

Incident response in the Kaikōura zone

The public play an important role in protecting our region's natural resources. Every year, we receive about 4,000 reports regionwide regarding incidents with potential to harm the quality of our air, land or water.

In the Kaikōura zone, we received nearly 50 reports. The majority of these were related to discharges of land, followed by discharges to air.

We respond to environmental incidents and consent breaches with a range of enforcement procedures, to remediate adverse effects, educate those responsible, and prevent similar incidents recurring.

Due to the high volume of reports, we respond to the most serious incidents first. If it involves a potentially serious environmental incident or offence, a Resource Management Officer will make a site visit. Our priority when responding is the safety of our officers, followed by minimising any adverse effect, and then investigating the incident.

Our staff call upon expertise from other technical staff (scientists, engineers), city and district council staff, and external consultants as the situation demands.

Breaching the Resource Management Act can amount to serious criminal offending. Our investigative practices are carried out to police standards, including conducting thorough scene examinations and evidence gathering.

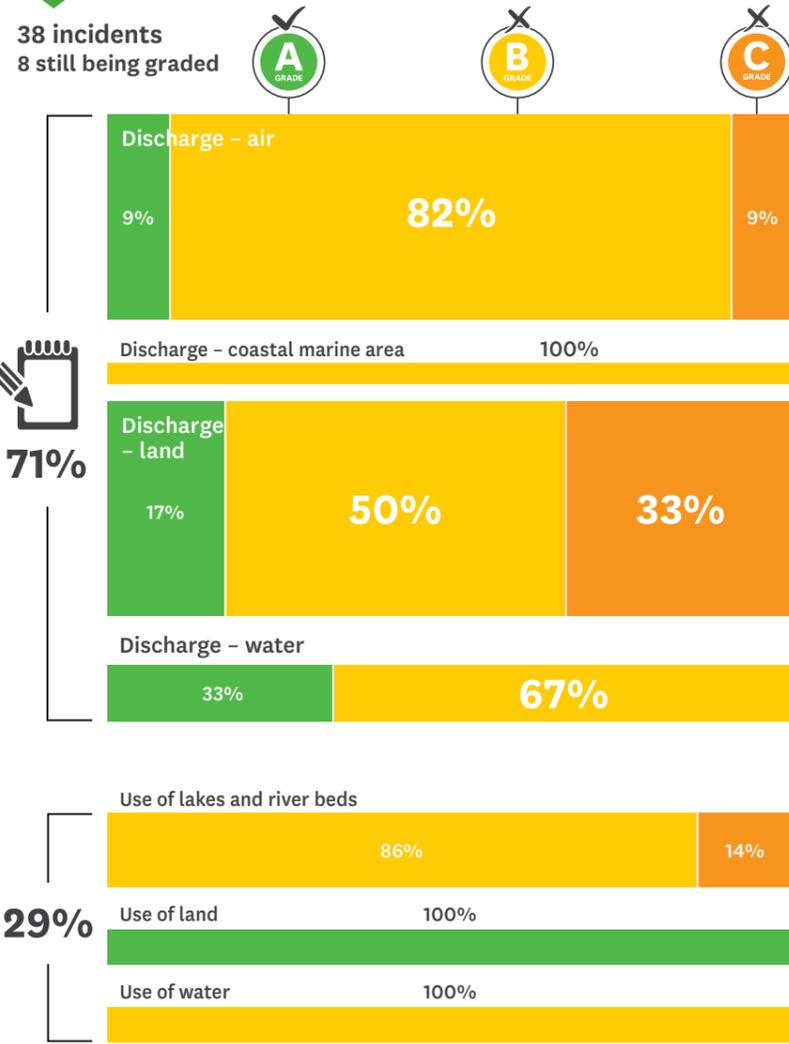
If you're concerned an activity may be damaging our environment, please call us on 0800 765 588 (24 hours) to report it, or use the Snap Send Solve app to report it from your mobile phone

*See over for grading explanation

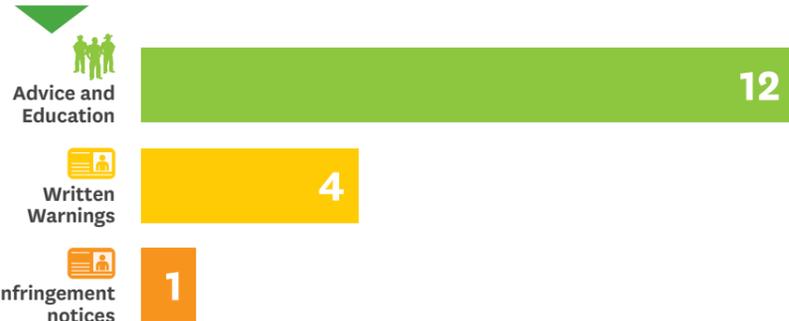
46 incidents

What we found

38 incidents
8 still being graded



How we responded to reduce environmental damage



Taking action together to shape a thriving and resilient Canterbury, now and for future generations.
Toitū te marae o Tāne, toitū te marae o Tangaroa, toitū te iwi.
www.ecan.govt.nz

