoring will be undertaken in terms of the framework set out in the Regional Policy Statement for Otago.

19.2 Elements to be monitored

Subject to the requirements of the Regional Policy Statement for Otago and the provisions of its Annual Plan, the Otago Regional Council will monitor the elements of Otago's water resources, and the effects of their use and development on the environment, as necessary to assess the suitability and effectiveness of the objectives and policies within this Plan. A regional monitoring strategy will be prepared, that is implemented in detail through the Annual Plan. In considering the elements requiring monitoring, the Otago Regional Council will have particular regard to the anticipated environmental results identified in Chapters 5 to 10 of this Plan.

19.3 Monitoring techniques

In monitoring elements of Otago's water resources necessary to determine the suitability and effectiveness of the objectives and policies within this Regional Plan: Water, the following techniques may be used:

1. Analysis of feedback, compliments, complaints received and responses to complaints.
2. Water levels and flows, and water use surveys, pertaining to Otago's surface and groundwater resources.
3. Water quality surveys, incorporating both chemical and biological monitoring methods.
4. Requiring self-monitoring of consents, where necessary, and the provision of the collected information to the Otago Regional Council for audit.
5. Compliance audit monitoring, at appropriate intervals, to ensure the conditions on resource consents are being adhered to.
6. Maintaining a database of resource consents issued.
7. Commission research, as necessary, to provide additional information on the

environment of water bodies.

8. Where appropriate, develop and implement joint initiatives with other local authorities, government departments, Kai Tahu, water user groups, land care groups and other agencies to monitor key aspects of Otago's water body environment.
9. Make available data held by the Otago Regional Council and seek the transfer between agencies and territorial local authorities of information on Otago's water resources.

19.4 Review

This Regional Plan: Water could be in force for a period no longer than 10 years, unless reviewed earlier. Any such review will be carried out in accordance with the First Schedule of the Resource Management Act. In considering the need to review this Plan, the Otago Regional Council will have regard to the extent to which any of the following matters affect the framework established by, and the contents of, the Plan:

1. Changes in legislation dealing with any aspect of the management of water and water bodies.
2. Improved knowledge and understanding of Otago's water resources.
3. Issues identified by the monitoring of the suitability and effectiveness of the objectives and policies within this Regional Plan: Water.
4. The development, implementation and review of the Regional Policy Statement and other regional plans by the Otago Regional Council.
5. The development, implementation and review of district plans by Otago's territorial local authorities.
6. Requests for a plan change or review made by any person in accordance with Part II of the First Schedule of the Resource Management Act.

MONITORING AND REVIEW