

Case Study

Dong Won ship fire was complex and difficult but with a good outcome

For an event that initially seemed routine, the April 2018 Dong Won ship fire in Timaru turned into a much more difficult and dangerous operation as the fire spread around the ship's holds.

It took more than a week to fully extinguish the fire and involved complex inter-agency operations, including Fire and Emergency NZ, Maritime NZ, the Transport Accident Investigation Commission, PrimePort Timaru, Environment Canterbury, as well as the vessel's owners.

Environment Canterbury's role, managed by the Harbourmaster's Office, was focused on safety as well

as containing potential spills from oil or other substances that could escape from the boat. This included placing an oil spill boom around the ship, no easy task, with ongoing monitoring by the Marine Oil Spill Response Team.

Although the ship suffered significant damage, the response was a success with water pollution of the harbour avoided, along with no serious injuries during the incident.

There were, however, some challenging moments which the organisations involved are using to improve the response to any future similar events.



Water is being sprayed on the hull of the vessel to cool down the outside and stop fire from spreading.

Case Study

Focus on clean burning wood-burners to improve air quality

Householders across Canterbury are being encouraged to learn how to operate their wood-burners smoke-free to reduce air pollution and improve the quality of our air.

Smoky wood burners are the main contributors to high pollution nights, particularly in urban areas. People are being reminded that smoke should not be visible from a chimney for more than 15 minutes following start-up of a burner, or for more than five minutes when refuelling the burner.

To help people achieve clean burning, Environment Canterbury had teams out and about through June and July in the early evening looking for smoky chimneys.



If a team found a chimney that was smoking for more than 15 minutes, they left information for the household in the letterbox on how to build a smoke-free fire and who to contact for more information or personalised training.

The teams returned on a later date to check if the householder had reduced the amount of smoke.

If no smoke was seen on the follow up visit, and we could tell from our thermal imaging camera that the wood burner was in use, a note was left in the letterbox to thank the householder for burning smoke-free.

For more information visit www.warmercheaper.co.nz

Are you concerned that an activity may be damaging our environment?
Call Environment Canterbury on 0800 765 588 (24 hours) to report an environmental issue.

Incident reporting 2017-18 ANNUAL REPORT

Protecting the environment is the top priority

The work to protect and improve Canterbury's environment has several parts:

- Set the necessary **nutrient limits** across Canterbury via planning rules
- Promote **Good Management Practices (GMP)** for farmers
- Require **land-use consent to farm** and **independent audit** (for higher risk activities)
- Ensure effective and targeted **consent compliance monitoring**, and
- Respond quickly to as many **incident reports** as possible (this report).

We want to deal with environmental risks before they turn into incidents and cause damage - let's have a fence at the top of the cliff. This is happening through nutrient limits and the Good Management Programme of continuous improvement on farm.

Monitoring consent compliance and responding to incidents, while necessary and important, are more like the ambulance at the bottom of the cliff. They are needed to fix a problem often after the environmental damage has occurred, and stop it happening again.

During 2017/2018 there were around 3,900 resource management incidents across Canterbury. Most of these related to air quality - reflecting the visibility of the issue and community priorities. The second largest group was water. If an incident has the potential to seriously impact the environment, a Resource Management Officer will make a site visit at the earliest opportunity.

Note: These compliance results report on the year ending 30 June 2018 only (there is no trend information). The previous year's results (year ended June 2017) have been put into the same format, available separately, to allow comparison.

- ▶ See inside for our incidence response results.
- ◀ See the back for two case studies.

Incident report

JULY 2017 – JUNE 2018

Why this matters

Incidents involving contaminants in waterways or unauthorised discharges to land or air should be notified to Environment Canterbury by calling us on 0800 765 588 (24 hours).

We research and evaluate all calls to assess the potential environmental effects the reported incidents may have. Due to the high volume of reports, we respond to the most serious incidents first.

How we respond to incidents:

Our first response is to work with individuals and businesses to stop environmental damage and achieve the right environmental outcome if there is an issue.

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

Formal written warnings are sent out to notify of an offence and they require action to be taken.