Kevin Heays
Zone Manager
Email: kevin.heays@ecan.govt.nz
Phone: 027 646 2230



KAIKŌURA ZONE

Environment Canterbury Regional Council
Kaunihera Taiao ki Waitaha

Compliance monitoring and incident response 2019-20 SNAPSHOT REPORT

Protecting the environment is our top priority

In the last year, the zone team has:

- responded to 46 incidents,
- targeted 78 consents with a focus on water use,
- coached landowners through consent to land use audit process, and
- helped ensure compliance consents for State Highway 1's repairs (see case study below).

Repairing State Highway 1 post-earthquake

For the last three years, two Environment Canterbury staff have worked to help North Canterbury Transport Infrastructure Recovery (NCTIR) work through its responsibilities in repairing this vital highway.

NCTIR's environmental advisor Ross Glubb recently acknowledged Marty Mortiaux and Rob Hubbard's contribution to the success of the earthquake recovery works in the Kaikoura and Hurunui regions.

"They have provided professional advice in accordance with Environment Canterbury's and NCTIR's corporate objectives, statutory responsibilities and environmental policies. On all occasions they have informed the delivery teams of what compliance means, and what outcomes are required to achieve compliance onsite. They have clearly communicated with all

relevant parties at NCTIR what their responsibilities and potential responses are and they have assisted us and the wider community about what constitutes a non-compliance or a breach."

Ross said they have used a range of tools to educate, promote and encourage compliance onsite.

"Marty and Rob have provided opportunities for delivery teams to be informed regarding environmental best practice and have helped and provided assistance when required. They have also provided clear information and explanation to the teams on the standards and requirements that are expected," he said.

"Their professional approach and proactive communication led to a great working relationship with our project teams and our environmental advisors, ensuring environmental outcomes are prioritised."

- ▶ See inside for our consent compliance results.
- ◀ See the back for our incident response results.

Compliance monitoring

JULY 2019 – JUNE 2020 REPORT

Why this matters

We are working with land managers, individuals and industry to improve compliance to ensure the best long-term environmental results.

Consenting rules

- Resource consents allow people or organisations to do something that may have an effect on the environment, but this comes with conditions to protect the environment.
- It is important consent holders comply with their conditions otherwise they can have a negative impact on the environment.

What the grades mean



(Full compliance) Full compliance with all relevant consent conditions, plan rules, regulations and national environmental standards



(Low risk non-compliance) Compliance with most of the relevant consent conditions, plan rules, regulations and national environmental standards. Carries a low risk of adverse environmental effects.



(Moderate non-compliance) Non-compliance with some of the relevant consent conditions, plan rules, regulations and national environmental standards. Some environmental consequence.



(Significant non-compliance) Non-compliance with many of the relevant consent conditions, plan rules, regulations and national environmental standards. Significant environmental consequence.

How we respond to improve compliance grades

If there is an issue, our first response is to work with individuals and businesses to stop any immediate environmental damage.

We then investigate to determine what actions should be taken, including enforcement.



Education can achieve better outcomes and is valued by consent holders who need help. If education does not get the right results, there are a range of compliance actions as set out below:



Formal written warnings notify of an offence and require action to be taken.



Infringement notices, which include a fine, are issued for more significant breaches.



Abatement notices are a formal written direction, requiring certain actions to be taken or to cease within a specified time.

