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This Month

This month we have a message from Ian Boothroyd the New Zealand Chapter President, wrap up what has happened in the last 30 days, highlight a couple of upcoming conferences including the Institute conference in Perth and share with you a couple of new publications – with a big focus on climate change as time quickly ticks down to Paris 2015.

From the President

The recent interest and excitement generated by the Cricket World Cup showed how New Zealand can both host world beating events, and play at the centre of the world stage. In recent times, the Americas Cup and the Rugby World Cup have been hosted on our shores and in May and June of this year the U20 FIFA World Cup Finals are being held at stadiums across New Zealand; all showcase New Zealand in exemplary light. Whether we can say the same about our record of environmental management is another matter. The answer as you might imagine is probably a yes and no. Of course we have had some significant successes on our conservation front, notably in the survival of species within offshore and onshore Islands. But is this all part of a delicate balancing act? Two recent Court cases highlight that maybe it is not a balancing act at all.

That the implementation of the National Policy Statement Freshwater Management was ever going to be straight forward was always in question and a recent Environment Court case has highlighted that. In *Ngati Kahungunu Iwi Inc. vs Hawke's Bay Regional Council* [2015] NZEnvC 50 in particular Objective A2 of the NPSFM fell under scrutiny. The objective requires that 'overall fresh water quality within a region be 'maintained or improved'. So does such an approach allow a balancing of degradation and enhancements of different waterways provided that quality overall is maintained or enhanced across a region. The Court upheld that balancing 'overs and unders' was not allowable across a region but might be allowable within an individual

waterbody. Thus 'trading off' poorer water quality in one part of the region against enhancement of water quality in another part of the region is not allowed. Quite how this fits in an offsetting or compensatory regime is open to question; but nevertheless it brings to light the need for cautious implementation of the policy statement.

In the case of *Man O'War Station v Auckland Council* 2015 NZHC 767 Justice Andrews has elaborated on the *EDS v King Salmon* case established in respect of outstanding coastal landscapes and natural areas. In other words, as Judge Andrews points out 'the identification of ONLs (outstanding natural landscapes) drives the policies. It is not the case that policies drive the identification of ONLs'. Such a decision will have consequences for the types of activities that might be permissible in these areas.

Our challenge is to see that our established practice can be adaptable such that there is not so much reinventing but a refresh to new demands and purpose.

Ian Boothroyd, May 2015

Ecological Impact Assessment - EIANZ Guidelines for use in New Zealand: terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems

By Dr Judith Roper-Lindsay

The guidelines are out and are [available free to all ecologists as a pdf here](#).

The New Zealand Chapter is seeking comment and feedback from those using the guidelines by email to: newzealand@eianz.org

In the News

So in case you missed it, here are some snippets of environmental news since the last newsletter.

Politics and Planning

TV - [Resource Management Act's rule of thumb creating headaches](#)

TV - [What can \\$600k buy you in New Zealand?](#)

Conservation/Ecology

[WWF - Prestigious award to Malaysia for plans to protect one million hectares of ocean](#)

[White kiwi chicks killed at Pukaha Mt Bruce](#)

[Paddle boarder meets inquisitive orca](#)

[Seal on Auckland road caught with DIY contraption](#)

[Seal 'on the loose' in Lower Hutt](#)

Water

[HortNZ taking water concerns to Govt](#) – [Hawkes Bay Regional Plan]

[Editorial: Lake Ellesmere has a future again](#)

[Pollution fears for Karori stream](#)

Consent Hearings/Developments

[\\$33.5m for Harbour Bridge's SkyPath](#)

[Plan for 1000 affordable houses for Wakatipu](#)

[New Milford Sound to Queenstown rail plan
mooted](#)

Climate Change

[Government vague on climate targets](#)

[Will it, won't it? El Nino has us guessing](#)

[Lake holds key climate data](#)

[New film shows climate truths still inconvenient](#)

[Hapū calls for answers over waahi tapu bid](#) – Bay
of Plenty

[Bid to save historic Haven Rd church](#) - Nelson

General

[Millions of pizza boxes needlessly sent to landfill](#)

[Megaquake could hit central New Zealand](#)

[1500 litres of oil leaked, Mobil reveals](#)

[ANZ to issue first green bond](#)

Cultural Heritage

Professional Development Opportunities

The following Professional Development Opportunities are available and as always, all EIANZ events are available on the calendar of our home page <http://www.eianz.org/>

EIANZ Annual Conference - Challenging the status quo

29th – 30th October 2015, Perth

The call of papers is now open;

Click here to access the [call for papers brochure](#)

Click here to access the [abstract specification template](#)

Important Dates

Abstract Submissions open - Monday 20 April 2015

Abstract Submissions close - Friday 13 July 2015

Notification of Acceptance - Friday 31 July

Deadline for full papers/presentations - Friday 25 September 2015



Challenging the status quo

Excellence in environmental practice

EIANZ Annual Conference 29–30 October 2015

Pan Pacific Hotel, 207 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, WA

We make advances in environmental management by challenging the status quo through new science and good practice. The pressure is on environmental practitioners to:

- Conserve and manage the world's biodiversity hotspots, threatened species, and marine and terrestrial protected areas
- Find new ways to assure ecological health, and sustainable productivity of terrestrial and marine environments
- Implement innovations in the repair of landscapes affected by poor agricultural, grazing and mining practices
- Understand the role of indigenous knowledge and cultures in determining good practice
- Develop knowledge of regulatory requirements and skills in the ethical and professional implementation of good practice environmental management

Reserve the dates now – plan to present a paper or poster that challenges the status quo in environmental management practice. Demonstrate to others the advances you know will lead to better practice. Join a field trip before and after the event to see the application of good practice environmental management first hand.

