

**Te Rūnanga o Awarua, Department of Conservation and Environment Southland,
Resource consent applications for the periodic opening of the Waituna Lagoon,
Kapuka South, Southland. (APP-20242456)
Minute #6**

1. The Panel notes that the section 42A of the Resource Management Act (RMA) Report (s42A Report) and the Applicants' evidence has been filed and made available to the parties.
2. Following an initial review of the application, the s42A Report and the Applicants' evidence, the Panel have identified some initial questions for the Applicants to address at the hearing. Any submitters and the section 42A Reporting officer may similarly address the questions at the hearing.
3. The questions relate to the proposed lagoon opening locations, the interface between the coastal marine area (CMA) and the lagoon, including the status of the area (the shingle bank) between the lagoon and the CMA, is it land (section 9 of the RMA), bed (section 13 of RMA), foreshore (section 12 of the RMA) or something else? The purpose of the questions is to gain a more detailed understanding of the consent triggers and what has been applied for.
4. To that end, we direct that at the hearing, the Applicants provide;
 - a) A plan view and cross section sketch/es and description of the proposed opening location interface, indicating the CMA, land, bed, lagoon and area proposed to be opened.
 - b) In addition to the regional consents' triggers identified in the application, section 42A Report and Applicants' evidence, does the proposal trigger any land use consents from the District Council? If yes, which consents, if not, why not?
 - c) The Panel may have additional questions arising from the presentation of this material.
5. Any correspondence to the Commissioners should be directed through Ms Catherine Ongko (ResourceConsents@es.govt.nz), Hearing Administrator at SRC.



Mark St.Clair
Chair and on behalf of the Panel

16 July 2025