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## LGOIMA

When releasing responses to previous LGOIMA requests, names and contact details of individual requestors will be withheld to protect their privacy.

Information requested by the media, lobby groups, public sector organisations and MPs will always be published, while information specific to an individual or their property will not generally be published.

<b>Request from:</b>	Steven Walton – Stuff.co.nz
<b>Information requested:</b>	Technical advice re weather event 31 January 2022
<b>Response by:</b>	Simon Bastion, Chief Executive

14 February 2022

Steven Walton

Via Email: [steven.walton@stuff.co.nz](mailto:steven.walton@stuff.co.nz)

Dear Steven

**Official information request for information regarding the briefings and technical advice re the weather event of the week of the 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2022**

I refer to your official information request dated 07 February 2022 for briefings and technical advice provided to staff and councillors between 31 January 2022 and 06 February 2022 about the weather event predicted to hit the area during that period.

The information you have requested is enclosed.

**Some names and email addresses have been redacted under section 7(2)(a) of LGOIMA – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.**

There is no charge in supplying this information to you.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

**Council has adopted a Proactive Release Policy and accordingly may publish LGOIMA responses on the Council Website at <https://www.westlanddc.govt.nz/lgoima-responses>.**

The collection and use of personal information by the Westland District Council is regulated by the Privacy Act 2020. Westland District Council's Privacy Statement is available on our website [here](#)

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Mary-anne Bell, Senior Administration Officer at [LGOIMA@westlanddc.govt.nz](mailto:LGOIMA@westlanddc.govt.nz), 03 756 9091.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Simon Bastion** | Chief Executive

SB/MB

## Westland EOC – Regional Agency Briefing

**Date:** 4 February 2022  
**Time:** 11.00 am  
**Location:** Via Zoom and Council Chambers

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### Present:

Claire Brown <Claire.Brown@wrc.govt.nz>; Cindy Fleming <cindy.fleming@wrc.govt.nz>; Graeme Kelly - Westroads [REDACTED] CE Office <[REDACTED]>; ANDERSON, Peter [REDACTED]; david.smith [REDACTED]; peter [REDACTED]; Chris Pullen [REDACTED]; michael [REDACTED]; nils.walzel [REDACTED] CORNER, Jacqueline (Jacqui) [REDACTED]; KIRKWOOD, Mark [REDACTED]; Chris Hawker [REDACTED]; Moira Whinham [REDACTED]; myles.taylor [REDACTED]; Don Scott [REDACTED] kent.routhan [REDACTED] Bruce Smith <mayor.smith@westlanddc.govt.nz>; Emma Rae <emma.rae@westlanddc.govt.nz>; Wayne Costello [REDACTED] Oliver Varley [REDACTED]; Simon Bastion <simon.bastion@westlanddc.govt.nz>; Council Chambers [REDACTED] heather.newbury [REDACTED] Brendon Russ [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] Lynda.Carmichael [REDACTED]; [Taane](#) [REDACTED] Don Scott (in the Council Chambers).

### Items:

- There were 60 participants on the Zoom call. The Westland Team in the Council Chambers. Jamie opened with a Karakia.
- Buller EOC – no update presently.
- Westland EOC – stood down provisionally, Hokitika gone through first alarm, WCRC may go through the second and third alarm, but not a significant risk. Westland in monitoring mode for the rest of the day and make a call later in the day. Waiting for an update from NZTA on the roading scenarios.
- Sean Judd, – Instigated our plan for a partial evacuation of the town. Zones that were affected in the July event and from Westport to Holcim currently. Greymouth option not being used, not looking to evacuate to Greymouth. Staff in the northern Buller, Seddonville etc. are isolated as well, so looking at partial evacuation of those areas as well.
- Philip Wheble, How many people going to Holcim?
- Sean, no confirmed numbers yet.
- [REDACTED] Poutini Waewae. How is it at Martins Bend.
- Sean, Judd
- Brendon Russ, 120-180 mm and 60-80 mm on the Coast. Peak intensity 20-30 mm. Another 4 hours onto Westland. Peak intensity of 20-30 mm. Monitoring the rivers, Hokitika, Grey, Buller and Karamea Rivers.
- Buller River holding steadily, 6.8 metres, all the rivers north of Westport have dropped in the last 4 hours, peaked overnight, then dropped. Grey has gone up 1.5 m in the last few hours. Quite a

bit of rain, going up 1 m in the last 4 hours, Waiho River has remained quite high in the last 12 hours, Hokitika, Greymouth and Buller people on the ground doing river monitoring.

