

# Incident response in the Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora 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 Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora zone, we received nearly 500 reports. The majority of these were related to discharges of air, followed by discharges to water and land.

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.

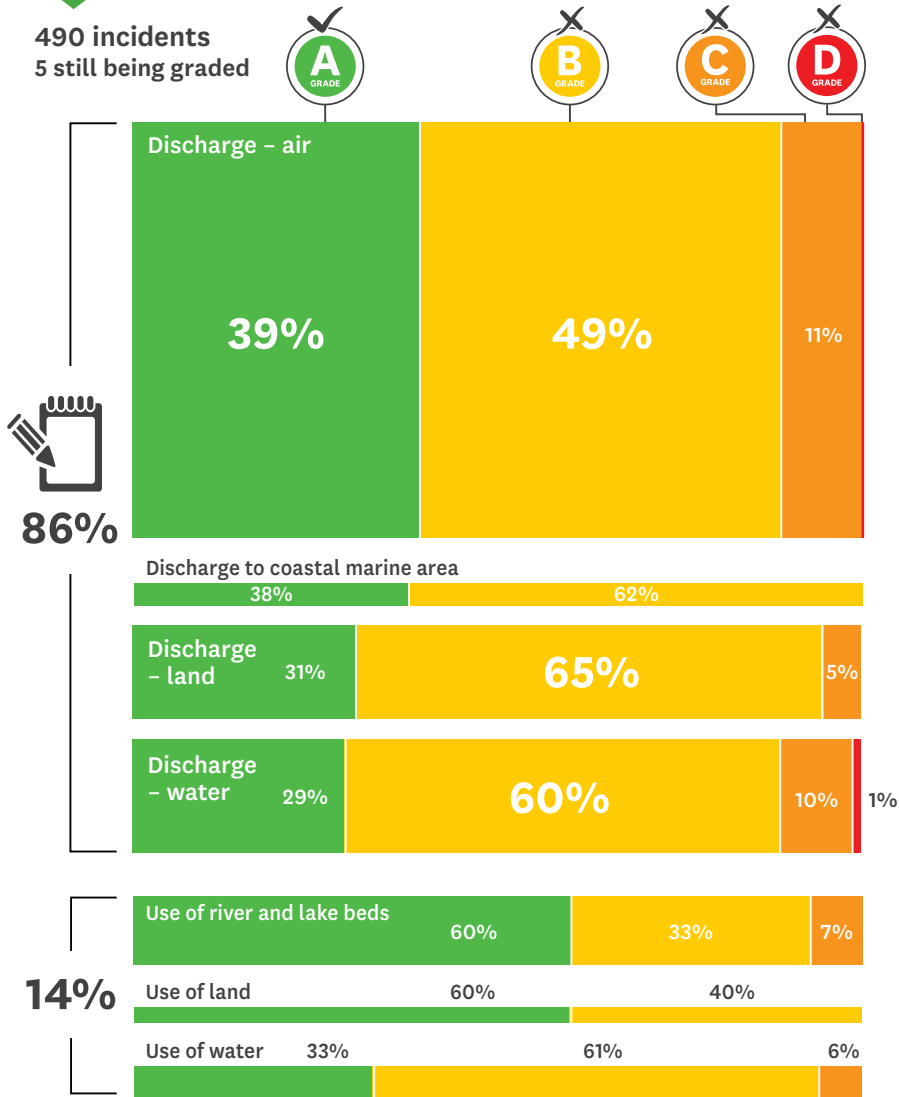
If you’re concerned an activity may be damaging our environment , please call us on 0800 765 588 (24 hours) to report it, or use the Snap Send Solve app to report it from your mobile phone

