



# Compliance Monitoring Report

2021-22



environment  
**SOUTHLAND**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Te Taiao Tonga







**Environmental Compliance  
Monitoring Report**

**2021/22**

**Report by –  
Environment Southland  
Compliance Team**

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## Foreword

The 2021/22 Compliance Monitoring Report provides an overview of Southland's compliance, monitoring and enforcement (CME) activities.

During the past year, our aerial inspections have continued to see really good work happening on the ground in our rural areas and we've had a positive winter grazing season. Our focus on this is ongoing, as we work with industry groups and farmers to encourage improved practice and better environmental outcomes. While we are pleased with how things are looking, we are not becoming complacent and work has immediately started on planning for the 2023 season.

We've also had a steady number of incidents reported overall, with numbers similar to last year. In the 2021/22 year there were 880 incidents (712 public, 168 staff) compared to 2020/21 year which had 888 incidents reported in total (766 public, 122 staff).

Increasing workloads as a result of changing legislation and growing consent numbers have meant we've had to reassess how we best manage our work. We've taken the opportunity to review and reprioritise some of our work programmes, meaning the way we monitor now and in the future will better represent the risks the activities post to the environment.

Like most organisations we've faced issues with staff retention and at times this has led to a number of staff vacancies. This has prompted us to consider how we can better place our team to address the challenges we face and we've almost completed a restructure of the team, to provide for career progression opportunities and improved job satisfaction, which we expect will help with stability in our staffing.

With more legislative changes ahead, there will be continued pressure on CME. We will continue to review how we best manage this to achieve the environmental outcomes we are striving for.



N G Horrell  
**Chairman**  
Environment Southland



NMG Cook  
**Chairman**  
Regulatory Committee

## Note:

For the purpose of this report, CME means:

- **compliance** - adherence to the RMA, including the rules established under regional plans (operative and proposed), National Environmental Standards and meeting resource consent conditions;
- **monitoring** - the activities carried out by Environment Southland to assess compliance with the RMA, and responding to complaints from the public about potential breaches;
- **enforcement** - actions taken by Environment Southland to respond to non-compliance with the RMA. This report provides a summary of Southland industry's performance against their primary consents. It covers mainly dairy farming, local authorities and industrial operations, but also includes smaller consent holders such as coastal structures and whitebait stands.

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## Introduction

Environment Southland’s Compliance Monitoring Report has been designed to provide an overview of compliance activities from across Southland during the 2021/22 year. It does not cover all of the activities of the area in detail.

Activities with similar parameters, particularly enforcement, incidents, dairy discharge consents and whitebait stands, have been combined to give a broad overview, rather than reporting on individual conditions or circumstances.

In this report, the dairy industry is reported as a collective as the consent conditions for each farm are similar and compliance with these can be easily compared. Dairy inspections result in each farm receiving a grade which ranges from 1: Full compliance through to 10: Significant non-compliance.

Other industries reported here are either the only one of their type in Southland, or significant differences exist between them that would make comparison of their consent conditions of little value.

Major industrial consents, or those of special interest to Southland, have been identified and are included in the report. Industrial consents are often very complex. This is largely due to the nature of the activity and volume of contaminants that an industry uses or discharges. The industries reported here often have their own environmental assessment teams, or use third party contractors to complete the requirements of their consent.

For each of the major industry reports, a table has been included to assess how well the company has kept Environment Southland informed of monitoring results and how they respond to issues. A second table provides an overall assessment of performance against their consent conditions.

Both tables provide a rating in the form of a traffic light system and a comparison between the 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22 years (see below).

### Key

Site or consent holders name			
Description of noteworthy event	19/20	20/21	21/22

Background denotes overall results for year shown in box

Year

## Grading

	<b>Compliance Grade</b>
1	FULL COMPLIANCE – Compliance with all relevant consent conditions, plan rules, regulations and national environmental standards.
2	LOW RISK NON-COMPLIANCE - Compliance with most of the relevant consent conditions, plan rules, regulations and national environmental standards. Non-compliance carries a low risk of adverse environmental effects or is technical in nature (e.g. failure to submit a monitoring report).
5	MODERATE NON-COMPLIANCE - Non-compliance with some of the relevant consent conditions, plan rules, regulations and national environmental standards. The non-compliance was deemed to have had some environmental consequences and/or there is a moderate risk of adverse environmental effects or there was a frequent recurrence of low risk or technical non-compliance.
10	SIGNIFICANT NON-COMPLIANCE - Non-compliance with many of the relevant consent conditions, plan rules, regulations and national environmental standards where there were significant environmental consequences and/or a high risk of adverse environmental effects.

Also considered in the grading's are the completeness and quality of the results, evidence of contingency planning, prompt notification of events, completion of full and thorough investigations, maintenance of good communications with Environment Southland, proactive in addressing or highlighting potential issues and evidence of environmental ethics.

After consultation with consent holders and stakeholders we decided for this report to add a fourth compliance grade (yellow) to better reflect consent performance.

This report is separated into three main parts - Inspection and Audit Activities, Incident Response and Enforcement.

Since the first Compliance Monitoring Report in 1998, the format and detail of the report has changed. If there is an area you would like to see more detail on or something you would like added to the report next year, please let us know.

# **Part A**

## **Incident Response**

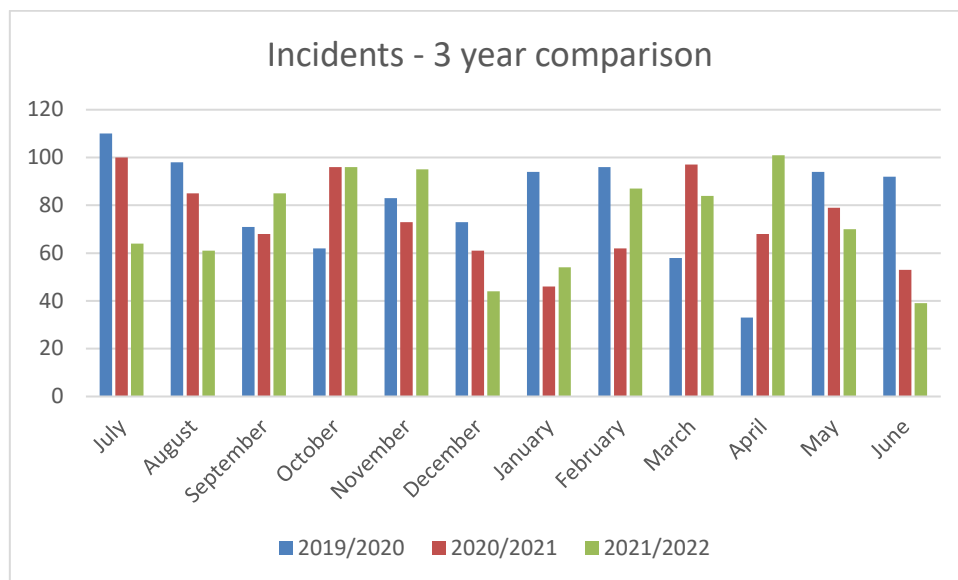
## 1.0 Incidents

The Southland community are the regional council's eyes and ears when it comes to identifying incidents of pollution. We rely on them to call us when they have concerns about pollution incidents and provide all the information they safely can to give us the best opportunity to stop the pollution and ensure any necessary action is taken to prevent a recurrence.

Compliance officers respond to incidents either found by officers or reports of pollution from members of the public. We have a pollution response available 24/7 (0800 76 88 45).

This year the number of incidents reported to the compliance division remained steady with the previous year. In the 2021/22 year there were 880 incidents (712 public, 168 staff) compared to 2020/21 year which had 888 incidents reported in total (766 public, 122 staff).

Where possible, for confirmed breaches of rules or legislation, the costs involved in attending and investigating an incident are charged to an offending party. Unfortunately, for many of the incidents staff attend, such as the removal of litter, rubbish and dead stock from waterways, it is not possible to identify the offending party and the costs need to be met by ratepayers.

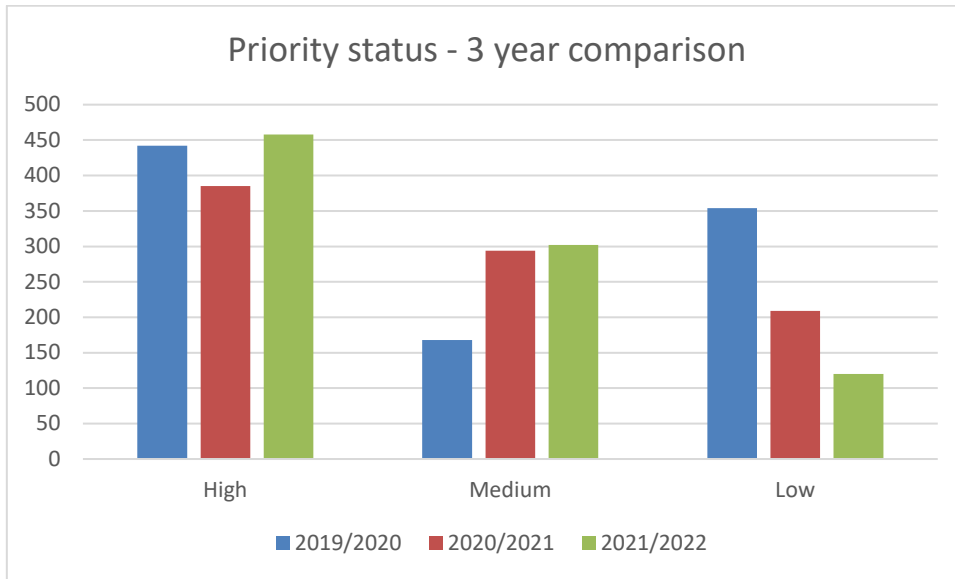


**Figure 1: Reported incidents per month compared over three years**

The variety of incidents reported to the compliance division can be extremely wide and covers all manner of environmental incidents. A lot of incidents are reasonably simple and can be completed in a short timeframe. However, some incidents require a more significant investigation that takes months to arrive at a resolution.