- Te Aroha, Group Controller, focus is waiting on the decision from Buller, awaiting information regarding resourcing.
- Moira, SH67 is closed, with an update of 12 pm. Clearing a slip north of Hector, progressing reasonably well through that. Buller, Lewis Pass are open. Minor damage Fox River areas. No issues in Grey District. Fox to Haast, no further damage overnight, won't know until closer to 4pm.
- Electronet – business as usual.
- Rachael Forsyth – one whanau with water go through their whare yesterday.
- Mark Kirkwood, Police – have resources to deploy anywhere on the Coast.
- Farming Sector, currently no issues.
- Welfare coordinating group at 2.00 pm.
- Poutini Welfare are in Westport and can help in any way.

**Next meeting at 4.00 pm.**

WDC 21.22.47 Released under LGOMA

## Meeting Notes – MET Service Meeting Notes

**Date:** 2 February 2022  
**Time:** 12.30 pm  
**Location:** CE's Office and Via Zoom

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### **Present:**

Simon Bastion, Chris Hawker, Diane Maitland, Simon Chambers, Peter Mason and Group, Gerard Te Aroha Cook, Jo Paterson, Graeme Stuart, Mads Naeraa, Emma ?, Celine Cattoen-Gilbert, Randal Beal, Brendon Russ

### **Purpose of meeting:**

- Met Service to provide an update for the Westland area.
- Very intense rain.

Support Crew from Christchurch: Hokitika River level is on its way up. A .6 metre rise in the last hour or so. River monitoring staff will continue doing the rounds until 8.00 pm then hand over to night-shift.

Brendon – the Waiho River is rising and spreading out with more rain to come.

- Met Service – the maps from MetService were viewed. Waves on the second front which will take effect this evening. There will be bouts of really intense rain, a lot of rain overnight, high intensity, with a lull period on Thursday morning easing in the far south on Thursday.

- Friday night - 10-15 mm per hour on Friday night, but not really intense rain.

- Brendon – potential flooding at Koratahi and Kaniere.

Jo – in terms of timeframes, Hokitika will peak through much later through tomorrow.

**Meeting closed at 12.47 pm**

## Severe Weather Warning – 2 February 2022

**Who:** Controllers Briefing  
**Date:** 2 February 2022  
**Time:** 10.00 am  
**Location:** Various

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### Attendance:

Simon Bastion, Don Scott, Te Aroha Cook, Pru Holms, Brendon Russ, Diane Meithand, Simon Chambers, Trevor Watts, Brendon Russ, Cindy Fleming, Dean Eades EMO, Chris Hawker, Claire Brown, Bob (Westport) with Erica Andrews.

### Items:

- Any requests for resourcing needs to come via ECC.

- Any requests via email need to go through **Planning**.

Brendon Russ - Met Service can do another update at 12.30 pm just with **Controllers**. Mapping will be available then. Still waiting on NIWAs information. This will be distributed asap. **Brendon Russ** to send out the 12.30 pm invite to **Controllers**. **Intel Team** need to be involved in the 12.30 pm meeting.

- Simon Bastion noted there is an RT support team (currently in the WDC Chambers) available to be deployed asap.

- Brendon Russ already has a team deployed in various locations for river monitoring.

- RT support team should be deployed to Franz Josef and two to Harihari as well.

- Simon Bastion instructed 2 staff to be deployed to Harihari and 2 staff to Franz Josef.