\*See over for grading explanation

## 495 incidents

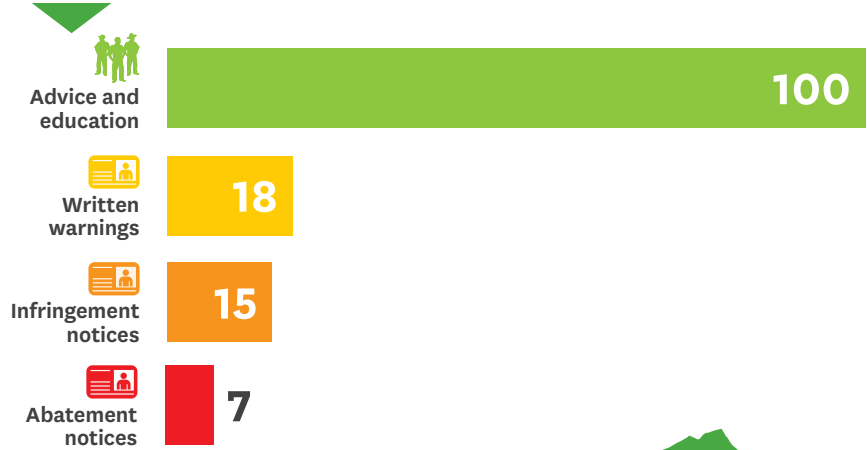
What we found

490 incidents  
5 still being graded



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

## How we responded to reduce environmental damage



## ORARI TEMUKA OPIHI PAREORA ZONE



# 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 495 incidents including several related to rubbish tipping in riverbeds,
- targeted 472 consents with a focus on water use,
- focused on higher risk consents including fish screens, and
- worked with Timaru District Council focussing on consented activities within the Washdyke commercial area (see below)

## Preventing pollution - looking after Waitarakao/Washdyke Lagoon

We, along with Timaru District Council, have been working with businesses in the Washdyke area to increase awareness of industrial impacts on water quality at Waitarakao/ Washdkye Lagoon.

Stormwater in the area flows down gutter and drains into a network of underground pipes and open waterways that connect with the lagoon. It is through the stormwater system that contaminants such as oil, grease and sediment reach the lagoon affecting its quality.

The lagoon is recognised as a significant bird habitat as well as having elevated ecological values through connection to marine and riverine habitats which are important in the life cycle of migratory birds and fish. Poor water quality affects the health of plant and animal life that live in and around the waterways.

Our team have proactively worked with consent holders to ensure they know their responsibilities around stormwater discharges and are adhering to them to ensure compliance.

A separate and distinct project focusses on enhancing biodiversity as well as considering the impact of the farming community on Washdyke Creek and Seadown Drain.

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



**Brian Reeves**  
Zone Manager  
Email: Brian.Reeves@ecan.govt.nz  
Phone: 03 387 7858

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Toitū te marae o Tāne, toitū te marae o Tangaroa, toitū te iwi.

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# 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

