

Submission on Waste Services for Duncan Bay

Intro:

Please note that my submission relates only to the proposed provision of a remote transfer station at Duncan Bay, Tennyson Inlet and related facilities at Rai Valley. I have no interest in the proposals as they relate to the wider Marlborough area.

Need for Waste Disposal:

1. The Duncan Bay community has successfully managed its own waste disposal for the past 50 to 60 years. Residents have always cleared their own rubbish and recyclables which are taken back to be disposed of at their permanent homes or are dropped off at a transfer station such as the one at Rai Valley.
2. There has not been any issue with illegal waste dumping or of littering from day trippers that necessitates the provision of a general waste disposal service for Duncan Bay.
3. There is however a need for the disposal of green waste. A satisfactory system that had operated successfully for many years was banned by MDC and has impacted considerably on local residents. If Council is reviewing its provision of waste services then it should include the provision for green waste disposal.

Location:

1. The proposed location of the remote transfer station (should council decide to proceed with this option) is entirely inappropriate being located at the head of the bay and hence directly in the focal viewpoint for many residents.
2. Council should be well aware that the location is deemed to be of Special Landscape Value – a factor which strongly influenced the commissioner to decline the resource consent application by DBRA for continued use of the area for the disposal of green waste. It seems inconceivable that MDC would now consider this site suitable for the

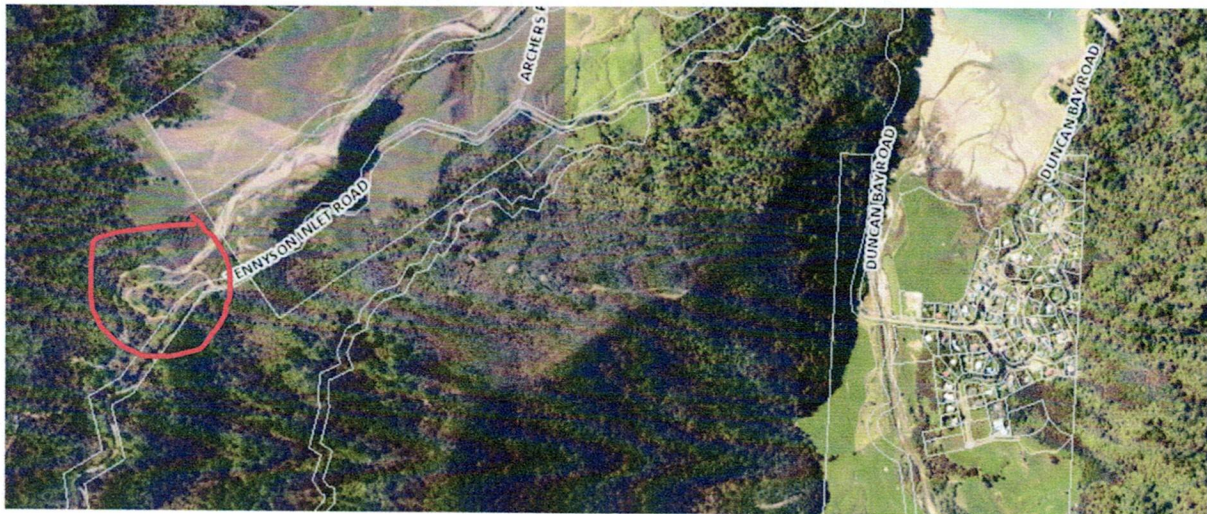
construction of a large, fenced enclosure housing 20 large waste bins and a skip.

3. The storage of waste on this site is likely to create offensive odours which will impact on residents and public.
4. The storage of waste on this site is likely to attract vermin.
5. The site location is unsuitable due to risk of flooding. In the recent storms the site location was inundated as evidenced by the spread of river gravel (see photo). The consequences of a flood through the proposed transfer station could be disastrous and impact significantly on the environment with glass and plastics and other waste potentially being swept into the sea and along the foreshore.



Effect of recent flooding in proposed location of remote transfer station.

6. One has to question why a remote transfer station is proposed to be sited within Duncan Bay when it should be located in a position that could service both Duncan Bay and Penzance/Tuna Bay? Surely a more suitable location would be at a point readily accessible to both communities – perhaps as indicated below? Such location would not cause offence to either community in terms of visual impact or smell and would be safer from risk of flooding.



Possible location for siting of remote transfer station to service Tennyson Inlet communities.

7. Presumably MDC would need to obtain a resource consent should they decide to proceed with the current proposal and location. It would seem inconceivable that a commissioner would grant such consent given the precedent set by the earlier hearings with DBRA.

Rai Valley Transfer Facility:

The Rai Valley transfer facility should be improved to :

- Extend hours and days of operation
- Offer modern payment options (eftpos and credit cards)
- Provide for greenwaste disposal
- Provide easier access/turning for vehicles and trailers

Upgrading these facilities would benefit all the communities within the Western Sounds area and would offer a primary option for rubbish disposal and would reduce the perceived need for remote transfer stations in some locations.

Summary:

I submit that the proposal for a remote transfer station within Duncan Bay is unnecessary and should not proceed.

I also submit that The Rai Valley transfer facility should be upgraded to accommodate a greater range of services, improved access, and extended hours.

In the event that MDC *does* decide to proceed with a transfer station within Tennyson Inlet then I submit that it should be sited in a suitable location that could service both communities within Tennyson Inlet and does not impact upon views, cause offensive odours to residents, or provide a risk to the environment from potential flooding.