

CANTERBURY REGIONAL COUNCIL

General Authorisation for the Discharge of Stormwater

**Incorporating Change 3 to the
Transitional Regional Plan.**

Operative 3 August 2009

Report R09/52

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**Environment
Canterbury**
Your regional council

Prepared under the Resource Management Act 1991

I certify that this is a correct copy of the General Authorisation for the Discharge of Stormwater of the Canterbury Regional Council Transitional Regional Plan incorporating Change 3, approved by the Canterbury Regional Council pursuant to Schedule 1, Part 1, Clause 20, on 25 June 2009, to be made operative on 3 August 2009.

The common seal of the Canterbury Regional Council was affixed in the presence of:



Bryan Jenkins
Chief Executive
Canterbury Regional Council
22 July 2009



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CANTERBURY REGIONAL COUNCIL

GENERAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE DISCHARGE OF STORMWATER

Under Section 22 of the Water and Soil Conservation Act 1967 the Canterbury Regional Council authorises the following specified discharges of stormwater into natural water, within its region, subject to the specified conditions:

- (1) The discharge of roof stormwater from buildings and structures either into the ground or directly into groundwater provided it is via a sealed system that excludes all other stormwater; except in the following areas:
 - (a) that part of the Christchurch urban area where the Christchurch City Council stormwater system is available;
 - (b) that part of the Christchurch City Council area south of the Avon-Heathcote Estuary and the Heathcote River;
 - (c) that part of the Kaiapoi urban area where the Waimakariri District Council stormwater system is available;
 - (d) the Banks Peninsula District Council¹ area;
 - (e) that part of the Selwyn District Council area east of the Halswell River;
and
 - (f) that part of the Timaru urban area where the Timaru District Council stormwater system is available;
- (2) The discharge of stormwater to surface waters, except stock water races and irrigation races, from all existing buildings, structures, hard-standing surfaces and roading.
- (3) The discharge of stormwater to surface waters, except stock water races, irrigation races and lakes, from residential or rural-residential subdivisions made after 28 September 1991, involving fewer than 30 allotments.
- (4) The discharge of stormwater from roading into the ground, outside of the Christchurch City Council urban area.
- (5) The discharge of stormwater to ground from residential or rural-residential subdivisions made after 28 September 1991, involving fewer than 30 allotments, where highest groundwater levels are deeper than 10 metres from the ground surface. (Added by Change 3, August 2009)

CONDITIONS

The above authorisations are subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Where the discharge is into natural water in a territorial authority stormwater drainage system, prior written consent to discharge must be obtained from that territorial authority.
- (2) Any territorial authority making use of this general authorisation shall:
 - (a) provide the Canterbury Regional Council with a list by 1 August of each year which outlines the work undertaken in the preceding financial year under this general authorisation;

¹ The area defined by the BPDC boundary, prior to amalgamation with Christchurch City Council

- (b) ensure that all industrial and commercial facilities that discharge stormwater into the stormwater system under the control of the territorial authority, undertake all reasonable precautions to minimise the quantities of silt, and the risk of accidental spillages of hazardous or polluting substances, entering the stormwater system;
 - (c) when modifying or upgrading existing stormwater disposal systems, consider incorporating measures that would:
 - (i) reduce the amount of contaminants, including silt, entering natural water; and
 - (ii) reduce the risk of flooding in any surface receiving waters; and
 - (d) provide the Canterbury Regional Council, with an annual report by 1 August each year, outlining the measures taken to meet conditions 2 (b) and (c).
- (3) Any discharge made under this authorisation shall not cause erosion to the banks or bed of the receiving waterway.
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This authorisation is effective from 28 September 1991.

Explanatory Notes:

- (1) This authorisation does not authorise the discharge of any substances that would constitute an offence under Section 34 of the Water and Soil Conservation Act 1967 (Section 338 of the Resource Management Act 1991).
- (2) Any existing or proposed discharge of stormwater that does not meet the above conditions is not covered by this general authorisation and must be authorised by a discharge permit, under the Resource Management Act 1991. Before this Act came into effect on 1 October 1991, a water right would have been required under the Water & Soil Conservation Act 1967.
- (3) This general authorisation does not relieve any person or organisation from any other legal requirements under any other act, bylaw or regulation.
- (4) This general authorisation does not preclude the territorial authority from using the requirements of Section 459 of the Local Government Act to eliminate a nuisance created by an uncontrolled stormwater discharge.
- (5) This general authorisation can be changed in whole or part, if the public interest so requires.
- (6) Under the Resource Management Act 1991, the discharges specified in this general authorisation are Permitted Activities. Proposed discharges that do not meet the conditions of this general authorisation are Discretionary Activities, and specific discharge permits are required.
- (7) The reference to “highest groundwater levels” in this general authorisation means the highest groundwater level which can reasonably be expected at the point of discharge based upon relevant and available groundwater data. (Added by Change 3, August 2009)

- (8) For the purposes of this General Authorisation, subdivision, includes all roads, roofs, structures, and other hard-standing areas from which stormwater may be discharged. For the purposes of determining whether a subdivision involves “fewer than 30 allotments”, the following matters will be taken into account: (i) Any allotment that is part of the subdivision regardless of the intended use will be considered as an allotment; (ii) Where a subdivision comprises stages, the total allotments proposed for all stages of the subdivision will be used to determine the number of allotments; and (iii) The number of allotments proposed in the corresponding subdivision consent application with the territorial authority. (Added by Change 3, August 2009)