- Sandbags in Hokitika CBD are going out as people need them. Watching brief currently on the severe weather event.

### Timelines are:

10.30 am – Sitrep due

1.00 pm – Local Agency Briefing

2.00 pm – Sitrep due

5.30 pm – Local Agency Briefing. Don Scott to be invited to this briefing.

- Bob, sandbags are in demand presently. Considering a declaration later in the day. There are high levels of anxiety within the community at present.

- Simon Bastion - we have 2 RT staff that could be sent to Westport. This will depend on the outcome of conversations with the Lifelines staff.

- Simon Bastion – follow up re sandbags that could be used from Westland Milk Products for Bob in Westport.

- Te Aroha – we have the ability to call more resourcing in. **Make the calls early if resourcing is required.**

**Priorities:**

- Welfare gaps in Westland currently that needs to be resourced with some urgency.

- Timelines are as follows:

10.30 am – 1<sup>st</sup> Sitrep due

1.00 pm – Local Agency Briefing

2.00 pm – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sitrep due

5.30 pm – Local Agency Briefing

**Meeting closed at 10 15 am**

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After meeting concluded, Simon Bastion phoned Oliver Varley, to gauge feedback on deploying RTs to South Westland – Harihari and Franz Josef; or consider locating them in Whataroa. They have two utes and a control vehicle. Agreed to keep 4 resources here in Hokitika.

Oliver has spoken to Paul Gurney (Police) in Haast. Trying to contact the FENZ contact in Fox Glacier.

**Actions:**

- Cindy to send the contact details to Oliver.

- Oliver Varley to organize the Logistics Team to organize the purchase orders etc for accommodation etc

- Cindy to organize Harihari contacts to set up in the Harihari Community Hall.

## Westland ECC – Local Agency Briefing

**Date:** 2 February 2022  
**Time:** 1.00 pm  
**Location:** Via Zoom and Council Chambers

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### Present:

Simon Bastion, Erle Bencich, Vern Morris, Emma Rae, Peter Cuff, Graeme Kelly, Michael Saunders, Diane Maitland, Fiona Scadden, Anna Johnson, Sarah Brown, Michael Saunders, David Smith, Mark Kirkwood, Franz Josef/Waiau ICP, Chris Pullen, Heather Newbury (MPI), Lynley Carmichael, Taane, Myles Taylor.

### Items discussed:

- Gerard, Intelligence, Hokitika Gorge, Alert Level 1. We can expect tomorrow that there will roads cut off in Hokitika, Kaniere, Kokatahi areas. All other rivers rising, but none alerted.
- Simon Bastion, peak for Hokitika is early morning. No road closures at the moment.
- Mark Kirkwood, NZ Police update, minor flooding near Ross, people are stationed in South Westland, staff are travelling around.
- Peter Cuff and Miles Taylor, FENZ, heavy rain in Haast. Flooding near Kokatahi are we needed to pumping out houses.
- David Smith, DHB – waiting to see on the impact.
- Simon advised Buller have declared (localised declaration).
- Lyndia Carmichael, Tane Johnson (Rural Group Chair). Taane advised not seeing anything out of the ordinary. Creeks have not come up. Heather Newbury.
- Kurt Routhan, Westland Milk Products – no items to note.
- Emma Rae, media release to be prepared asap.
- Michael Saunders, and Graeme Kelly, Westoads, Ross-Harihari there are some local roads, Patterson and Robertson Roads, flooding on Waitangi falls. Checking Wanganui Flat Road at present. Road closure to go up by the helicopters going up to the Hokitika Gorge. Arahura Valley and German Road detour. Monitoring the CBD, making sand pallets and dropping them into town currently – 300-400 in town. Sand bagged the doors in front of the Hokitika market. Surface flooding between Ross and Haast, NZTA. There are some small slips on the Fox Hills.