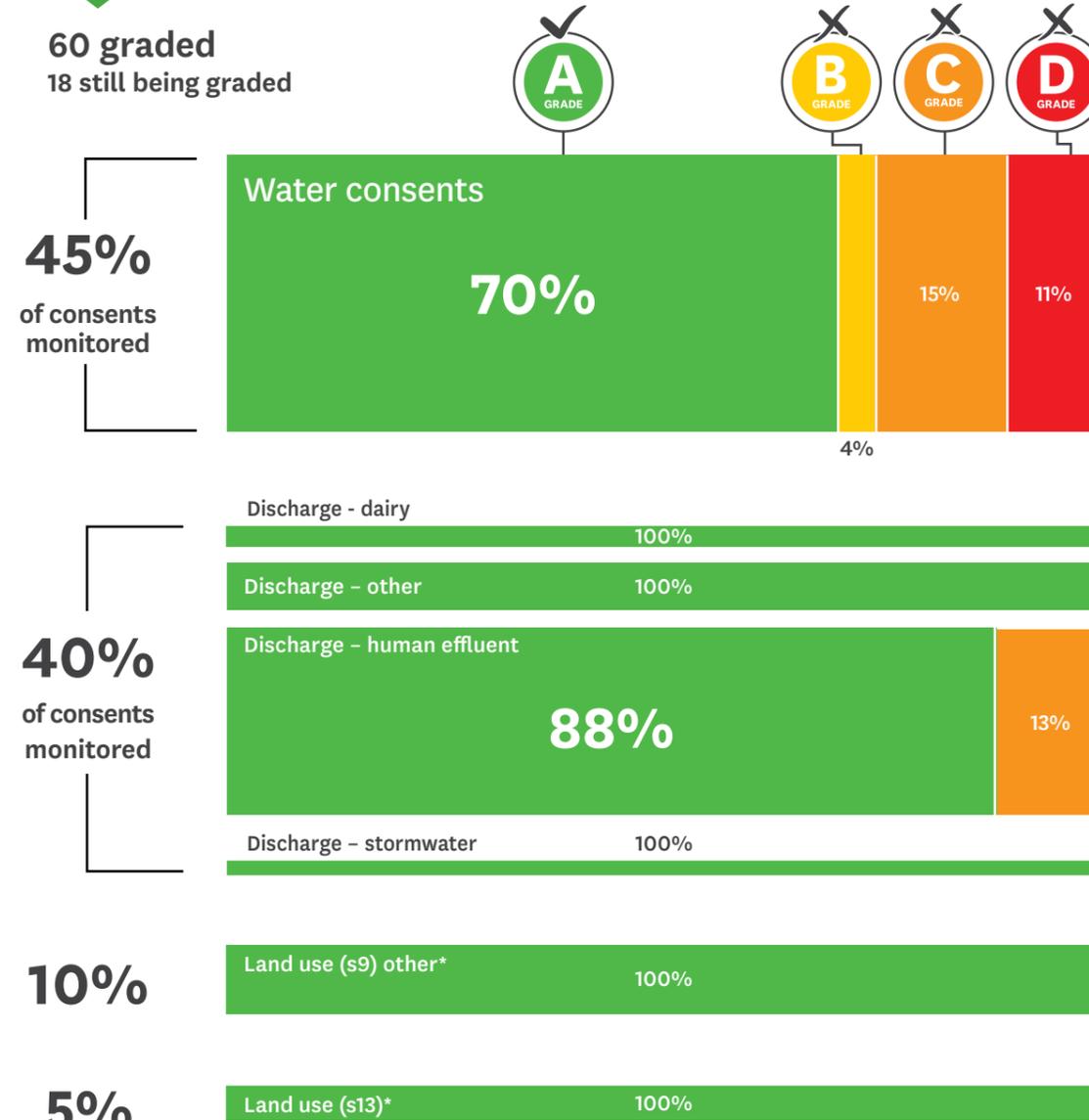


Prosecution is reserved for offences so serious that warrant court proceedings.

78 consents targeted

What we monitored

60 graded
18 still being graded

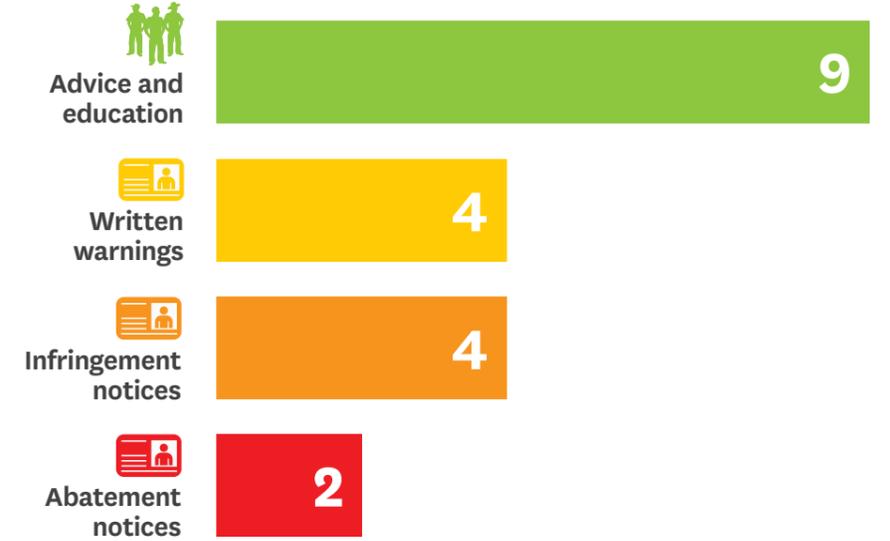


Due to rounding, percentages will not always add up to 100% exactly.

Note: Only data for completed monitored visits shown.

*Please refer to sections 9 & 13 of the land use section of the Resource Management Act.

How we responded to improve compliance grades



5,339 inspections by zone

Some consents have multiple inspections, these include those with a C or D compliance rating, as well as those identified as high-risk which are subject to more regular monitoring.