There is much to learn about the skilled practice of environmental management in Western Australia. Mega scale offshore gas and mining projects have helped shape environmental management in remote and arid Australia. Cutting edge dryland farming and water management practices have been developed to combat salinity and erosion. The biogeographic region of Southwest Australia, stretching from Shark Bay in the north to Israelite Bay in the south, is recognised as an international biodiversity hotspot. These are but a few of the reasons why Western Australia is an exciting place to hold the 2015 EIANZ Conference.



Environment Institute of
Australia and New Zealand Inc.



This event will count towards
your Certified Environmental
Practitioner CPD Log.

WILD THINGS: addressing terrestrial, freshwater and marine biodiversity

11-13 August 2015, Viaduct Events Centre, Auckland



Image courtesy of photonewzealand.

Mark your diaries now! Don't miss New Zealand's leading environmental conference.

Biodiversity loss is the greatest environmental challenge that currently faces New Zealand. Despite our best endeavours, the country's wealth of endemic species is dwindling away. Under the current trajectory, kiwi will be functionally extinct on the mainland within two generations. In addition to losses on land, we are also facing threats in both the freshwater and marine realms.

Biodiversity loss is an economic challenge, with New Zealand's natural heritage forming the basis of a burgeoning tourism sector and supporting many of our export industries.

Wild Things will investigate the underlying reasons for biodiversity decline and look constructively at how we might turn it around. The conference will examine how to rebalance the conservation management system, so that it is well funded and better aligned, and can more effectively harness innovation. We will focus on the nexus of biodiversity and development, and how new or improved tools like offsetting might be applied to achieve 'no net loss' or even 'net gain'. We will also look ways to mobilise New Zealanders behind the biodiversity challenge and to overcome the implementation gap.

Wild Things will be a national conversation, amongst all sectors, about the way forward on biodiversity. It will be particularly relevant to agencies involved in biodiversity management (including central government, regional councils and local authorities); iwi/hapū exercising kaitiakitanga over biodiversity; biodiversity-relevant private sector industries (tourism, land development, agriculture, forestry and fishing); biodiversity scientists and resource management professionals; and community groups and individuals involved in biodiversity conservation on the ground.

Biodiversity loss is not inevitable. We have a choice.

Coasts and Ports 2015

15-18 September 2015, Auckland

A large orange banner for the 'Coasts & Ports 2015 Auckland' conference. The text 'COASTS & PORTS 2015 AUCKLAND' is prominently displayed in white and blue, with circular icons of coastal scenes integrated into the letters. To the right, it says '15-18 September 2015' and 'Pullman Hotel and Conference Centre'. Below this, a blue box contains the word 'ENVIRONOMICS'. The website 'www.coastsandports2015.com' is at the bottom right. A silhouette of the Auckland skyline and a port crane is on the left. At the bottom, logos for 'ENGINEERS AUSTRALIA', 'IPENZ ENGINEERS NEW ZEALAND', 'NEW ZEALAND COASTAL SOCIETY', and 'AIRC AUSTRALIA' are shown.

REGISTRATIONS OPEN

COASTS & PORTS 2015 AUCKLAND

15-18 September 2015
Pullman Hotel and
Conference Centre

ENVIRONOMICS

www.coastsandports2015.com

ENGINEERS AUSTRALIA

IPENZ
ENGINEERS NEW ZEALAND

NEW ZEALAND COASTAL SOCIETY

AIRC AUSTRALIA

Consultation on setting New Zealand's post-2020 climate change target

Climate Change Issues Minister Tim Groser has called for public submissions on New Zealand's post 2020 climate change target. The Government is seeking views on New Zealand's post-2020 climate change contribution under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. A discussion document provides information about the issues and trade-offs involved in setting our contribution and explains how to have your say.

In December countries will meet in Paris to establish a new climate change agreement. Ahead of the Paris conference, countries are expected to announce the action they will take to curb climate change. All countries have been asked to put forward a national target to reduce harmful emissions after 2020. **Submissions close at 5pm on Wednesday 3 June 2015.**



Find out more at <http://www.mfe.govt.nz/climate-change/reducing-greenhouse-gas-emissions/consultation-setting-new-zealand%E2%80%99s-post-2020>

Dr David Wratt appointed as MFE science advisor

Dr David Wratt has been appointed as the Ministry for the Environment's Departmental Science Advisor. Dr Wratt is one of New Zealand's most distinguished scientists, with international standing and a 30-year career in climate and meteorology. His appointment recognises the Ministry's strong science and evidence focus. He will be responsible for ensuring the highest standards for science within, and procured by, the Ministry and will provide advice on science directly to the Secretary for the Environment.