**5.30 pm – Next Local Agency Briefing**



## Westland ECC – Local Agency Briefing

**Date:** 2 February 2022  
**Time:** 5.30 pm  
**Location:** Via Zoom and Council Chambers

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### Present:

Mayor Bruce Smith, Cr Martin, Don Scott, Simon Bastion, Erle Bencich, Vern Morris, Emma Rae, Peter Cuff, Graeme Kelly, Michael Saunders, Diane Maitland, Fiona Scadden, Anna Johnson, Sarah Brown, Michael Saunders, David Smith, Mark Kirkwood, Franz Josef/Waiiau ICP, Chris Pullen, Heather Newbury (MPI), Lynley Carmichael, Taane, Myles Taylor, Mark Martini, Taane, Myles Taylor, Chris Hawker, Melanie Anderson, Hamish Webster, Simon Chambers.

### Items discussed:

- Significant rainfall between now and 3.00 am.
- Hokitika River – may not be significant rain.
- Brendon Russ – talking to a few agencies, still a lot more rain to come for Westland. Possibility another 400-700 mm between now and tomorrow. Waiho, Wanganui and later on tomorrow the Hokitika Rivers.
- Media release has been sent out.
- People on the ground | Franz Josef/Waiiau and Ha Ihari.
- Brendon has been in contact with Oliver Valley and looked at some levels on the stopbank and could be looking the residents of the lower Waiho to evacuate.
- Michael Saunders – slip 3km north of Fox Glacier.
- Tanne – Westland Milk Products. Checking in those from Fox Glacier to Karamea, there is support there.
- Buller have declared. Army and a response team being deployed in that process.

**Meeting closed at 5.42 pm**

**5.30 pm – Next Local Agency Briefing**

## #4 West Coast Weather Event Agency Briefing

**Date:** 2 February 2022

**Time:** 1600 hours

The Agency Briefing opened with a Karakia.

Various parties attended the Agency briefing in person and via Zoom.

- Group Controller / RM introduction
- Summary update + MetService Update                      Brendon Russ (Flood Risk Analysis Team)
- Critical Infrastructure  
Waka Kotahi  
  
Chorus / Telcos  
  
Westpower / Electronet / Buller Electricity
- Iwi / Rūnanga
- Emergency Services  
FENZ / Police / St John / DHB
- Farming Network / Rural
- WC Emergency Management Operating Structure

There were 73 attendees the majority via Zoom, with the Westland EOC members in the WDC Council Chambers.

- Note, no West Coast Mayors had been invited to the briefing in the morning or this briefing.

### Items:

The order of proceedings will be Met Service update, Buller EOC, Westland EOC

The briefing started with a Karakia.

Met Service update – 300 mm-400 mm.

Brendon Russ then provided an update. Still more rain to come. Not intensity over 400 mm per hour.

Hokitika has breached 2 alarms, sitting around 4 metres; with the Waiho similarly, however it has been relatively stable. Grey very little response, unchanged hydro graph. Further north, eyes on the Buller, rivers have been quite low.

**Action: Brendon to discuss with Met Service if the red warning should stay in place.**

Buller – EOC will be operating over night.

Colin Hey from Waka Kotahi – will the evacuation include the whole streets.

Al from Buller advised that information will be adjusted depending on information received from the hydrologists. Looking from cleaning everyone out from between the two bridges, look towards people going to Greymouth. The roads can close quite quickly so people will end up being isolated here.

Colin to make sure that's communicated to his team.

Al from Buller – we will make sure our partner agencies have been advised before activated.

Simon Bastion – still in a hold situation with Brendon looking at rivers. Very little activity in terms of breaches. Power outages Franz and Fox. Need to hear from Telco that batteries are up and charged. Dispatched 3 people down south from the response team. We know that more rain between 10pm-3.00 am, we are in a hold position at present. We are putting out a communications message regarding evacuation and where people will need to go to. Sending additional sandbags up to Buller from Westland Milk Products. We have a full team tonight and rostered on for tomorrow as well.

