

EXPERT CONFERENCE – SEDIMENT**ENV-2018-CHC – 27, 32, 36, 37****Topic: Proposed Southland Water and Land Plan appeals – Topic B
Tranche 1 – Rules 13 and 15 and Appendix E****Date of conference: 27 May 2022****Venue: Zoom****Facilitator: nil****Recorder: Emily Moore, personal assistant, Wynn Williams****Attendees**

- 1 The following witnesses participated in this conference and agreed to the content of this Joint Witness Statement (**JWS**):

Name	Engaged by	Signature
Roger Hodson	Southland Regional Council	
Russell Death	Southland Fish and Game Council	
Craig Depree	Dairy Interest Parties ¹	

¹ Fonterra Co-operative Group Ltd and DairyNZ Ltd.

Environment Court Practice Note

- 2 All participants confirm that they have read the Environment Court Consolidated Practice Note 2014 and in particular Section 7 (Code of Conduct, Duty to the Court and Evidence of an expert witness) and Appendix 3 – Protocol for Expert Witness Conferences and agree to abide by it.
- 3 Mr Hodson acknowledges that he is an employee of Southland Regional Council. Notwithstanding that, Mr Hodson confirms that he prepared and will present his evidence as an independent expert and in compliance with the Code of Conduct.

Experts' qualifications and experience

- 4 The qualifications of the experts are set out in their respective statements of evidence.

Purpose of expert conference

- 5 Southland Fish and Game Council filed a Statement of Evidence of Russell Death on 8 April 2022 in relation to sediment. Southland Regional Council, the Director-General of Conservation, and the Dairy Interest Parties filed evidence in reply on 20 May 2022.
- 6 The purpose of this conference is for the authors of this evidence to discuss the issue of whether/how to manage sediment in the pSWLP (specifically Rules 13 and 15 and Appendix E). The experts are to produce and sign this JWS setting out:
 - (a) the issues/matters on which the expert witnesses agree; and
 - (b) the issues/matters on which they do not agree, including the reasons for their disagreement.

Key information sources relied on

- 7 The experts relied on the following key sources of information:
 - (a) Statement of evidence of Russell Death dated 8 April 2022
 - (b) Statement of evidence in Reply of Roger Hodson dated 20 May 2022
 - (c) Statement of supplementary evidence of DR Craig Depree dated 20 May 2022

- (d) Clapcott et al. 2011 Sediment Assessment Methods: Protocols and guidelines for assessing the effects of deposited fine sediment on in-stream values. Cawthron Institute, New Zealand.
- (e) National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (2020).
Table 16 – Deposited sediment Attribute

Area Resolved

- 8 Agreement: Regarding Rule 13 – management of land and subsurface drainage discharges of fine sediment.
- 10 Experts agree that management of instream deposited fine sediment is best achieved by focusing on appropriate land management practices rather than subsurface drain discharges. This reflects experts agreeing that discharges of sediment via subsurface drains are a relatively minor source of total anthropogenic sediment loads delivered to receiving waters.