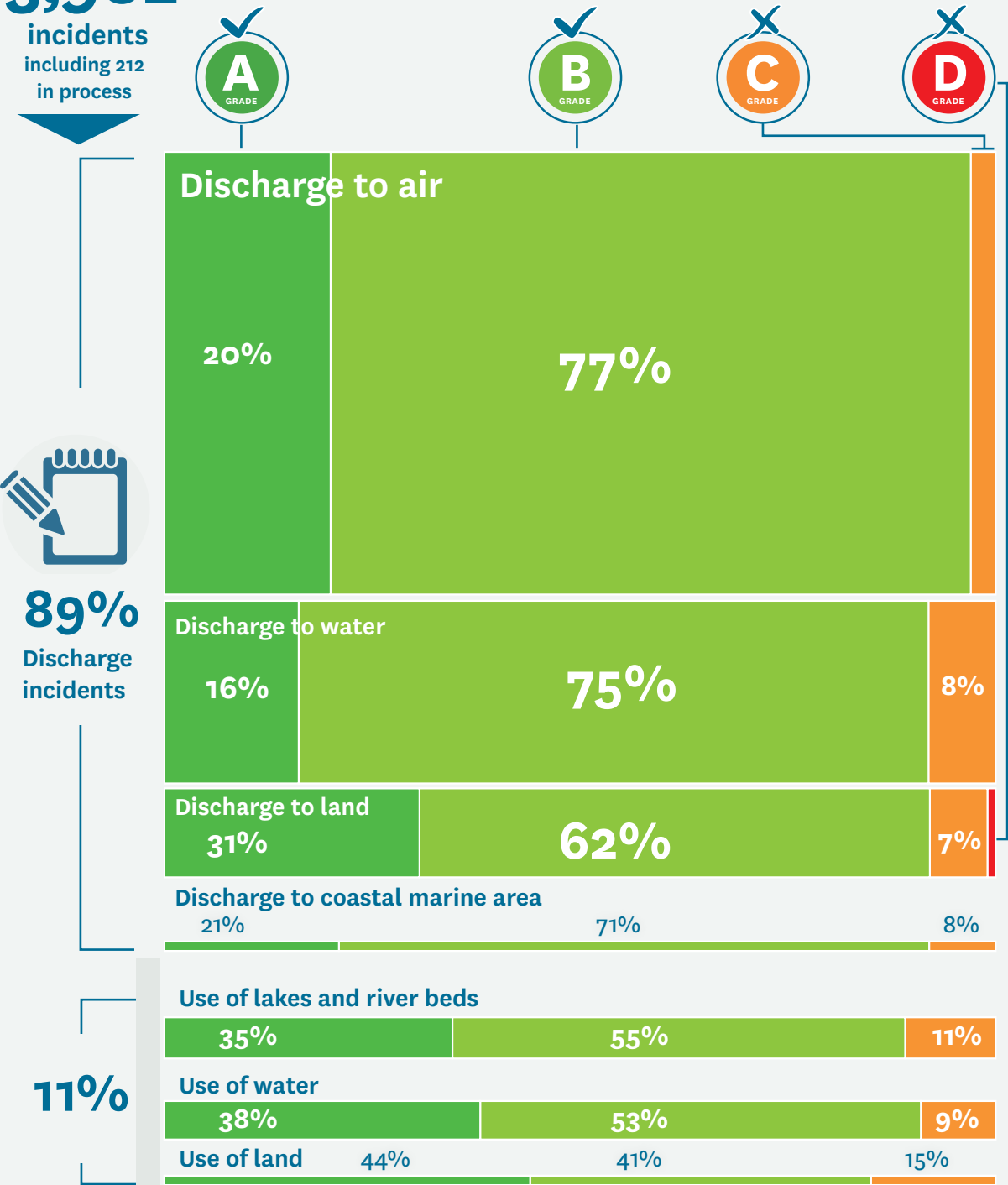
If it is a significant breach we may issue an **infringement notice** which includes payment of a fine.

Abatement notices are typically issued when the offender doesn't co-operate or if we have reason to believe that the offence could happen again.