Grey District Council – Aaron, continuing to monitor the situation, initiated our floor protection plan, no reports of surface flooding around the district. Concerns in the past re the Cobden Bridge. No concern at present. Tested some pumping stations and they re functioning correctly. Continuing to watch the weather maps.

Te Aroha – thanks for participation in various EOC and stakeholders. Stepped up in terms of personnel in terms of admin functions. Trevor Watts on from 6.30 pm tonight.

Moira, Waka Kotahi, nothing to report. Everything is open. Roads are holding up well.

Rob, Chorus, power outage that has affected the Telco as well. Batteries recharged and power it back on.

Nigel Shirley, Electronet – crews at Lake Mahinapua, restored power at 5.30 pm.

Jamie Ruahui, Hamiria – Arahura Marae is available for evacuees, Poutini Waiora staff are available in ECCs and satellite phones are charged.

Nils, St Johns – nothing currently.

Mark Kirkwood, Police – we have to be considered as part of the planning process and would appreciate some communications.

Philip Wheble - O'Connor House – contingency planning at present. Most are evacuated. There will still be 15 on site. Teams at Health are planning. Emergency team in South Westland if required. No one self isolating currently.

Tanne, MPI – farmers are doing okay.

Heather, MPI – we do have a temporary animal shelter in Buller, taking animals for those evacuating.

Rob Whaley – any essential workers that need to stay behind. Do they have to carry a card. Can some stay in place?

Red Cross – teams are going to Westport. Request for assistance in Greymouth evacuation centres. Pip Mabin, wanting the contact person for the evacuation centres.

**Next Meeting – 0900 am Thursday 3 February 2022.**

Closing Karakia.

**Meeting closed at 9.48 am**

### #3 West Coast Weather Event Agency Briefing

**Date:** 2 February 2022

**Time:** 9.00 am

The Agency Briefing opened with a Karakia.

Various parties attended the Agency briefing in person and via Zoom.

- Group Controller / RM introduction
- Summary update + MetService Update                      Brendon Russ (Flood Risk Analysis Team)
- Critical Infrastructure  
Waka Kotahi  
  
Chorus / Telcos  
  
Westpower / Electronet / Buller Electricity
- Iwi / Rūnanga
- Emergency Services  
FENZ / Police / St John / DHB
- Farming Network / Rural
- WC Emergency Management Operating Structure

#### Items:

- Current weather forecast
- Need Intel from south. All rivers on their up w/y
- Watch on Haast, Fox and Waiho Rivers.
- High tide just after midday
- Road closures – down south at NZTA consider travel down south.
- Partial closure from German Road to Humphreys Gully Road.
- Intel and Operations Team feeding in from our contractors.
- Sandbags around the Hokitika CBD.

Brendon Russ, Flood Analysis Team. Currently in Franz Josef. Thunderstorm.

Metservice update – issued a rec warning for Westland and Buller.

High intense rainfall for Westland with lots of thunderstorms. Going to be a long event. Will extend the warning until Friday midnight. Buller could get 350-450 mm about the ranges. Peak rates 20-25 or 30 mm at times. With the intense thunderstorms, it could give us up to 45-50 mm.

Rose, Hydrology, had 30-50 mm. Centred around Waiho. Had .6 rise for Hokitika, last 6 hours, 1 metre in Waiho and Haast Rivers. Expecting rivers to get quite high. Speaking to NIWA this morning, to get models and will be able to get those to Westland later today.

Moira, NZTA, Maintenance Contract Manager for the West Coast. Crews are out on the road, surface flooding in the usual spots, monitoring them. Porirua River is quite full already. Positive feedback on the diggers already in strategic locations.

Nigel, Westpower – watching and monitoring. They have a crew at Franz already.

Gerard – to find out re energy contact person in Haast.

Mark, Greymouth Police. Redeployed teams to Fox and Haast. Extra teams from Nelson deployed. One will be based in Hokitika. Make sure to call 111 if you need assistance, don't use personal mobiles.

Philip Wheble, making sure there is medical cover (includes south as well).