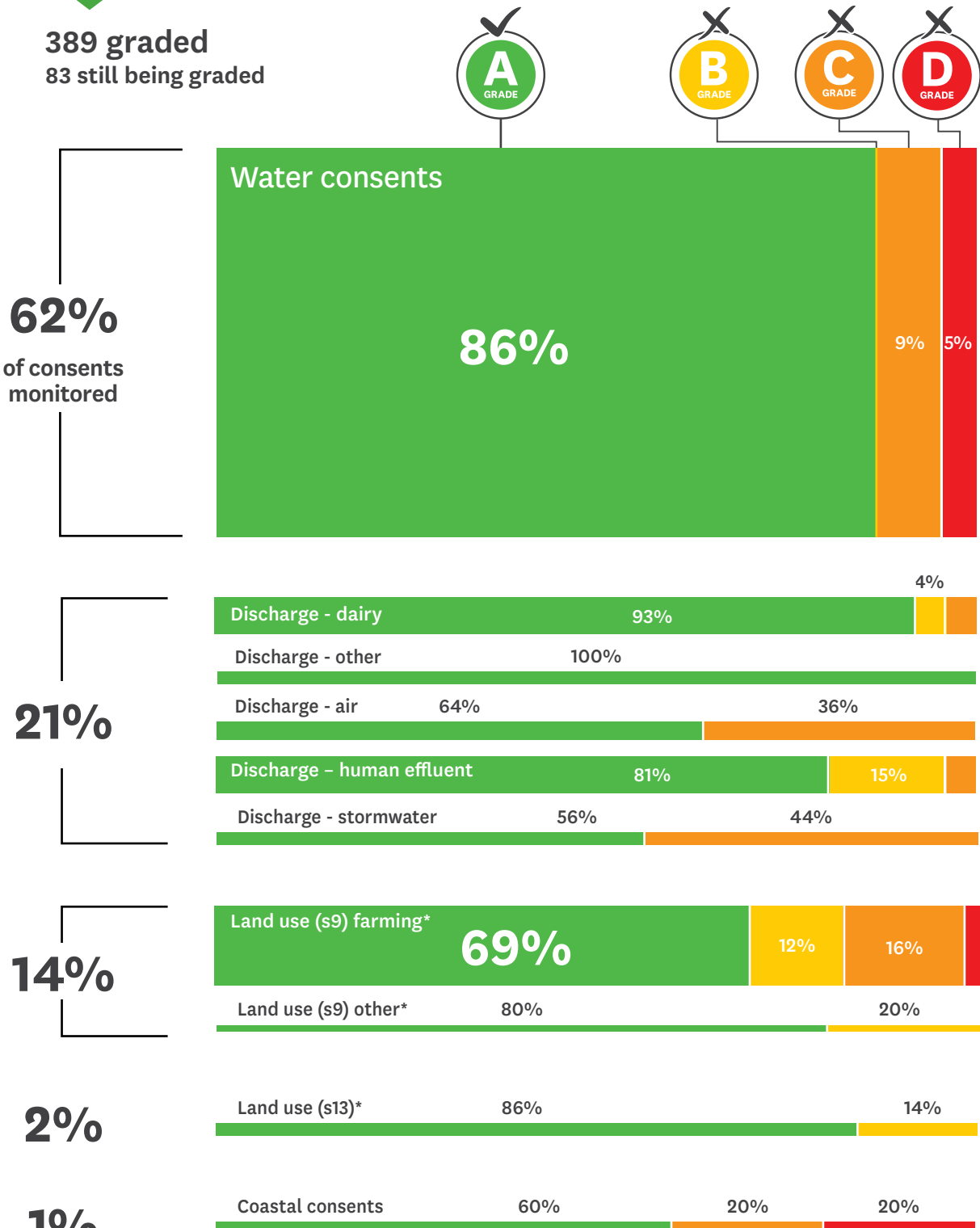
If there is an issue, our first response is to work with individuals and businesses to stop any immediate environmental damage. We then investigate to determine what actions should be taken, including enforcement.

- 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.

# 472 consents targeted

## What we monitored

389 graded  
83 still being graded

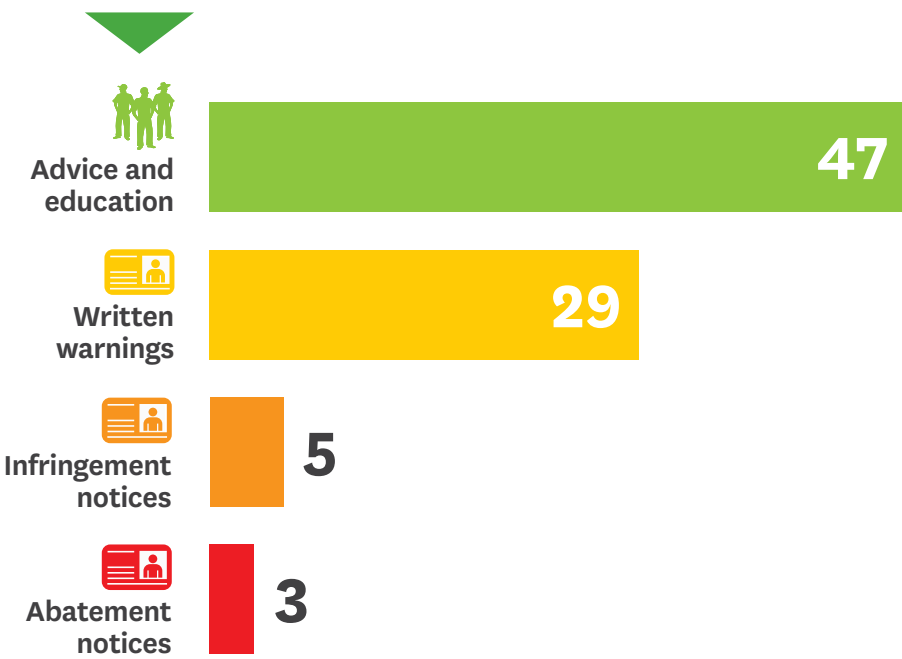


Due to rounding, percentages will not always add up to 100% exactly.

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.