### Priority of incidents

Not all Incidents are created equal. When reported, the initial incident is assigned a priority from High (1 hour to 24 hours), Medium (2 days to 4 weeks) Low (1 month to 6 months). The priority is determined initially based on the impacts to the environment and/or the community. Priorities can also be determined taking into account several factors including the need for rapid evidence collection, the receiving environment and time of day.



**Figure 2: Priority response category compared to previous years**

There was an increase in the number of high priority incidents and a noticeable decrease in the number of low priority incidents this year.

We have responded to 100% of all of our incidents this year. A response ranges from a phone call or desktop check through to site visits. Some incidents will be easily resolved, while others will lead to further investigations that require more time and resources.





# **Part B**

## **Inspection and audit activities**

## 2.0 Agricultural audits

The *Mycoplasma bovis* bacteria remains a concern on a small number of farms. Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) are continuing to work to eradicate *M. bovis* from New Zealand but its presence continues to impact on the dairy inspection programme.

This year we experienced further disruptions to the inspection programme, and therefore inspection numbers, due to Covid-19 restrictions.

This year, 23 inspections were rated as being significantly non-compliant of 895 inspections conducted. This equates to approximately 2.5% significant non-compliant inspections.

### 2.1 Dairy inspection overview

The compliance team undertakes inspections of dairy farms to ensure that there is compliance with the conditions of discharge consents. Discharge consents allow farms to irrigate dairy shed effluent to land.

Dairy shed effluent is created from the milking shed and platform during clean down and is a combination of water and effluent. As such, it is an excellent natural liquid fertiliser. It contains nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, magnesium, sulphur and trace elements essential for grass growth. Normally a farm would have to pay for these nutrients to be applied to pasture.

However, pasture can only use so much effluent at a time. It's important for the person in charge of the system to match the irrigation depth to the capability of the pasture to utilise the nutrients. Over-application of effluent can result in:

- killing pasture – especially where effluent has 'ponded' on top of the soil;
- pollution of groundwater – by seeping through the soil profile into the groundwater aquifers or an underground source of water;
- pollution of nearby streams and rivers – where it runs off paddocks into waterways;
- ineffective use of nutrients - by the seeping of the nutrients past the root zone, before the plant can utilise them.

#### 2.1.1 Discharge consent inspections

External influences continue to impact on the Environment Southland's ability to complete the dairy monitoring programme. During the 2021/22 season staff continued to adhere to the standard disinfection protocols to mitigate the risks of spreading the *M. bovis* bacteria, however, this year monitoring was hampered again by the impact of Covid-19 restrictions.

Consequently, 895 on-site and aerial dairy shed effluent discharge consent inspections were completed during the 2021/22 season. Of these, 701 were fully compliant, 171 were graded low risk or moderate non-compliance, and 23 were graded significant non-compliance.

If an inspection results in a grade of 10 (significant non-compliant), a re-inspection is often conducted. Two re-inspections were completed for the year 2021/22 with the remainder scheduled to be completed in the upcoming season.

### **2.1.2 Wintering pad inspections**

Compliance staff undertook inspections of the purpose built sites used to feed and house cows over the winter period commonly known as wintering pads, wintering barns, calving pads, feed pads and loafing pads.

Due to inspection interruptions as noted above, compliance officers completed 66 inspections during the 2021/22 financial year of the various types of consented wintering pads.

### **2.1.3 Aerial inspections**

Compliance staff undertook 521 aerial inspections of dairy discharge permits in the 2021/22 financial year. There were 426 rated as fully compliant, 66 rated as low risk non-compliance, 25 moderate non-compliance and four rated as significant non-compliance.

## 2.2 Groundwater quality sampling for dairy

Groundwater is water that has made its way down through the soil to underground areas called 'aquifers'. Aquifers are subsurface geological formations consisting of sand, gravel or rock which 'hold' water. Aquifers in Southland tend to be shallow. In many places the water level is only 1.5 to 5 metres below the ground.

Groundwater provides an important source of drinking water for people and livestock in Southland. It is also used for irrigation and dairy shed wash down, and it can be the primary source of water in streams over summer (base flow).

However, what we do on top of the land (land use) can affect the quality of the groundwater sitting below. Nitrate contamination of groundwater is common in Southland due to excess nitrogen in soil from fertiliser and effluent. This is a key issue as it affects the health of people and livestock that use groundwater, and when nitrate contaminated groundwater enters streams in summer it can cause problem algal and plant growth.

Groundwater quality sampling is a tool used to monitor compliance with dairy effluent discharge consents. The purpose of this programme is to monitor measureable changes over time in groundwater quality in the areas where effluent has been applied.

Water samples are collected from shallow bores near the effluent disposal field and are then analysed for a number of parameters including nitrate and *E.coli* levels. The results generated from a period of between five to ten years can give a reasonable indication of the effects effluent application is having on groundwater. If deterioration is noted, further investigation will be required to determine what land based activity may be contributing to the change.



### 2.3 Water consents

Water take permits have been separated into two groups:

- low rate water take consents
- high rate water take consents.

Low rate water take consents allow water to be abstracted at a rate of less than 5 litres per second, while high rate water take consents allow water to be abstracted at a rate of 5 litres per second or greater.

#### **Low rate water take consents**

There are a wide range of industries with low rate water consents from gravel wash to car wash operations, with the dairy industry having the greatest number of low rate water take consents, with a total of 95% of all water take consents abstracting less than 5 litre per second.



**Figure 6: Low rate (less than 5L/s) Compliance 2021/22**

While Southland receives regular rainfall, the demand on the water resource is increasing. This year, at the time of publication, the level of compliance was 96% of consent holders being fully compliant with consent conditions.

Environment Southland has adopted the Regional Sector Strategic Compliance framework when dealing with monitoring. This involves education, engagement, enablement and enforcement. Any one or all of these tools can be used at any time to achieve compliance. Environment Southland adopts an educative approach with consent holders when faced with non-compliance. This approach has resulted in a continued improvement in compliance from 91% in 2020/21 to 96% in 2021/22.

***Irrigation water consents (High rate water take consents)***

During the 2021/22 irrigation season 267 water take consents were defined as high rate water takes (i.e. where the rate of water taken from the source was 5 litres per second). Of those, 218 were for abstraction from groundwater, and 49 were for abstraction from surface water.

**Note:** Four consents take water from both groundwater and surface water.

## 3.0 Industrial audits – major industries

### 3.1 Meat industry

#### 3.1.1 Alliance Group Limited

Alliance Group Limited operates two meat processing plants in Southland, one at Lorneville and one at Mataura.

#### *What do we look at?*

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.



**Figure 7: Upstream sampling site, Alliance Group Mataura Plant**

## Lorneville

Consents
<p>Alliance Group Limited holds 13 resource consents for the Lorneville plant. The primary consents include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the discharge of treated wastewater to the Makarewa River;</li> <li>• the discharge of treated wastewater to land;</li> <li>• the discharge of wastewater and stockyard solids to land;</li> <li>• the discharge of contaminants to air;</li> <li>• the discharge of stormwater into an open drain;</li> <li>• to take surface water from the Makarewa and Oreti Rivers.</li> </ul>

Complaints and self-reported Incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No confirmed complaints or self-notifications were received during the 2021/22 period.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Non-compliance was recorded for discharging to land in breach of the minimum return period on two occasions. Alliance improved their systems managing their discharge and no action was taken in this instance. All other consents monitored were compliant for the 2021/22 period.			

## Mataura

Consents
<p>Alliance Group Limited holds ten resource consents for the Mataura plant. The consents are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the discharge of contaminants, including odour, to air;</li> <li>• the discharge of treated meat works wastewater to the Mataura River;</li> <li>• the discharge of stormwater to the Mataura River;</li> <li>• the discharge of cooling water to the Mataura River;</li> <li>• the discharge of wastewater treatment solids to land;</li> <li>• to take water from a water race fed by the Mataura River for meat processing;</li> <li>• to take water for cooling from the Mataura River;</li> <li>• to use a weir on the Mataura River;</li> <li>• to take and discharge water for hydroelectric generation;</li> <li>• to take surface water for pelt and hide processing.</li> </ul>

Complaints and self-reported Incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No complaints or self-reported incidents were received during the 2021/22 period.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Alliance Mataura undertook all the monitoring required by its consents. Alliance discharge its wastewater to the Mataura River. This is sampled weekly to assess compliance. The discharge limits were exceeded on four occasions during the 2021/22 period. These exceedances were small in magnitude and no environmental impacts were observed. Advice was given relating to ongoing compliance with consent conditions and no formal action was required.			



