

Proposed Gore District Plan: Noise

Introduction

1. My name is Eddie McKenzie and I hold a position on the Jet Boating New Zealand (JBNZ) Southland Branch Rivers Subcommittee. I also sit on the JBNZ National Rivers Subcommittee. Part of the role of these committees is to review and assist on any Resource Management and other regulatory matters that impact on recreational jet boating within New Zealand.
2. I work with our JBNZ Consultants on Resource Management matters relating to recreational jet boating. I am familiar with the typical District Plan provisions that impact on recreational jet boating activities.
3. I also have a knowledge of the Maritime Rules associating with recreational jet boating, and particularly the navigation safety rules in Part 91 of the Maritime Rules.
4. I have been involved in the review of the Proposed Gore District Plan, and the preparation of the JBNZ submission and this presentation.

Jet Boating New Zealand – Submitter

5. JBNZ is a national organisation that represents recreational jet boaters in New Zealand. It was formed in 1962 following the early growth in jet boat interest and activities, and its objectives are:
 - To co-ordinate and promote jet boating on a national basis.
 - To encourage safe jet boating principles and practices.
 - To promote and protect the rights of jet boaters and JBNZ.
 - To establish and maintain harmonious relationships with other water users.
6. JBNZ has approximately 3,500 members and works closely with local and central government organisations, such as territorial authorities and the Department of Conservation, and NGOs, such as the Royal Forest & Bird Society and Fish & Game, to advocate for the use of waterways by recreational jet boaters and the health and wellbeing of those waterways.
7. A significant focus of JBNZ is the self-guided recreational use of jet boats. It performs a key role in advising its members of waterways that can be boated safely and lawfully as an individual activity. It also arranges “branch-runs” where it will arrange for its members to boat a particular river in an organised event manner. It further provides a degree of instruction and training for recreational jet boating, both informally and as an organised training event.

Submission

8. JBNZ has submitted on the Noise (NOISE) chapter as well as on other parts of the proposed District Plan. JBNZ has a keen interest in surface water activities given recreational jet boating primarily deals with navigation on the surface of waterways.
9. The submission, as it concerns the NOISE chapter, can be summarised as follows.
 - a. Support proposed Policy 4. The policy recognises and enables infrequent noise from Temporary Activities so long as the level, timing and duration is reasonable. An organised JBNZ activity may constitute a Temporary Event. Refer s64.013.
 - b. Support proposed Note 2: Noise sources exempt from specific rules and standards. In particular, item 7 that refers to motorcraft operating on the surface of waterbodies. Refer s64.014.
 - c. Request an amendment to Note 2 item 7 to reference that the exemption also applies to JBNZ organised activities that may constitute a Temporary Event. Refer s64.015.

Discussion

10. It is clear that recreational jet boats navigating a waterway, in an individual sense, are not subject to the rules and standards of the NOISE chapter. Note 2 confirms this, as do the comments provided by the author of the s42A RMA Report – refer to item 261 on page 62.
11. In the case of an organised JBNZ activity, it may be seen that this constitutes a *Temporary Event* and is therefore subject to rule NOISE – R10. This rule confirms a Permitted Activity status in respect of noise from a *Temporary Event* where specific controls are met. If the specific controls are not met the activity status reverts to Restricted Discretionary, and a Resource Consent is required to allow the noise.
12. JBNZ considers that the noise from an organised JBNZ activity is no different to that of individual jet boats navigating a waterway. Therefore, the Note 2 exemption should apply in both circumstances. Hence the requested amendment to Note 2 item 7 has been submitted.
13. We suspect that this view is also supported by the author of the s42A RMA Report – again refer to item 261 on page 62. However, item 261 is, in our view, not clear on this matter. Hence JBNZ seeks clarification please.
14. If clarification can be provided by the Hearing Panel, and it is recognised and recorded that the Note 2 exemption does apply to an organised JBNZ activity, JBNZ will accept the rejection of submission item s64.015.

Conclusion

15. JBNZ appreciates the opportunity to submit on the proposed District Plan. So, thank you for receiving the submission and allowing us to present it to the Panel.

16. JBNZ will be happy to continue discussions with Council as necessary.

Jet Boating New Zealand