Dr Wratt will also have a role in supporting the development of cross-government science policy and research initiatives such as the National Science Challenges. He will be working with the government's Departmental Science Advisor Network, convened by the Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor Professor Sir Peter Gluckman, to ensure science effort across Natural Resource Sector agencies is aligned, efficient and fit for purpose.

Dr Wratt sits on the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and is Emeritus Climate Scientist at the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA), as well as Adjunct Professor at both Victoria University's Climate Change Research Institute and Curtin University's International Institute of Agri-Food Security.

Dr Wratt has been appointed to the role on a part-time, fixed term basis from 15 June 2015.

Review of the Environmental Protection Authority

The Ministry for the Environment has reviewed the effectiveness of the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). The EPA was established in 2011 to be New Zealand's single national-level environmental regulator. It is a stand-alone Crown agent responsible for national-level consenting and regulatory functions under a number of statutes.

The Ministry for the Environment review of the EPA was mandated by Cabinet, which directed the Ministry for the Environment to review the effectiveness of the EPA three years after it became operational (1 July 2011).

Read the overview report here - <http://www.mfe.govt.nz/node/20752/>



Review of the Effectiveness of the
Environmental Protection Authority
Overview Report

[newzealand.govt.nz](http://www.newzealand.govt.nz)

EPA New Acting CE

James Palmer has been appointed acting Chief Executive of the EPA, taking up his appointment from mid-June until commencement of the new CEO.

James is Deputy Secretary, Sector Strategy, at the Ministry for the Environment, and his role includes responsibility for the Ministry's Crown monitoring of the EPA.

The current Chief Executive Rob Forlong, leaves the EPA at the end of June, and the recruitment process for his permanent replacement has commenced.

Certified Environmental Practitioner

For those thinking of applying

The CEnvP website provides some useful application tips and advice – these are the things that will help with the processing of your application. See <http://www.cenvp.org/apply/applications.php>

One of the bits of advice is to take the requirement for continuing professional development seriously. This is probably one of the areas where the more information you can provide as part of your application the better. The CEnvP website says it is worthwhile to submit a CPD log for the past year. I'd go a step further to say submit the log, along with an outline of your proposed CPD activities for the forthcoming 12 months. If you don't submit it as part of your application, you are likely to be asked to bring it along to your interview.

Another important tip is to submit a complete application. Missing information slows down the processing of your application and in the worst case; you will be deferred to the following round of interviews.

If your workplace or local EIANZ branch would like to learn more about the application process or the Scheme, please get in touch. There are a number of CEnvPs around the country who are more than happy to come and talk to you about the benefits of Certification and the process of applying.

We encourage suitably qualified practitioners to participate in this important initiative for the environment profession. For more information about certification criteria and the application process, please visit www.CEnvP.org/apply

New Zealand: 03 741 3102 Email: info@cenvp.org

Call for Articles and Ideas

We will be putting out this newsletter quarterly and need interesting and informative articles every time!

Have you...

- Finished an interesting project?
- Attended a training course you found valuable?
- Have some photos that you just have to share?
- Got some ideas for other things you would like to see in this newsletter?

If so, we would love to add your two cents to the newsletter.

If you would like to share, please do send any suggestions, articles, photos to [Craig Redmond](mailto:Craig.Redmond). The next newsletter will be out at the end of April, so please send any submissions through by 23 June 2015.

Have your details changed?

It is important for us to keep your details up to date. If you have recently moved house or job, changed your phone number or email address please let us know by sending an email to newzealand@eianz.org to ensure that your details are up to date.

Key Institute and Chapter Information

NZ Chapter Executive Committee

NZ Chapter President: [Ian Boothroyd](#)

NZ Chapter Vice President: [Joh Taylor](#)

EIANZ Board Vice President (NZ): [Di Buchan](#)

Secretary: [Taryn Pearce](#)

Treasurer: [Chris Bailey](#)

Regional Branch Coordinators

Auckland: [Kathryn McDonald](#)

Bay of Plenty: [Sharon De Luca](#)

Wellington / Central: [Leonie Waayer](#)

Canterbury: [Pene Ferguson](#)

Committee Members:

[Stacey Swanson](#) (Students and Early Careers Portfolio)

[Steph Brown](#) (CEnvP) Coordinator

[Geoff Meadows](#)

Other Key Roles

Membership Secretary: [Eric Scott](#)

Newsletter Editor: [Craig Redmond](#)

Contact for general enquiries: newzealand@eianz.org

EIANZ Website: www.eianz.org

Find out about events at: www.eianz.org/eventsplus/category/new-zealand

Join us at: www.eianz.org/membership/category/new-zealand

Watch us at: www.youtube.com/nzeianz

Follow us at: www.twitter.com/nzeianz

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