### 3.1.2 Blue Sky Meats (NZ) Limited

Blue Sky Meats Limited operates a meat processing plant at Morton Mains, near Woodlands.

#### **What do we look at?**

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

Consents
<p>Blue Sky Meats (NZ) Limited holds eight resource consents for the purpose of meat processing at its Morton Mains plant. The primary consents are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to take groundwater for a meat processing operation;</li> <li>• the discharge of contaminants to the ground through the operation of offal pits;</li> <li>• the discharge of wastewater to land via a spray irrigator;</li> <li>• the discharge of contaminants to air from a rendering and blood drying plant, boiler plant, and wastewater treatment and irrigation.</li> </ul>

Complaints and self-reported Incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No confirmed complaints or self-notifications were received during the 2021/22 period.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
<p>Blue Sky Meats was graded non-compliant in relation to the discharge of wastewater to land. On one occasion this was due to missing temperature results as well as the conductivity sensor not being calibrated, meaning conductivity results were above limit. Another occasion the oil and grease results were not included in the report. On two occasions the waterway downstream results show an exceedance of <i>E. coli</i>. There was also one recorded late supply of data.</p> <p>There were multiple exceedances of irrigation application depth and volume during this season. There were multiple irrigation applications recorded on restricted soils. Nine paddocks received applications of effluent which had less than 14 days between irrigation events.</p> <p>Following these events, Blue Sky Meats have installed controls to reduce the likelihood of these occurring again and a formal warning was issued.</p>			

### 3.1.3 South Pacific Meats Limited

South Pacific Meats Limited operates a meat processing plant at Awarua, approximately 10 km south of Invercargill.

#### **What do we look at?**

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

Consents
<p>South Pacific Meats Limited holds six resource consents for the purpose of meat processing at its Awarua plant. The primary consents include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the discharge of stormwater containing contaminants into the New River Estuary;</li> <li>• the discharge of contaminants to air from a rendering plant, wastewater treatment plant, boiler and associated processes;</li> <li>• the discharge of meat works effluent sludge to land.</li> </ul>

Complaints and self-reported Incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No confirmed complaints or self-notifications were received during the 2021/22 period.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
<p>There was one breach of the storm water discharge consent conditions due to a late supply of report.</p> <p>There were five minor non-compliances in relation to the sludge discharge to land consent. Four of these were related to reporting conditions and one was due to a very small over application on one paddock.</p> <p>These non-compliances are technical in nature, advice was given on consent compliance.</p>			

### 3.1.4 Prime Range Meats Limited

Prime Range Meats Limited operates a meat processing plant on the banks of the Waikiwi Stream in Invercargill. In addition to this, Prime Range Meats operates a small meat processing operation and wholesale outlet on the outskirts of Invercargill.

#### **What do we look at?**

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

Consents
<p>Prime Range Meats Limited holds four resource consents for the purpose of meat processing. The primary consents are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the discharge of contaminants, including odour, to air from a meat works and rendering plant, and from a wastewater treatment system;</li> <li>• the discharge of treated wastewater to land from a meat processing operation;</li> <li>• the discharge of biosolids to land from a meat processing operation.</li> </ul>

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
One odour complaint was received during the 2021/22 period. The odour was confirmed but not assessed as objectionable or offensive.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
<p>There was one breach of the air discharge permit where the measurement and recording of air flow rate to the boiler filter, as well as the associated pressure drop, was not provided.</p> <p>This non-compliance was a technical non-compliance with no known environmental effect and no action was required.</p> <p>All other monitoring conditions were complied with.</p>			

## 3.2 Dairy industry

### 3.2.1 Fonterra Co-operative Group Limited

Fonterra Co-operative Group Limited operates a milk processing facility at Edendale.



Figure 8: Fonterra, Edendale

#### ***What do we look at?***

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

Consents
<p>Fonterra Co-operative Group Limited holds eight resource consents related to dairy processing at its Edendale plant. The primary consents include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to take groundwater for a dairy operation, and for the purpose of milk processing;</li><li>• the discharge of process wastewater to land, and associated odours;</li><li>• the discharge of treated wastewater, process water, and stormwater to water;</li><li>• the discharge of contaminants and odour to air from the manufacturing of dairy products, boiler operation, and wastewater treatment system;</li><li>• the discharge of waste sludge and liquids to land;</li><li>• the discharge of whey by-product to land;</li><li>• to construct, maintain and use a klip tank structure for the storage of whey and dairy liquids.</li></ul>

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
One complaint was received in the 2021/22 period. The complaint was regarding an outdoor burning. This was confirmed and education was provided on outdoor burning to limit smoke complaints. Fonterra put out the fire rapidly.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
<p>There was one self-notified exceedance of consented application rate and one breach of reporting conditions for the discharge of wastewater to land consent. The exceedance of application rate was minor and due to a calculation error. The breach of reporting conditions was due to an error sampling where some analytes were not tested. There was also one self-notified exceedance of irrigation volume over all farms. This had minimal environmental impact.</p> <p>There was one breach of the air discharge consent where meters for particulate matter were faulty. Meters were calibrated as soon as a professional could come out. No apparent environmental effect.</p> <p>There were two breaches of the discharge of waste sludge and liquid to land consent. One was a reporting breach where an analyte was missed on a six monthly sample. The other was a discharge to land within a no return period.</p> <p>There was one self-notified exceedance during discharge of wastewater to water. This was an exceedance in the phosphorus load permitted to be discharged, which was due to failure to calculate discharge volume in relation to uncertainty in lab tests and the variability of operation within the wastewater treatment plant.</p> <p>Each of these consent breaches was small or technical in nature. Environment Southland provided education and advice to Fonterra regarding these events.</p>			

### 3.2.2 Open Country Dairy (NZ) Limited

Open Country Dairy (NZ) Limited operates a milk processing plant at Awarua, to the south of Invercargill.

#### **What do we look at?**

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

Consents
<p>Open Country Dairy holds three resource consents relating to its dairy processing plant. The primary consents include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the discharge of condensate and stormwater to a farm drain;</li> <li>• the discharge of contaminants to the air from a milk processing plant and boiler.</li> </ul>

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No confirmed complaints or self-notifications were received during the 2021/22 period.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
<p>Open Country Dairy had four low level non-compliances due to late supply of data.</p> <p>There was one minor non-compliance with air discharge consent conditions. Due to the low level of non-compliance, advice was given and no further action was taken.</p>			

### 3.2.3 Mataura Valley Milk Limited

Mataura Valley Milk Limited operates a milk processing plant at McNab, to the north east of Gore.

#### **What do we look at?**

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

Consents
<p>Mataura Valley Milk Limited holds eight resource consents related to its dairy processing plant. The primary consents include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to discharge sludge to land;</li> <li>• to discharge odour and contaminants to air from a milk processing plant and associated facilities;</li> <li>• to discharge stormwater to water;</li> <li>• to discharge treated wastewater to land;</li> <li>• to take and use groundwater.</li> </ul>

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No confirmed complaints or self-reported environmental incidents were received by Environment Southland relating to Mataura Valley Milk Ltd during the 2021/22 reporting period.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
<p>The discharge consent conditions were fully complied with for the 2021/22 period.</p> <p>The groundwater level monitoring data for the water take permit was not recorded as required for two months. This was due to a power cut causing an issue with the recording system which was not immediately noticed.</p>			

## 3.3 Energy industry

### 3.3.1 Pioneer Energy Limited

The hydroelectric power station at Monowai is owned by Pioneer Energy. The company operates 13 power stations across Southland and Central Otago.

#### *What do we look at?*

Environment Southland investigate complaints and self-reported incidents and assess compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.



**Figure 9: Monowai Power Station**



<b>Consents</b>
<p>Pioneer Energy holds 17 resource consents related to the operation of its Monowai Power Scheme. The primary consents include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to take surface water;</li> <li>• to use, maintain and alter an existing earth dam;</li> <li>• to discharge water to water;</li> <li>• to discharge contaminants to land;</li> <li>• to dam and divert the waters of the Monowai River.</li> </ul>

<b>Complaints and self-reported incidents</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
There was one confirmed complaint relating to the fish passage at the Lake Monowai gates. This was resolved after Pioneer was notified and an extension was placed on the fish passage.			

<b>Consent performance summary</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
Pioneer Energy was fully compliant with the consent monitoring and reporting requirements for the 2021/22 period.			