James, NZ Red Cross, placed on standby 13 persons (mainly for Westport). Small team in Greymouth. Other staff are on standby. **Seeking clarity from this group to deploy persons as required. Claire Brown to talk to James after this morning.**

Farming community – waiting to see what happens then ready to send out communications to their groups.

Lyn, MPI – Welfare resources in Grey and Westport are available to help in that role as well (farming support).

Claire, Emergency Management Update – Westport and Hokitika EOC's to provide an update for the group.

Te Aroha Cook, Group Controller for the day. Staffing has been kept minimal, planning and logistics team established. PIMs run via Erica in Westport. They have FENZ teams. Ronnie's question re SITREPS. SITREPS are required by 1.00 pm at Group at the very latest. They need to go to the planning email address! Claire to send an email on the correct email address. EOCs please be proactive if any additional resourcing is required.

Simon Bastion, Controller. Controller this evening from 6pm Don Scott, Controller tomorrow is Vern Morris.

First sitrep by 10.30 am then second one from 1.00 pm.

Agency debrief at 1.00 pm – small team required. Another debrief for local agency at 5.30 pm.

8 people available from ChCh for distribution are available if required. Would rather get them away early. Oliver Varley and Brendon Russ to advise ASAP if the additional resources are required to be deployed down south.

PIMs today is Emma Rae, then Andy Thompson from late afternoon until midnight tonight.

Sandbags are available in Westland.

Isolated some local roads. Arahura Valley, Kokatahi, Dorothy Falls (potential for slips). Need the Intel coming in from South Westland on flooding, surface water and any flooding.

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Greymouth have not yet activated.

Looking at communications with local farmers. Interested with what is happening with structures on the Grey, and monitoring river levels and what is happening further up in the Grey catchment.

Claire -

Agency Briefing (Regional) at 1600 hours.

Still working through a PIM role. May need some remote support in the PIM area.

Update from Simon Bastion, Controller.

Brendon Russ from WCRC monitoring river levels in Franz Josef.

The briefing closed with a Karakia.

**Meeting closed at 9.48 am**

## Westland EOC – Regional Agency Briefing

**Date:** 3 February 2022  
**Time:** 4.00 pm  
**Location:** Via Zoom and Council Chambers

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### Present:

Claire Brown <Claire.Brown@wrc.govt.nz>; Cindy Fleming <cindy.fleming@wrc.govt.nz>; Graeme Kelly - Westroads ( [REDACTED] ); CE Office < [REDACTED] >; ANDERSON, Peter < [REDACTED] >; david.smith [REDACTED] ; peter [REDACTED] ; Chris Pullen < [REDACTED] >; michael [REDACTED] ; nils.walzel [REDACTED] ; CORNER, Jacqueline (Jacqui) [REDACTED] ; KIRKWOOD, Mark < [REDACTED] >; Chris Hawker [REDACTED] ; Moira Whinham [REDACTED] ; myles.taylor [REDACTED] ; Don Scott [REDACTED] ; kent.routhan [REDACTED] ; Bruce Smith <mayor.smith@westlanddc.govt.nz>; Emma Rae <emma.rae@westlanddc.govt.nz>; Wayne Costello [REDACTED] ; Oliver Varley [REDACTED] ; Simon Bastion <simon.bastion@westlanddc.govt.nz>; Council Chambers [REDACTED] ; heather.newbury [REDACTED] ; Brendon Russ <brendonr@wrc.govt.nz>; Lynda.Carmichael [REDACTED] [TaaneJ](#) [REDACTED]