Anyone can make an application to the Environment Court to issue an **enforcement order**. The Court then identifies the conditions which must be satisfied before issuing the order. Breaching an enforcement order issued by the Court is an offence which may lead to prosecution.

Prosecution is reserved for offences so serious that they warrant proceedings through the courts.

What we investigated
3,902 incidents including 212 in process



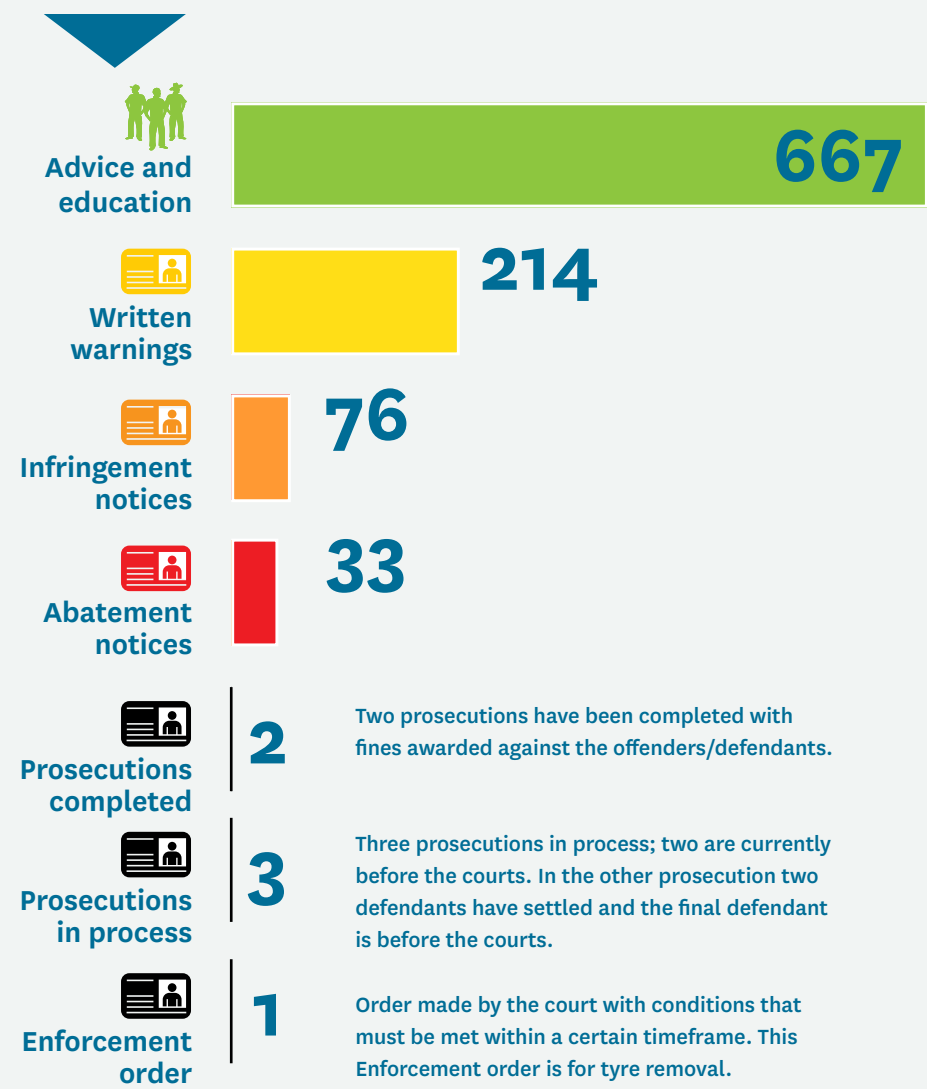
89% Discharge incidents

11%

What the grades mean

- A/B (Minor effects)**
Our response is to work with the alleged offender to carry out their activities within appropriate environmental standards.
- C/D (Moderate & major effects)**
Our response is to ensure the incident is attended and the environmental effects are avoided, remedied or mitigated. Investigation of the incident may result in enforcement action including prosecution for the most serious incidents.

How we responded to reduce environmental damage



3,902 reported incidents by zone