### 3.3.2 Meridian Energy Limited

Meridian Energy Limited operates the largest hydroelectric power station in New Zealand at West Arm, Lake Manapouri within the Fiordland National Park. Electricity is generated using water stored in Lakes Te Anau and Manapouri. The stored water from the lakes is controlled using structures at the outlet of Lake Te Anau and the Lower Waiau River. The water used to generate electricity is discharged through two tunnels to Deep Cove in Doubtful Sound. Compliance performance was assessed against the current resource consents.

#### *What do we look at?*

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.



**Figure 10: Turbine Hall - Manapouri Power Station**

## Consents

Meridian Energy Ltd holds 17 resource consents related to the operation of the Manapouri Power Scheme. The primary consents are:

- to dam and divert the waters for hydro- electric power generation;
- to take and use water for hydro-electric production, and for domestic supplies;
- to discharge treated sewage to land;
- the discharge of stormwater to land;
- to carry out bed disturbance;
- the discharge of contaminants to air;
- the discharge of water and contaminants to the coastal marine area;
- to occupy Lake Manapouri and coastal marine area with wharves.

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
There were no confirmed complaints or self-reported incidents during the monitoring period of 2021/22.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
There was one non-compliance for two consents relating to the dam to divert waters of Lake Manapouri, Waiau River and Mararoa River. This was due to low flow in the Mararoa River when the turbidity limit was triggered on three occasions. Due to the short duration of these events and low environmental impact no action was required.			
All other consents had full compliance ratings for the year 2021/22.			

## 3.4 Manufacturing industry

### 3.4.1 New Zealand Aluminium Smelters Limited

New Zealand Aluminium Smelters Limited (NZAS) is located on the Tiwai Peninsula at Awarua.

#### *What do we look at?*

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the resource consents.



Figure 11: Aerial view of NZAS site. (Image by NZAS)

## Consents

New Zealand Aluminium Smelters Limited (NZAS) holds six discharge and water take consents that require inspecting. The consents are:

- the discharge of contaminants to land where they may enter coastal water;
- the discharge of treated sewage to land;
- the discharge of treated effluent to the Coastal Marine Area (CMA);
- the discharge of water including contaminants to the CMA;
- the discharge of contaminants to air from the aluminium smelter and related activities;
- to take and use groundwater for industrial supply.

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
NZAS was issued with an abatement notice for the discharge of contaminants from a contaminated site to groundwater, which was highlighted during NZAS' closure investigations. In response, NZAS has ceased a number of activities that have been contributing to groundwater contamination. Environment Southland continues to engage with NZAS to monitor the effects of the contaminated site and facilitate a long term solution.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
All monitoring required by the consents was undertaken and all discharge limits were met for 2021/22.  One exceedance of receiving water quality limits occurred in Awarua Bay, related to stormwater discharge. NZAS reviewed their management processes and made changes to maintain good water in the stormwater discharge. Due to the short duration of the event and previously good management of the discharge no formal action was taken.			

### 3.4.2 Daiken Southland Limited

Daiken Southland Limited operates a mixed density fibreboard (MDF) manufacturing plant, located south of Mataura.

#### **What do we look at?**

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.



Figure 12: Aerial view of Daiken Southland site (Image by Daiken Southland Limited)

Consents	
Daiken Southland Limited holds 11 resource consents. The primary consents include:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the discharge of contaminants to air from fibreboard processing, including the treatment of wastewater;</li> <li>• the discharge of effluent and treatment pond seepage to land;</li> <li>• the discharge of untreated stormwater and treated wastewater to water;</li> <li>• the discharge of stormwater to land;</li> <li>• the discharge from a tile drain to a watercourse;</li> <li>• the discharge of ash to land.</li> </ul>	

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No confirmed complaints or self-notifications were received during the 2021/22 period.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Daiken was compliant with all monitoring conditions for the 2021/22 monitoring period.			

## 3.5 Fertiliser industry

### 3.5.1 Ballance Agri-Nutrients Limited

Ballance Agri-Nutrients Limited operates a fertiliser manufacturing facility at Awarua, to the south of Invercargill.

#### **What do we look at?**

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

Consents
Ballance Agri-Nutrients Limited holds four resource consents for its fertiliser manufacturing plant at Awarua. The primary consents are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the discharge of stormwater from a fertiliser manufacturing facility to water;</li><li>• to take groundwater for fertiliser processing;</li><li>• the discharge of contaminants to air from the manufacture of fertiliser and associated activities.</li></ul>

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No confirmed complaints or self-notifications were received during the 2021/22 period.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Ballance Agri-Nutrients was compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			

### 3.5.2 Ravensdown Limited

Ravensdown Limited operates a limestone quarry at Dipton.

#### ***What do we look at?***

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

Consents
<p>Ravensdown Fertiliser Co-operative Limited holds two resource consents for the purpose of operating a limestone quarry at its Dipton site. The consents are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the discharge of treated stormwater to water;</li> <li>• the discharge of contaminants to air from limestone crushing, drying and handling.</li> </ul>

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No confirmed complaints or self-notifications were received during the 2021/22 period.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
<p>There was one breach of the consent monitoring requirements for the 2021/22 period where a report was submitted after the consented timeframe.</p> <p>There was a short period of time where Ravensdown was operating without a consent. This was due to an old consent expiring without having an application in for renewal at the time.</p>			



### 3.5.3 Fernhill Limeworks Limited

Fernhill Limeworks Limited operates a limestone quarry at Kauana, north of Winton.

#### ***What do we look at?***

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

Consents
<p>Fernhill Limeworks Limited holds two resource consents for the purpose of operating a limestone quarry. The consents are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the discharge of treated stormwater to water;</li> <li>• the discharge of contaminants to air from limestone crushing, drying and handling.</li> </ul>

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No confirmed complaints or self-notifications were received during the 2021/22 period.			

Consent Performance Summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
The four monthly discharge sample was not collected on one monitoring occasion. The remaining monitored consent conditions were fully compliant for the 2021/22 period.			

## 3.6 Mining industry

### 3.6.1 Greenbriar Limited

Greenbriar Ltd operates the Ohai and Newvale Coal Mines. In the past year the Ohai Mine has stopped coal extraction and is undergoing a process of rehabilitation.

#### **What do we look at?**

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

#### **Ohai Mine site**

Consents
<p>11 resource consents are held relating to mining activities at the Ohai mine site. The primary consents include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to discharge contaminants to air from mining, screening and stockpiling of coal;</li> <li>• to discharge treated wastewater to water;</li> <li>• to discharge surface and groundwater;</li> <li>• to discharge solid waste to land;</li> <li>• to take surface water for a mining operation.</li> </ul>

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No confirmed complaints or self-notifications were received during the 2021/22 period.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
<p>The abstraction limit for stormwater and groundwater collected in the pit bottom was exceeded for one prolonged instance of 15 days duration during the year. This instance followed prolonged periods of high rainfall. As the exceedance was related to high rainfall, rather than over abstraction of groundwater no action was taken.</p> <p>One round of stormwater monitoring was not undertaken as required.</p> <p>The remaining monitoring was undertaken as required and complied with consent conditions.</p>			

## Goodwin and New Vale Mine sites

Consents
<p>Seven consents are held relating to mining activities at the Goodwin and New Vale mine sites, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to discharge treated water to the Hedgehope Stream (Goodwin);</li> <li>• to discharge treated water to the Hedgehope Stream (New Vale);</li> <li>• to take groundwater and surface water for mining (New Vale);</li> <li>• to discharge contaminants to air;</li> <li>• to discharge ash to land;</li> <li>• to discharge pelt processing solids to land;</li> <li>• to discharge dust suppressant to land.</li> </ul>

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No confirmed complaints or self-notifications were received during the 2021/22 period.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
<p>The monthly monitoring for the New Vale discharge of treated groundwater, stormwater and surface water was not undertaken for January 2022. As the non-compliance was a one off technical non-compliance no action was taken in this instance.</p> <p>The remaining monitoring was undertaken as per the requirements of the consents and all discharge limits were met.</p>			



Figure 13: Mining operations, New Vale Mine, Waimumu

### 3.6.2 Bathurst Resources Limited

Bathurst Resources Limited operates an opencast coal mine in Nightcaps, Western Southland.

#### ***What do we look at?***

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.



**Figure 14: Active mine pit, Bathurst Resources, Nightcaps**

Consents
<p>Bathurst Resources Limited holds 12 consents related to its mining operation. The primary consents include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to take groundwater and surface water for dewatering;</li> <li>• the discharge of stormwater to water;</li> <li>• the discharge of treated site water to water;</li> <li>• the discharge of ash from industrial operations, mixed with overburden, to land;</li> <li>• the discharge of contaminants to air;</li> <li>• to disturb the bed and divert the flow of a tributary.</li> </ul>

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
There were no confirmed complaints or self-reported incidents during 2021/22 monitoring period.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
There were no breaches of consent conditions during the 2021/22 monitoring period.			