Minister Damien O'Connor was in attendance accompanied by Peter Coburn

### Items:

- **Met Service** – Lisa head of Communications for Met Service. Westland will change to an orange warning, Buller will remain in red. There are concerns with the amount of rainfall and amount of accumulations. Controller was happy with an orange warning. Meeting with the FRAT team this afternoon, Jo Paterson was coming back with some information.
- **Te Aroha** – has a meeting with Jo Paterson and the FRAT team at 6.00 pm tonight.
- **EOC's, Simon Bastion** – busy morning, power outage down through the Westland Region, power has been restored, communications restored, standing the team downstairs.
- **Buller DOC** – refining the evacuation plan and its really difficult that we are still looking at modelling that is uncertain. Could be some issues, one is the Buller River and the other is isolation. Planning for the worst at present. Talked to our communities north, and there is a lot of rain coming up that way. Messages have gone out about self evacuation, and a lot of people have taken that up, reaching out to vulnerable people. Thanked everyone for their support.
- **Te Aroha Cook, Group Controller** – ECC continued support. Working with Planning, Intel, DHB and right protocols in place. In addition we have put in an additional request to NEMA for the mass evacuation. Identifying suitable persons for Group Control and Alternate Controllers for Buller DC for the weekend, including Monday. Stepped up Red Cross response. Watching to see what the weather does.

- **Murray from the Met Service** – Lisa Murray. Weather forecasters. Looking at the latest model/guidance and it looks steadyish with a bit of respite, but continuous rain for Buller and the Grey catchment and it looks to continue.
- **Buller District Council** – update on timing on the peak? Westport north. Heaviest falls will be from late morning Friday to the afternoon, then ease and move further north, then clearing overnight. Late am to mid afternoon for the heaviest rainfall.
- **Brendon** – Franz Josef/Waiiau?
- **Met Service** – 15mm-20mm for Franz Josef/Waiiau. Hokitika-Greymouth up to 20-25mm, Karamea 15-20mm then 25-30 Friday evening as the front moves through.
- **Gary Knowles** – intensity of the downpour.
- **Met Service** – mainly 25-30mm per hour, Friday afternoon. Briefly could see 30mm plus.
- **Grey District Council** – little change, on standby to see what the decision is regarding evacuation and people moving to our District.
- **Moira, Waka Kotahi** – SH6 from Franz to Haast is closed. Update is 4.00 pm on Friday. Assessing a number of slip sites. North of Hokitika is currently in good condition and open.
- **Rob Whaley, Chorus** – All the network is cleared and up and running.
- **Nigel, Electronet** – Fox south was out. Power back on, to Jacks Ridge, cleared vegetation on the lines near Bruce Bay, all power is now restored to the network.
- **Clarke** - sent a crew to Karamea.
- **Hamiria** – **nothing to report.**
- **Rachael Forsyth** – Bruce Bay School, over the highway, still couldn't get any further south due to water over the roads.
- **Mark Boere, FENZ** – USAAR team based in Greymouth, deployed to Westport, another taskforce coming from Christchurch. Canterbury people will be here for 2-3 days.
- **Mark, Police** -
- **St Johns** – relocated some people.
- **Philip Wheble** – supporting the teams and Omicron evacuation sites.
- **Taane** –
- **Heather - MPI** –
- **Jake, Langdon** – keeping an eye on the Grey River.
- **Minister Damien O'Connor** - thanked everyone for their extraordinary work, hard decision in Westport, offer support and from Minister Kiri Allen.

**Next briefing: 10.00 am on 4 February 2022**

## #5 West Coast Weather Event Agency Briefing

**Date:** 3 February 2022  
**Time:** 0900 hours  
**Location:** Via Zoom and Council Chambers

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The Agency Briefing opened with a Karakia.

Various parties attended the Agency briefing in person and via Zoom.

- Group Controller / RM introduction
- Summary update + MetService Update Brendon Russ (Flood Risk Analysis Team)
- Critical Infrastructure  
Waka Kotahi  
  
Chorus / Telcos  
  
Westpower / Electronet / Buller Electricity
- Iwi / Rūnanga
- Emergency Services  
FENZ / Police / St John / DHB
- Farming Network / Rural
- WC Emergency Management Operating Structure

There were 88 attendees the majority via Zoom, with the Westland EOC members in the WDC Council Chambers.

### Items:

- Mayor Bruce Smith attended via Zoom.

