



PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE USE

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Gravel extraction seminars planned

The Southland District Council is to run seminars on resource consent requirements for gravel extraction in June and July.

Resource Management Manager Bruce Halligan said the Council's Resource Management Department wanted to be more pro-active and address any issues at "the front end, rather than at the back end through enforcement processes."

"We want to work with persons involved in gravel and rock extractions, rather than against them.

"A large number of resource consent applications are currently being received for such activities and education is needed to raise awareness and encourage compliance."

Mr Halligan had already made a recent presentation on resource consents for quarrying activities to the New Zealand Contractors' Federation Southland branch and feedback had generally been very positive.

There were also plans to review on-farm extraction allowances in the upcoming District Plan review.

At present, small scale extraction is allowed as a permitted activity, provided it meets a maximum of 1000 cubic metres a year, up to a maximum of 3000 cubic metres, per title, and the depth of cut or fill is not more than 2m.

In most instances, if the volume is 20,000 cubic metres or less, and all parties who could be affected provide written approval, then the application is normally dealt with as a non-notified application.

Major quarries will be dealt with as a notified application.

ENDS

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