## 3.7 Sawmill industry

### 3.7.1 R Richardson Limited (Craigpine)

#### *What do we look at?*

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

Consents
R Richardson Limited holds two consents related to its sawmilling operation. The consents are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to discharge contaminants to the air from timber processing activities;</li><li>• to discharge timber yard stormwater and condensate to water.</li></ul>

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
There were no confirmed complaints or self-reported incidents received during the 2021/22 period.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
The consents were fully compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			

### 3.7.2 Findlater Sawmilling

Findlater Sawmilling Limited operates a sawmilling plant at Tussock Creek.

#### ***What do we look at?***

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

<b>Consents</b>
Findlater Sawmilling holds two consents related to its sawmilling operation. They are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to take groundwater for a sawmilling operation;</li><li>• to discharge stormwater to a wetland from a sawmilling operation.</li></ul>

<b>Complaints and self-reported incidents</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
There were no confirmed complaints or self-notifications received during the 2021/22 period.			

<b>Consent performance summary</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
Findlater Sawmilling Limited was compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			

### 3.7.3 Lindsay & Dixon Limited

Lindsay & Dixon Limited operates a sawmilling plant at Tuatapere.

#### ***What do we look at?***

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

<b>Consents</b>
Lindsay & Dixon Limited holds three discharge consents related to its sawmilling operation.
The primary consents include:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to discharge stormwater, boiler blow-down water and sludge to land and to water;</li><li>• the installing and removing of culverts and bridges for a logging operation.</li></ul>

<b>Complaints and self-reported incidents</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
No confirmed complaints or self-notifications were received during the 2021/22 period.			

<b>Consent performance summary</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
Lindsay & Dixon was compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			

## 4.0 Sewage Treatment and Stormwater Systems

### 4.1 Invercargill City Council

#### 4.1.1 Sewage treatment systems

The Invercargill City Council (ICC) holds resource consents for the purpose of treating and discharging wastewater at three locations within the Invercargill region.

#### *What do we look at?*

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

Consents
<p>ICC holds 10 resource consents relating to its sewage treatment plants. These include consents to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• discharge treated wastewater to an estuary;</li> <li>• discharge treated wastewater to coastal water;</li> <li>• discharge contaminants to land;</li> <li>• discharge biosolids to land;</li> <li>• discharge contaminants to air.</li> </ul>

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No confirmed complaints or self-notifications relating the ICC's sewage treatment plants were received during the 2021/22 period.			

#### Wastewater

Bluff wastewater	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
ICC was compliant with all of the monitoring requirements of the consent for the 2021/22 period.			

Invercargill wastewater	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
ICC was compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			



<b>Omaui wastewater</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
ICC was compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			

<b>Biosolids to land, Station Road</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
ICC was compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			

<b>Biosolids to land, Christies Track</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
ICC was compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			

### **Water abstraction**

ICC operates the water treatment plant at Branxholme, where water from the Oreti River is treated for supply to Invercargill and Bluff. The City Council holds two resource consents relating to the operation of the plant. The consents permit the taking of water, and the discharge of filter backwash water to land and water.

<b>Complaints and self-reported incidents</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
No confirmed complaints or self-notifications were received during the 2021/22 period.			

<b>Consent performance summary</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
ICC was compliant with all of the monitoring requirements of the consent for the 2021/22 period.  However, technical non-compliance was given due to the late submission of a number of monitoring reports.			

#### 4.1.2 Stormwater systems

The Invercargill City Council (ICC) holds a resource consent for the purpose of discharging stormwater at multiple locations within the Invercargill area.

##### ***What do we look at?***

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

Consents
<p>ICC holds one resource consent relating to stormwater discharges from its reticulated stormwater network. This is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• discharge stormwater, water, and contaminants to water.</li> </ul>

##### ***Complaints and self-reported incidents***

In total 11 confirmed incidents or complaints were reported during the 2021/22 period. Of these, four were related to sewage entering the stormwater network. Three of these were the result of blockages in ICC’s foul sewer network while one was due to a cracked pipe in ICC reticulated sewage system.

The seven incidents that were not sewage-related were caused due to a number of reasons. These included:

- contamination resulting from oil, diesel, and petrol spills; and
- contamination from sediment potentially related to roadworks.

On all occasions staff from ICC investigated and took appropriate action to mitigate the issues associated with the discharges. ICC has been highly proactive in improving their response to what has been an ongoing problem. This year has seen the passing of a Stormwater Bylaw. This requires premises who want to connect or are already connected to the stormwater network to have written approval from the ICC. Approval of stormwater connections are subject to conditions limiting the contaminants in the discharge. The Bylaw requires contaminated sites to have a management plan to manage the stormwater discharged to the stormwater network. In addition, ICC has resourced their Three Waters team to implement and enforce compliance with the Stormwater Bylaw. ICC is undertaking an ongoing process of improvement and no formal enforcement actions have been undertaken.

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
There were 11 confirmed incidents which related to the discharge of sewage, sediment or oil to the stormwater network. There were four confirmed sewage, three confirmed oil and four confirmed sediment spill incidents for the 2021/22 monitoring period.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
ICC was in breach of the discharge conditions of its consent due to the confirmed discharge of sewage, and other hazardous substances, to the stormwater network. ICC was compliant with all of the monitoring requirements of the consent during the 2021/22 period.			

## 4.2 Southland District Council

### 4.2.1 Sewage treatment systems

The Southland District Council (SDC) holds resource consents for the purpose of treating and discharging wastewater at 22 locations within the Southland district. The compliance performance during 2021/22 was assessed against current resource consents.

#### ***What do we look at?***

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

Consents
<p>SDC holds 25 discharge consents relating to sewage treatment, including consents to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• discharge processed wastewater to land;</li> <li>• discharge processed wastewater to water;</li> <li>• discharge contaminants to air from wastewater treatment.</li> </ul>

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Two self-notifications related to leakage from sewerage pipes were received during the 2021/22 period. One leakage was to land at Curio Bay and the other was to land in Riverton. Both instances were investigated by Environment Southland and no action was taken.			

#### ***Consent performance summary***

Balfour	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
<p>SDC Balfour wastewater treatment system was fully compliant with effluent quality and receiving water monitoring consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.</p> <p>The daily discharge flow exceeded the consent limit on 73 occasions during rain. There was a low risk of any adverse environmental impacts from these exceedances. No action has been taken at this stage and the changes to the consent will be considered during the re-consenting process prior to the consent expiring in 2024.</p>			

<b>Browns</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
<p>SDC Browns wastewater treatment system was fully compliant with all effluent quality and receiving water monitoring consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.</p> <p>The daily discharge flow exceeded the consent limit on 40 occasions during rain. There was a low risk of any adverse environmental impacts from these exceedances. No action has been taken at this time.</p>			

<b>Curio Bay</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
<p>SDC Curio Bay wastewater treatment system was fully compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period. However, there was a minor spill of partially treated wastewater to land at the sewage treatment plant. This was investigated by Environment Southland and no action was necessary.</p>			

<b>Edendale/Wyndham</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
<p>SDC Edendale/Wyndham wastewater treatment system was fully compliant with all effluent quality and receiving water monitoring consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.</p> <p>The annual average daily discharge flow exceeded the consent limit, and the maximum daily discharge flow limit was exceeded on only 22 occasions during rain. There was a low risk of any adverse environmental impacts from these exceedances. No action has been taken at this time.</p>			

<b>Gorge Road</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
<p>SDC Gorge Road treatment system was fully compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.</p>			

<b>Lumsden</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
SDC Lumsden treatment system was fully compliant with all monitoring consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			

<b>Manapouri</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
SDC Manapouri treatment system was fully compliant with all monitoring consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			

<b>Monowai</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
SDC Monowai treatment system was fully compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			

<b>Nightcaps</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
SDC Nightcaps treatment system was fully compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			

<b>Ohai</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
<p>The discharge <i>E. coli</i> limit was exceeded on two occasions. The dissolved oxygen concentration also decreased below the consented limit downstream of the tributary confluence on two occasions. These exceedances were investigated by Environment Southland and SDC has been given advice and education on meeting the requirements of the consent.</p> <p>The daily discharge flow exceeded the consent limit on 52 occasions during rain. No action has been taken at this time.</p>			

Otautau	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
SDC Otautau treatment system was fully compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			

Riversdale	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
The downstream dissolved oxygen limit decreased below the consented limit on one occasion. The remaining monitoring was fully compliant with the consent conditions for the 2021/22 period. Advice was given and enforcement action will be considered in the event of further non-compliance			

Riverton Rocks	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
SDC Riverton Rocks wastewater treatment system was fully compliant with all monitoring consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			

Riverton township	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
SDC Riverton township wastewater treatment system was fully compliant with all effluent quality and receiving water monitoring consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.  The daily discharge flow exceeded the consent limit on four occasions. There was a low risk of any adverse environmental impacts from these exceedances. No action was required.			

Stewart Island	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
On four occasions the dissolved inorganic nitrogen limit in the river was exceeded and one instance of <i>E. coli</i> exceedance. It is not clear from the monitoring undertaken that this is a result of the discharge and no action is required.			

Te Anau – Upukerora	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
SDC Te Anau wastewater treatment system was fully compliant with all monitoring consent conditions for the discharge to land, water and air permits for the 2021/22 period.			