- Met Service, 3am Friday to midnight heavy rain, 250 mm of rain. Waiting to hear from WCRC about weather to maintain a red warning for Westland. WCRC to advise Met Service if this should continue. From now to 1.00 am Saturday expect more rain forecast. Tasman West of Motueka, 350 mm of rain about the ranges. Making a decision if it should be escalated to a red warning. Headwaters of Canterbury – rain to ease midday and pick up again Friday am and evening. There will be a decent amount of rain for the foothills.

Jo – extending the red warning for Buller. Downgrading Westland to orange.

Emma C – all rivers currently sitting below their alarm levels. Waiho, Haast, Hokitika and Mohikonui all been through their alarm levels, easing off. Grey is rising overnight. Karamea river, seeing a rise as well.

Brendon Russ – lost communications at Franz Josef. No communication re Wanganui River. Waiho is a decent flood, stopbanks are holding, with lots of freeboard, don't expect too much issue going forward.

Simon Bastion – Harihari River is fine.

Bob - Buller EOC – evacuation plan and EOC if necessary. Pulling agencies in on whether they will evacuate.

Simon Bastion, Westland EOC – Waiho got above 8 metres yesterday. Volunteered evacuations in Haast. We do have communications and power outages in South. Need an update from agencies. Look to redploy assets and resources to ECC after this briefing.



Te Aroha Cook, Group Controller ECC, key focus is supporting BDC. Setting up internal Welfare Centres and working with Red Cross.

Aaron, GDC – IMT meeting at 10.00 am, poised ready to support Buller. Considering closing the Recreation Centre to manage as a welfare centre.

Bob, Buller – comms out south of Harihari. May have a fibre break north of Harihari.

Moire, Waka Kotahi – road closed between Fox Glacier and Haast. Haast and Makaroa closed overnight.

Colin Hey, Network Manager, Waka Kotahi – road closed between Makarora and Haast is reopened. Only closure is between Haast and Franz Josef. Update on SH6 opening at 12 noon.

██████████, helicopter on standby to do an aerial patrol. Update will be provided as soon as info is known.

Buller Electricity – partners are on standby.

Mark Boere, Fire and Emergency – making plans for the Westport station and evacuations. Request been put in for USAAR.

Darren, St John, staff on standby.

████████████████████

Rachael Forsyth – river running alongside the school, Jacobs River. Trying to get hold of them.

██████ – willing to support event.

Mark Kirkwood, Police – BAU for the rest of the Coast.

Philip Wheble – finished evacuating O'Connor House, Buller Health working through any issues.'

Taane, Farming sector – no issues.

Seddonville and Mokinui

Lisa from Metservice – second band for Westland on Friday of 80-120 mm at the coast and 150-205mm in the ranges.

**Next Meeting – 4.00 pm**

**Meeting closed at 9.32 am**

WDC 21.22.47 Released under LGOMA

## River Update – Meeting Notes

**Date:** 3 February 2022

**Time:** 3.00 pm

**Location:** Microsoft Teams

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### Present:

**Westland District Council** - Simon Bastion, Cindy Fleming, Diane Maitland

**West Coast Regional Council** – Randal Beal, Jake Langdon, Jo Paterson

### Items:

- Westland Rivers are all under the river levels.
- Waiho River site communications are back on board. Sitting at 7 metres.
- Haast is dropping well, down to 4 metres.
- Hokitika sitting below its alarm.
- More rain forecast – 80-100 mm on the Coast. In 1hr ranges is 150-200 mm.
- Rivers should have plenty of capacity.
- Redeployed 2 engineers based in Franz to Westport. Two Engineers based in Harihari.
- Waiho has cut quite significantly at the bridge.
- Met Service for Westland midnight to Friday night, mostly north of the Glaciers, heavy rain.
- Simon comfortable with an orange level.
- Waiho River, it would be safer to leave the red warning in place until the morning. Emma to talk to the Met Service within the next half an hour and report back to Simon.

**Meeting closed at 3.21 pm**