



Compliance Monitoring 2010/11

Key points:

- Greater Wellington monitored 1626 consents in 2010/11, an increase of 11% from 1459 consents in 2009/10
- Compliance with consents decreased in 2010/11 due to a change in approach in assessing compliance with water permits
- In 2011/12 a greater emphasis will be placed on following up any consents rated as non-complying, particularly water takes

What happened in 2010/11

Greater Wellington monitored 1626 resource consents during the 2010/11 year – an increase of nearly 200 consents compared to 2009/10. An additional 567 resource consents were not given a compliance rating, largely because works had not commenced or the consented activity was not undertaken in that year with no inspection necessary.

The majority (64%) of consents inspected were fully complying. A further 13% were mainly or partially complying, and 23% were non-complying.

Year-to-year compliance comparisons

Compared to previous years, the spread of ratings has changed in 2010/11. As seen in the table below, there has been a marked increase in the proportion of consents rated as non-complying.

Table 1: Overall level of compliance achieved since 2005/06

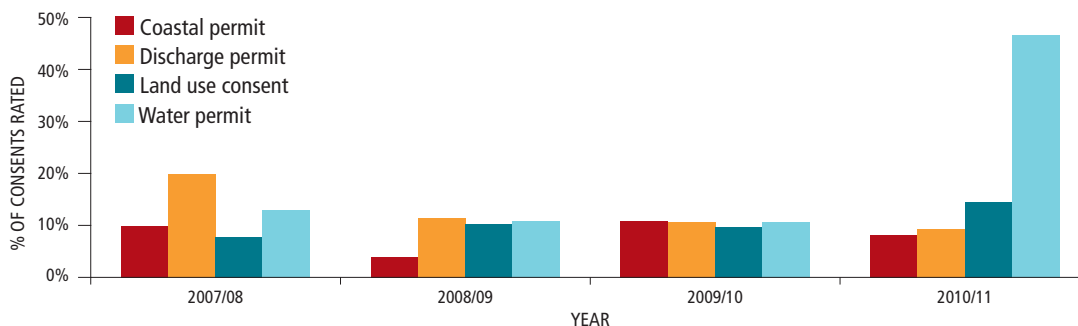
	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
FULLY COMPLYING	76%	74%	75%	78%	76%	64%
MAINLY COMPLYING	9%	9%	9%	10%	9%	10%
PARTIALLY COMPLYING	4%	4%	2%	1%	4%	3%
NOT COMPLYING	11%	13%	14%	10%	11%	23%

Trends and comments for each consent type

The consent type with the highest proportion of non-compliance is water permits, as shown in Figure 1 below:

Figure 1: Non-complying consents by consent type 2007-2011

Non-complying consents 2007-2011



Water permits

Around 46% of water permits inspected in 2010/11 were rated as non-complying. The primary reason for this increase was the failure by many consent holders to submit their water usage records, particularly in the Wairarapa. With new regulations for measuring and reporting water takes coming

into force in November 2010, greater emphasis was placed in 2010/11 on checking consent conditions relating to recording and reporting water usage. A secondary reason for the increase in non-compliance is due to increased detection of both faulty water meters and cases where water meters have not been installed where required.

Land use consents

Overall the level of compliance for fully complying land use consents (61%) was similar to previous years; however there was a small increase of non-complying consents rising from 10% to 15% in 2010/11.

Coastal permits

Most compliance monitoring for coastal permits focuses on occupation consents for boatsheds, jetties, wharves and moorings. There was an increased focus on compliance with swing mooring consent holders during the 2010/2011 year. The level of non-compliance for these activities has decreased slightly compared to previous years.

Discharge permits

Overall, the proportion of discharge permits that are rated as non-complying continued to fall in comparison to previous years, with 20% non-compliance in 2007/08 decreasing to 9% in 2010/11. This continued decrease in non-compliance is a positive reflection of more intensive monitoring of resource consents and workshops to assist consent holders, particularly in relation to earthworks sites and dairy effluent discharges. Last year Greater Wellington reported that a number of local authorities were not complying with conditions of their consents for operating wastewater treatment plants. While there has been some improvement, Greater Wellington is continuing to work closely with these consent holders to bring them up to full compliance.



Figure 2: Compliance monitoring at a forestry site north of Wellington

Significant compliance sites

There have been a number of major projects in the region where Greater Wellington compliance staff undertake frequent site visits (up to fortnightly in some cases) including roading infrastructure projects (Muldoon's Corner on the Rimutaka Hill Road, the Westchester Drive extension, and SH2 improvements at Moonshine Road), urban development sites (subdivision sites at Aotea Stage 10 in Porirua, Best Farm Stage 1, Car Haulways and Woodridge in the Wellington North Growth area), forestry sites (Moonshine, St Patricks, Kaitawa Forests), wastewater treatment plants upgrades at the Porirua & Masterton wastewater treatment plants.

Encore Awards – Excellence in Compliance Award

The Encore Awards, jointly managed by Greater Wellington and the Department of Conservation, entered its second year. Encore recognises excellence in conservation and environmental management in the Wellington Region, including great compliance work on consented sites through the Excellence in Compliance Award.

At the time of publication, the nominations for the 2011 award were under consideration and will be reported in the 2011/12 report card.

Looking ahead to 2011/12

Greater Wellington has recently reviewed our compliance rating system and subsequently developed four new categories for reporting compliance which are more in line with national practice:

- Full compliance
- Technical non-compliance
- Environmental non-compliance
- Significant non-compliance

These categories will be used for assessing compliance in 2011/12.

Greater Wellington has also recently completed a compliance strategy for water takes. This strategy focuses on how the new regulations for measuring and reporting water takes will be applied in the region. Given the high proportion of non-compliance reported in 2010/11, this year an emphasis will be placed on ensuring consent holders understand the recording and reporting requirements in their consent conditions and under the new regulations. New information has recently been made available on our website in order to assist consent holders reach full compliance.

See www.gw.govt.nz/water-takes-information-for-consent-holders/

Other compliance monitoring strategies will continue to be developed in 2011/12 for managing dairy effluent discharges and earthworks discharges. Key work under the earthworks monitoring strategy group includes the rolling out of a new on-site rating system similar to that implemented by other regional and unitary authorities.

More information

For more information on compliance monitoring undertaken by Greater Wellington, contact the Environment Helpdesk on 0800 496 734 or the Wairarapa office on 06 378 2484.

For more information on Greater Wellington's environmental regulation activities, visit our website at www.gw.govt.nz