Te Anau – Kepler	2021/22
The SDC Te Anau Kepler Block wastewater treatment system was commissioned during December 2021. The consent was compliant with the monitoring consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.	

Tokanui	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
SDC Tokanui treatment system was fully compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			

Tuatapere	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
SDC Tuatapere treatment system was fully compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			

Winton	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
SDC Winton wastewater treatment system was fully compliant with all monitoring consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			

**Note:** The quantity of water discharged is referred to as “discharge flows”. Discharge flows are the amount of sewage and wastewater either entering or leaving the sewage treatment system. All exceedances of discharge flows typically correspond to periods of high rainfall. This indicates that there is stormwater entering the sewerage systems. Therefore, although the discharge flows have increased the discharge is likely to be more dilute than normal due to mixing with rainwater.



## **Water abstraction**

The Southland District Council holds 24 resource consents to abstract groundwater and surface water for community and rural water supply. This includes emergency water takes to supplement urban supply.

### ***Complaints and self-reported Incidents***

There were no complaints or self-reported incidents relating to the SDC water take consents for the 2021/22 period. However, one rural water supply consent was allowed to expire before a new consent application was logged.

### ***Consent performance summary***

SDC abstracted water from 22 locations for the townships and rural communities in Southland during the 2021/22 period:

- 18 water takes were fully compliant with the abstraction limit;
- four consented takes over abstracted water for their townships or respective rural communities:
  - Ohai, Nightcaps and Wairio exceeded its consented limit on four occasions;
  - Otautau exceeded its limit on two occasions;
  - Tuatapere exceeded its limit on 13 occasions;
  - Eastern Bush/Otahu Flat exceeded what was its consented limit on 28 occasions.

Environment Southland has been working with the Southland District Council to encourage compliance where over abstraction is occurring.

#### 4.2.2 Stormwater systems

The Southland District Council (SDC) holds resource consents for the purpose of discharging stormwater from 18 townships within the Southland region. The compliance performance during 2021/22 was assessed against current resource consents.

##### ***What do we look at?***

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

Consents
SDC holds five discharge consents. The primary consent is the discharge of stormwater and land drainage water to surface water bodies and soak pits.

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
There were no confirm complaints or self-reported incidents for the 2021/222 period.			

##### ***Consent performance summary***

Balfour, Browns, Lumsden, Mossburn, Riversdale, Tokonui and Waikaka	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
The monitoring conditions of the consent were compliant for the 2021/22 period.			

Dipton, Edendale, Manapouri, Nightcaps, Ohai, Otautau, Tuatapere and Wallacetown	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
The first round of dry weather monitoring was undertaken for all sites. Sewage was identified at the Dipton site and the Nightcaps results exceeded the consent limits. Investigations are ongoing for Dipton and Nightcaps. Follow up site visits for sites that were previously dry and wet weather monitoring are still to be undertaken for six townships. The wet weather results were fully compliant with the consent limits for the two towns monitored. Industrial inspections were completed and the annual report for 2021/22 was received.			

<b>Winton</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
The first round of dry weather monitoring was undertaken for all sites. However follow up site visits within six months for sites that were previously dry were not undertaken. Industrial inspections were completed and the annual report for 2021/22 was received.			

<b>Te Anau</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
Results from the dry weather samples that were collected complied with the consent limits. Follow up site visits within six months for sites that were dry was undertaken. The annual report for 2021/22 was received and inspections of all trade and industrial sites were completed.			

## 4.3 Gore District Council

### 4.3.1 Sewage treatment systems

The Gore District Council (GDC) holds resource consents for the purpose of treating and discharging wastewater at three locations within the Gore district. The compliance performance during 2021/22 was assessed against the current resource consents.

The applications for renewal of the discharge consents at the Mataura and Gore wastewater treatment plants are still in progress.

#### *What do we look at?*

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

Consents
<p>GDC holds five sewage treatment related resource consents. These consents are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• discharge of treated wastewater from the Mataura township;</li> <li>• discharge of treated wastewater from the Gore township;</li> <li>• discharge of treated wastewater at Waikaka;</li> <li>• discharge of contaminants to air from the Gore wastewater treatment system;</li> <li>• discharge of waste activated sludge to land from industrial or trade processes.</li> </ul>

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Two self-notifications related to leaks from sewerage mains pipes were received during the 2021/22 period. Both instances were investigated by Environment Southland and no action was taken.			

#### *Consent performance summary*

Gore	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
The Gore wastewater treatment system was compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period. The improvements that were previously implemented to optimise the discharge quality through the plant discharge have resulted in the sample results continuing to be within the consented limits during low river flows.			

<b>Mataura</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
All monitoring required by the consent was undertaken and all water sample results were compliant with the consent for the 2021/22 period.			

<b>Waikaka</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
All monitoring required by the consent was undertaken and all water sample results were compliant with the consent for the 2021/22 period.			

### **Water abstraction**

GDC holds nine resource consents to abstract groundwater and surface water for industrial and community water supply. This includes emergency takes to supplement urban supply.

### ***Complaints and self-reported incidents***

There were no complaints or self-reported incidents relating to the GDC water take consents for the 2021/22 period.

### ***Consent performance summary***

Due to the water shortage and lack of rainfall GDC exercised its emergency water take consents for the Gore and Mataura townships supply during March – April 2022.

Monitoring was undertaken on all the water take consents as required.

#### 4.3.2 Stormwater systems

##### **Stormwater networks**

The Gore District Council (GDC) holds resource consents for the purpose of discharging stormwater at three locations within the Gore region.

<b>Consents</b>
<p>GDC holds three stormwater resource consents. They are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the discharge of stormwater to water for Gore township;</li> <li>• the discharge of stormwater to water for Mataura township;</li> <li>• the discharge of stormwater to water for Pukerau and Waikaka townships.</li> </ul>

<b>Complaints and self-reported incidents</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
<p>Following a number of stormwater issues in the 2019/20 year, an abatement notice was issued. The abatement notice required the GDC to create a stormwater bylaw giving themselves the regulatory tools to enable compliance with its consent. At the time of writing, the bylaw had been notified and public consultation completed. The bylaw had not yet been enacted.</p>			

##### **Consent performance summary**

<b>Gore</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
<p>GDC undertook all monitoring required by the consent in 2021/22 including routine sampling on four occasions. GDC were highly proactive in investigating potential private wastewater cross-connections or wastewater infiltration to the stormwater network. A number of private unauthorised wastewater connections to the stormwater network were identified and rectified.</p>			

<b>Mataura</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
<p>GDC undertook all monitoring required by the consent in 2021/22. GDC was highly proactive in investigating potential private wastewater cross-connections.</p>			

Pukerau and Waikaka	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
<p>GDC completed all required monitoring in Pukerau and Waikaka. The Pukerau stormwater network was identified as having infiltration of wastewater to the stormwater network. This was found to be from failing septic tanks. A number of issues have been rectified and monitoring is ongoing to determine if additional sources are still present. The Waikaka network was fully compliant for the 2021/22 period.</p>			

## 5.0 Quarrying

### 5.1 Gravel extraction

The Resource Management Act 1991 and/or a rule in a Council plan require that a resource consent is required to disturb the bed of a river.

Environment Southland has 162 current land use consents to extract gravel from Southland rivers.

Gravel extraction consents require inspection to ensure that the resource consent and volume of gravel taken have been completed in accordance with the consent conditions. Overall compliance in the 2021/22 financial year has been good.



**Figure 15: Gravel extraction on the Aparima River**



## 6.0 Landfills

### 6.1 S J Timpany Contracting – Cleanfill

S J Timpany Contracting operates a landfill at Otatara, accepting solid waste, asbestos and contaminated soils. The site also has a holding pad which allows for sample testing of contaminated soils and the encapsulation of contaminants prior to acceptance.

#### ***What do we look at?***

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

Consents
S J Timpany Contracting holds a consent to discharge cleanfill and solid waste to land.

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No incidents or self-reported incidents were received during the 2021/22 reporting period.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
S J Timpany landfill was fully compliant with all monitored consent conditions during the 2021/22 period.			
No issues were identified by Environment Southland during the assessment of consent monitoring reports, site inspections, ground water sampling or surface water sampling.			



**Figure 16: S J Timpany tip face October 2019**

## 6.2 AB Lime Limited

AB Lime Limited operates an agricultural fertiliser and lime business, a dairy farm and a Class A landfill business approximately 4 km east of the Winton township. This section focuses predominantly on the landfill.

A B Lime applied for new consents during 2020 to allow the landfill to increase the volume of waste received at the site. These were issued on 16 July 2021, but have not been exercised in 2021/22.

### ***What do we look at?***

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

<b>Consents</b>
<p>AB Lime Limited holds 13 resource consents relating to the landfill. The consents active are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the discharge of up to 100,000 tonnes of solid waste onto or into land;</li> <li>• the discharge of contaminants to air from a landfill;</li> <li>• the discharge of contaminants to air from limeworks;</li> <li>• the discharge of stormwater to a tributary of the Lochiel Stream;</li> <li>• to take 40 cubic metres of groundwater;</li> <li>• to take 500 cubic metres of surface water;</li> <li>• to dam and divert surface water.</li> </ul>

<b>Complaints and self-reported incidents</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
No confirmed complaints or self-reported incidents were received during the 2021/22 period.			

