



Resource Consents 2010/11

Key points:

- 596 resource consent applications were processed in 2010/11. 99% of these applications were processed within statutory timeframes
- 94% of applications were processed on a non-notified basis.
- All five limited notified consents were processed without the need to hold a formal hearing.
- Of the ten notified consent projects, only one decision was appealed to the Environment Court.

What happened in 2010/11?

During the 2010/11 financial year Greater Wellington's consents team processed 596 resource consent applications to a decision (including one certificate of compliance). The majority (94%) of applications were processed on a non-notified basis.

Type of resource consent	LAND USE	COASTAL	WATER	DISCHARGE	TOTAL
TOTAL 2010/11	243 (41%)	38 (6%)	210 (35%)	105 (18%)	596
TOTAL 2009/10	216 (46%)	35 (7%)	127 (28%)	68 (18%)	467
TOTAL 2008/09	270 (49%)	28 (5%)	129 (24%)	119 (22%)	546
TOTAL 2007/08	388 (55%)	63 (9%)	149 (21%)	108 (15%)	708
TOTAL 2006/07	301 (47%)	69 (11%)	158 (25%)	109 (17%)	637
TOTAL 2005/06	361 (52%)	58 (8%)	120 (17%)	158 (23%)	697

Table 1: Resource consents and certificates of compliances processed since 2005/06, by type

The number of consents processed during 2010/11 rose for the first time since 2007/08. There was a significant increase in the number of water permits processed. This was due to a large number of consented water takes expiring in 2010/11 and subsequent replacement permits being granted. Also, a number of replacement water permit applications lodged prior to 2010/11 that had been placed on hold for some time were processed during the year.

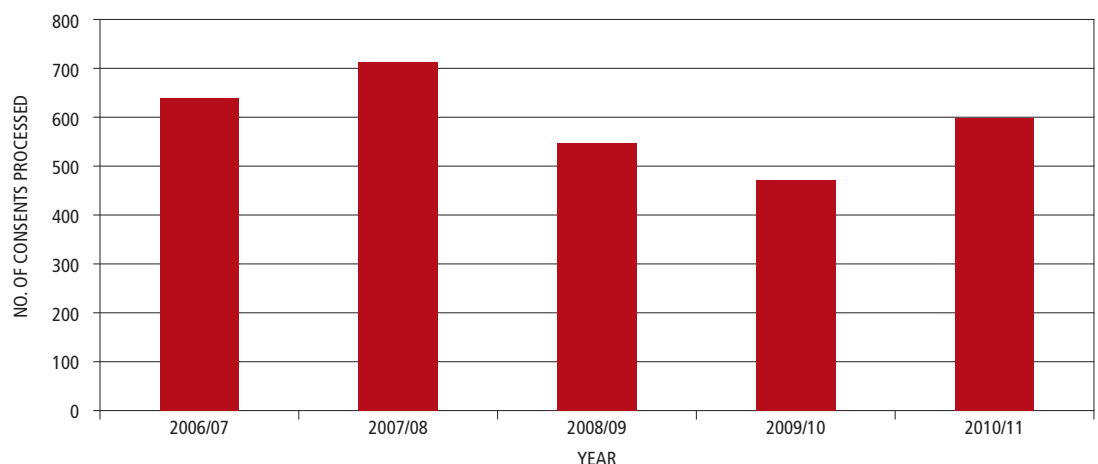


Figure 1: Resource consents processed 2005-2011

Notified applications

Notified applications where a decision was made by Greater Wellington in 2010/11 included:

Fully notified

- Wellington City Council (WCC) – coastal permits to discharge contaminants to land and water from the Wellington City urban stormwater network at various locations within Wellington Harbour and Wellington South Coast.
- Hutt City Council (HCC) – discharge permits to land and air and land use consents associated with the operation of the Wainuiomata landfill.
- Masterton District Council (MDC) – discharge permits to land and air associated with the operation of the Masterton landfill.
- JR's Orchards Ltd – water permits and land use consents associated with the taking of groundwater and surface water from the Papawai Stream for irrigation purposes, near Greytown.
- Wairarapa Aggregates Ltd – discharge permit, water permit, and land use consent associated with the establishment of a quarry and cleanfill operation at Waingawa, Masterton.

All fully notified applications were granted subject to consent conditions, except one of the consents associated with the Wairarapa Aggregates Ltd quarry, which was declined. All applications, except the JR's Orchards Ltd applications, were determined by either councillors and/or independent commissioners. The JR's Orchards Ltd applications did not require a formal hearing as GW, the applicant, and submitters reached agreement on consent conditions.

Limited notified

- GWRC Flood Protection – water permits, discharge permit, and land use consent associated with the construction of the Boulcott stopbank adjacent to the Hutt River, Lower Hutt.
- Dawsons Waste Services Ltd – discharge permit associated with discharge of contaminants to air from an organics and sump waste dewatering facility, at Owhiro Bay, Wellington.
- Department of Conservation (DoC) – water permits and discharge permit associated with the application of cube root slurry to control pest fish in the Kaiwharawhara Stream catchment, Wellington.
- Kumenga Farm Ltd – water permits associated with the taking/diversion of water from the Lake Wairarapa Narrows for irrigation purposes in South Wairarapa.
- Oldfields Aggregates Ltd – land use consents and discharge permit associated with the establishment of a quarry and cleanfill operation at Waingawa, Masterton.

All limited notified applications were granted subject to consent conditions and none of the applications required a hearing, as the decision was made following agreement on consent conditions between GW, the applicants, and submitters. This illustrates the success of conducting pre-hearing meetings to work through any issues or matters raised in submissions.

Appeals and objections

Of the 10 notified projects completed, only the Wairarapa Aggregates Ltd decision was appealed to the Environment Court. In this case, one appeal was received by the applicant, and three s274 parties joined the appeal process. At present the parties are still working through issues raised in the appeal.

In addition to the above appeals received, the Kailua Ltd / Car Haulways Ltd appeal which was lodged prior to 1 July 2010 was resolved during the year. In this case a number of s274 parties joined the appeal process. The parties worked through all issues raised in the appeal and a consent order was signed off by the Environment Court.

There were no formal objections to any decisions and/or costs (under section 357 of the Resource Management Act) received during 2010/11.

Workshops

Greater Wellington aims to hold two workshops a year to educate and inform clients on resource management issues.

In February 2011, a **Consultants Workshop** was held in our Wellington office. The workshop provided an opportunity to discuss the consent process with consultants who prepare resource consent applications and Assessment of Environment Effects (AEE's).

In May 2011, a series of **Wairarapa Water Management Workshops** were held at five locations in the Wairarapa Valley. The purpose of the workshops was to inform water take consent holders of the outcomes of the Wairarapa Groundwater Investigations and provide advice on new government regulations for measuring and reporting water takes.



Figure 2: Water Management Workshop in Martinborough

Both workshops were received well by those who attended. A number of action items and suggestions have been implemented based on the feedback provided by attendees.

More information

For more information on resource consents processed by Greater Wellington, the resource consent process, or about which activities may require consent, 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