<b>Air discharge consent performance</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
<p>A B Lime Landfill was compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.</p> <p>There have been no confirmed odour issues for the 2021/22 period.</p>			

<b>Other consent performance</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
A B Lime Ltd showed a high level of compliance with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			



Figure 17: View of active filling in area 15 with area 14 behind, AB Lime

## 7.0 Coastal Marine Area

### 7.1 South Port and New Zealand Aluminium Smelter Limited's coastal plan agreements



**Figure 18: Tiwai Peninsula**

The two main port facilities in Southland operate out of Bluff.

South Port service and manage Southland's import and export industries including aluminium, timber, fisheries, dairy, meat, wood chips, stock food, cement, alumina, fertiliser and petroleum products.

New Zealand Aluminium Smelters (NZAS), based on the Tiwai Peninsula, service and manage the import and export operations of aluminium and aluminium feed stocks.

Activities on these sites are managed by means of individual agreements. The agreements describe a series of systems which each party has agreed to, ensuring the management of port activities are compliant with the Resource Management Act 1991.

#### ***Incidents reported***

South Port	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No incidents were received in the 2021/22 period.			

NZAS Wharf	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No incidents were received in the 2021/22 period.			

## 7.2 Whitebait stands

Environment Southland is responsible for whitebait stands under the Regional Coastal Plan, and undertakes an annual inspection of these each year. Huts associated with the stands are controlled by the Southland District Council, while the Department of Conservation control the fishing of whitebait.

The Coastal Plan has set a maximum number of whitebait stands allowed in Southland at those that were occupied at 15 February 1997. Any new whitebait stands are prohibited.

There are currently 645 resource consents for whitebait stands in Southland. During 2021/22, 533 inspections were completed, with 485 graded as fully compliant and 48 graded as non-compliant. For minor non-compliances letters are sent to consent holders and any larger scale non-compliance is followed up as per our Enforcement Policy.

During the annual inspections, any illegal stands which are located are left with an illegal stand notice attached to the stand for the owners to contact Environment Southland.

Whitebait stands were inspected for compliance, with common conditions such as each stand displaying a unique stand number, displaying the consent holder’s name, being at the consented length and in a state of good repair.

Inspections are completed early to mid-season, which allows owners additional time for repairs. As in previous years, there was a high level of compliance with these consents.

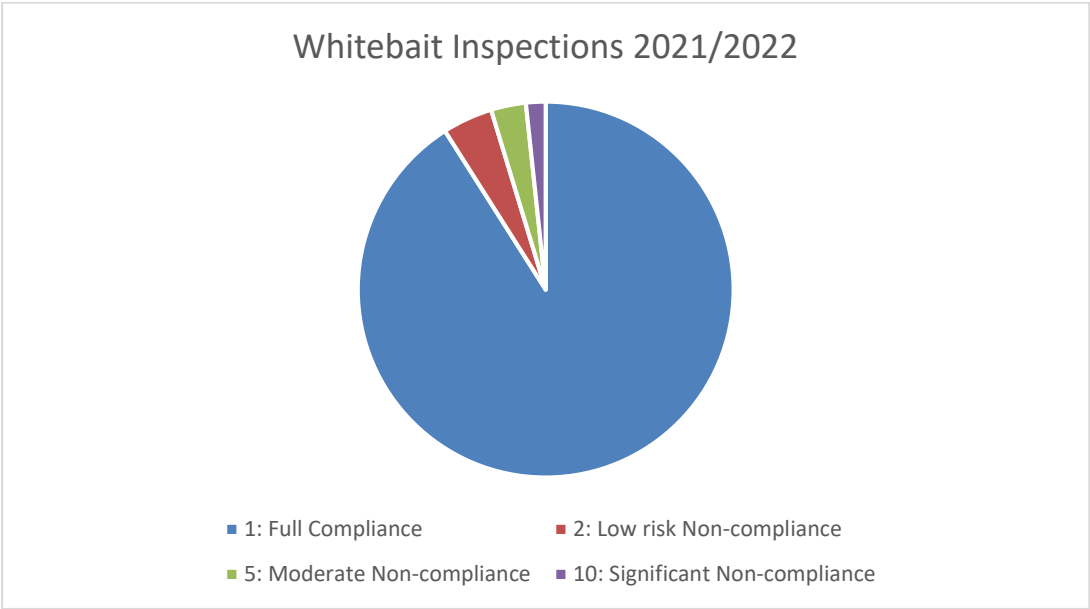


Figure 19: Whitebait Compliance Grading



## 8.0 Tourism

### 8.1 Department of Conservation

The Department of Conservation (DOC) holds resource consents throughout the Southland region for a number of different purposes.

#### *What do we look at?*

Environment Southland investigate complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

Consents
DOC holds resource consents for the following purposes:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coastal: 12</li> <li>• Discharge: 13</li> <li>• Land Use: 6</li> <li>• Water: 9</li> </ul>

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No confirmed complaints or self-notifications were received during the 2021/22 period.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
<b>Clinton Hut</b> - DOC at the Clinton Hut met all monitoring requirements for the 2021/22 period.			
<b>Mintaro Hut</b> - DOC at the Mintaro Hut did not meet all monitoring requirements for the 2021/22 period.			
<b>Dumpling Hut</b> - DOC at the Dumpling Hut met all monitoring requirements for the 2021/22 period.			
<b>Sandfly Point Hut</b> - DOC at the Sandfly Point Hut was compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			
<b>Luxmore Hut</b> - DOC at the Luxmore Hut did not meet all monitoring requirements for the 2021/22 period.			
<b>Iris Burn Hut</b> - DOC at the Iris Burn Hut did not meet all monitoring requirements for the 2021/22 period.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
<b>Moturau Hut</b> - DOC at the Moturau Hut was compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			
<b>Lake McKenzie Hut</b> - DOC at the Lake McKenzie Hut met all monitoring requirements for the 2021/22 period.			
<b>Howden Hut</b> - Howden Hut has been closed since it sustained damage during flooding in February 2020.			
<b>Martins Bay Hut</b> - DOC at the Martins Bay Hut was compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			
<b>Anchor Island</b> - DOC at the Anchor Island Hut was compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			
<b>Mavora Lakes</b> - DOC at Mavora Lakes did not meet all monitoring requirements for the 2021/22 period.			

The above non-compliances were administrative with no environmental impact and no action was taken.

### ***Environment Southland inspections***

Environment Southland inspects the Routeburn, Milford and Kepler Tracks approximately every three years. This includes an inspection of the sewage disposal systems at the huts, water takes for the huts, and several toilets and shelters along the tracks. The most recent inspections were completed in 2017/18 as follows.

Consent Inspections	2017/18
<b>Routeburn Track</b> (December 2017) Full compliance was recorded for all facilities on this track. <b>Note:</b> Only facilities in the Southland region were inspected.	
<b>Milford Track</b> (February 2018) Full compliance was recorded for all facilities on this track. Some recommendations were made to ensure all systems were operating as efficiently as possible.	
<b>Kepler Track</b> (March 2018) Full compliance was recorded for all facilities on this track, with the exception of the Luxmore Hut. Evidence of overland flow, discolouration of vegetation and odour was observed in the Luxmore disposal field.	





**Figure 20: Mackinnon Pass Shelter, Milford Track**

## 8.2 Milford Sound Tourism

Milford Sound Tourism (MST) is the primary infrastructure provider in Milford Sound. MST own and operate the harbour, wharves and visitors' terminal. They also operate the wastewater treatment facilities at Milford Sound and at Knobs Flat.

### *What do we look at?*

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

Consents
<p>Milford Sound Tourism holds six resource consents. The primary consents include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• discharge treated wastewater to groundwater at Knobs Flat;</li> <li>• discharge treated wastewater to water at Deepwater Basin;</li> <li>• discharge water to water from a hydro-electric power scheme;</li> <li>• carry out maintenance dredging in Freshwater Basin.</li> </ul>

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No confirmed complaints or self-notifications were received during the 2021/22 period.			

Consent Performance	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
<p>There were three breaches due to late supply of data in relation to the discharge to land at Knobs Flat consent.</p> <p>There were two breaches due to late supply of data in relation to the wastewater discharge at Deepwater Basin.</p> <p>These non-compliances were technical in nature and as the monitoring data was eventually supplied no action was taken.</p> <p>All other monitoring conditions were complied with during the 2021/22 monitoring period.</p>			



**Figure 21: Milford Sound wastewater treatment plant**

### 8.3 Ultimate Hikes

Ultimate Hikes holds eight current resource consents throughout the Southland region for a number of different purposes.

#### *What do we look at?*

Environment Southland investigates complaints and self-reported incidents and assesses compliance against the conditions listed in the primary resource consents.

Consents
Ultimate Hikes holds resource consents for the following purposes:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coastal: 1</li> <li>• Discharge: 5</li> <li>• Water: 4</li> </ul>

Complaints and self-reported incidents	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No confirmed complaints or self-notifications were received during the 2021/22 period.			

Consent performance summary	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
<b>Glade House</b> - Ultimate Hikes at Glade House supplied all monitoring data required by the consent holders during 2021/22.			
<b>Pompolona Lodge</b> - Ultimate Hikes at the Pompolona Lodge supplied all monitoring data required by the consent holders during 2021/22.			
<b>Quinton Lodge</b> - Ultimate Hikes at Quinton Lodge supplied all monitoring data required by the consent holders during 2021/22.			
<b>Mackenzie Lodge</b> - Ultimate Hikes at Mackenzie Lodge was compliant with all monitored consent conditions for the 2021/22 period.			

#### *Environment Southland Inspections*

Environment Southland inspects the Routeburn, Milford Tracks every three years. This includes an inspection of the sewage disposal systems at the huts, water takes for the huts, and several toilets and shelters along the tracks.

### 8.3 Coastal surface water activities in Fiordland

Coastal permits are required for undertaking commercial surface water activities in Fiordland. Environment Southland is responsible for ensuring compliance with coastal permits issued under the Regional Coastal Plan for Southland and the Resource Management Act 1991.

Compliance of commercial surface water activities is assessed by monitoring surface water activity logs provided as a condition of consents. During the 2021/22 period, compliance with the requirement to supply activity logs was 91.45%. No on-water checks or inspections of the vessels were completed in 2021/22.



## 9.0 Small Industries

### 9.1 Cleanfill site inspections

Cleanfill sites are spread throughout Southland. There are 30 consented sites in total.

Cleanfills are “fill sites” that only accept materials that, when buried, have no adverse effects on people or the environment. Cleanfill materials include virgin natural materials such as clay, soil, rock, and other inert materials such as bricks.

It is important that cleanfills are free from combustible, degradable, hazardous or liquid wastes because they are not designed to protect the environment from contact with them in the same way as landfills. Appropriate use of cleanfills helps divert a large portion of the waste stream from landfills.

During 2021/22, 21 inspections were completed and 13 were graded as fully compliant. Of the eight non-compliant consents, seven involved failure to implement administrative controls or supply data to council and advice on consent requirements was given. One instance of non-compliance involved receiving unconsented material. Remedial tasks were taken in a timely manner and no further action was taken.



**Figure 22: An example of green waste which is not allowed to be discharged to a cleanfill**

## 9.2 Truck wash inspection

Truck washes are usually inspected annually, unless otherwise stated in the resource consent. There are 22 consented truck washes in Southland.

During the 2021/22 year, nine were inspected and of these eight were found to be fully compliant, one was graded moderate non-compliance. This non-compliance resulted in two infringements and letter of direction. A further incident reported by a member of the public relating to a truck wash resulted in a formal warning.



**Figure 23: An example of a truck wash facility**

# **Part C**

## **Enforcement**



## 10.0 Enforcement

Environment Southland has developed an Enforcement Policy that is for public view on our website at the following link.

<https://www.es.govt.nz/Document%20Library/Plans,%20policies%20and%20strategies/Council%20policies/ES%20Compliance%20Policies.pdf>

This policy highlights the method that Environment Southland will use when considering and completing enforcement action against a person or a company.

### 10.1 Letters of Direction and Warnings

When enforcement action is believed to be necessary, the compliance division uses the most appropriate tool for the given situation. Enforcement action can be a directive action. Letters of direction, warnings, abatement notices and enforcement orders are all considered to be directive forms of enforcement.

A letter of direction is used in a minor to moderate situation with a co-operative, motivated party. It is designed to prevent further breaches, or to remedy or mitigate the effects of non-compliance. Normally the letter will give timelines and what action should be taken or ceased.

A formal warning is a written warning to a person or company that has committed an offence. No further action will be taken in respect of the breach, but it will form part of the history of non-compliance. Normally a formal warning will be given in a minor to moderate incident.

During the 2021/22 year, the compliance division issued 36 letters of direction and issued 36 formal warnings.

### 10.2 Abatement notices

An abatement notice requires an offender to comply with the notice within a specified timeframe. Non-compliance with an abatement notice is an offence under the Resource Management Act 1991 and can receive infringement fines or prosecution.

This means that when an activity has been identified as being, or likely to be harmful to the environment, direction will be issued requiring the person avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effect.

Abatement notices are issued to people or organisations that breach a rule in the Act, any regulation, or a condition of the resource consent. Unlike enforcement orders they are issued by compliance officers and do not require an application to be made to the Environment Court.

During the 2021/22 year, the compliance division issued 23 abatement notices.

### 10.3 Enforcement orders

An enforcement order is another way of getting someone to comply with the Resource Management Act. It is similar in some respects to an abatement notice, in that it is used to get someone to start or stop doing something.

However, it differs from an abatement notice in that anybody (not just the Council) can apply for an enforcement order against somebody else. These are issued by the Environment Court rather than the council.

Enforcement orders offer more options than an abatement notice, including the ability to recover clean-up costs in avoiding, remedying or mitigating any adverse effect on the environment.

The court may also order restoration of a natural or physical resource. If the order is not complied with, Council may go ahead and comply on the respondent's behalf (and recover the cost of doing so).

Enforcement orders can be issued at sentencing or can be issued prior to enforcement action being taken or alternatively as a sole form of enforcement action.

If a problem or the options to resolve it are complex, enforcement proceedings provide a court-supervised procedure for bringing about a conclusion, and if problems are encountered during the implementation of the solution, direction can be sought from the court.

No enforcement orders were applied for and granted during the 2021/22 year.

### 10.4 Infringement notices

An infringement notice can be issued to an individual or company that has committed a Resource Management Act offence. The infringement fine is \$300, \$500, \$750 or \$1000, and if not paid in certain timeframes, will be sent to the Ministry of Justice for fine collection (where further fees are likely to be added).

Infringements can be appealed. Information on how to make an appeal is found on the back of each infringement notice, and can be explained by staff.

There were 18 infringement notices issued for the 2021/22 year.

## 10.5 Alternative enforcement action

Environment Southland has developed a diversion policy to ensure that there is an alternative course of action other than prosecution in special circumstances.

Diversion has three primary purposes, being rehabilitation, reparation and restoration, and ensuring that the Council's statutory objectives are better met.

In assessing eligibility for diversion, the chief executive will consider:

- offender-based criteria; and
- offence-based criteria.

The weight given to particular criteria will be a matter for the chief executive's discretion. Ultimately, the chief executive will determine whether the public interest is best served by the continuation of a prosecution or by an offer of diversion.

In the 2021/22 year there were no cases considered for alternative enforcement action.

## 10.6 Prosecutions

Environment Southland follows its enforcement policy. Prior to proceeding with prosecution the matter is put before the Enforcement Decision Group (EDG). The EDG assesses each case against the principles of the Solicitor General's Prosecution Guidelines.

Once the EDG process is completed the case can cease, recommend a different outcome, ask for more information or recommend an independent legal review.

A legal review is returned and final sign-off is completed by the chief executive for prosecution action to proceed. This means:

- the evidence which can be presented in court is sufficient to provide a reasonable prospect of conviction – the Evidential Test; and
- prosecution is required in the public interest – the Public Interest Test.

No prosecutions were finalised in the 2021/22 period.

## Glossary

<b>Ammoniacal Nitrogen (NH<sub>4</sub>N)</b>	Ammoniacal nitrogen is rarely found at high levels in natural waters. Its presence is an excellent means of detecting pollution. It is a major component in urine excreted by mammals. High levels of ammoniacal nitrogen are potentially toxic to aquatic life.
<b>Clarity</b>	The distance that can be seen through the water. The higher the clarity the greater the visibility in the water.
<b>E. coli</b>	Escherichia coli - <i>E. coli</i> is a bacterium that is commonly found in the lower intestine of warm-blooded organisms. They are a subset of the Faecal Coliform group and are regarded as an <b>indicator</b> of faecal contamination and therefore the presence of pathogenic (harmful) bacteria.
<b>EC</b>	Electrical Conductivity – The ability of water to conduct electricity. This gives a conservative measure of the mineral content of water. Generally, the greater the conductivity of the water, the greater the mineral content.
<b>ES</b>	Environment Southland
<b>g/m<sup>3</sup></b>	Grams of material in 1 cubic metre of water – A measure of concentration in a liquid or gas.
<b>Loading</b>	The quantity of contaminants discharged over a set period of time.
<b>Sewage</b>	Domestic human wastewater and excrement.
<b>Sewerage system</b>	A pipe network use to transport sewage.
<b>Stormwater system</b>	A system of pipes and drains that carry rain and snowmelt from street surfaces, roofs and other paved areas. The stormwater system leads directly to waterways.
<b>Turbidity</b>	Turbidity is a laboratory measurement to determine the clarity of the water. The higher the result, the cloudier the water.
<b>Wastewater</b>	Water that has been used in the home, in a business or as a part of an industrial process.