

DAIRY AND STREAM CROSSING SURVEY

2017/18 Snapshot



MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

KEY POINTS



52

A total of 52 dairy farms operating in Marlborough.



39

farms operate under permitted activity status under the Marlborough Sounds Resource Management Plan.



13

farms operated under Resource Consent.



88%

of farms were compliant after the follow up inspections were completed.



12%

of farms were non-compliant after the follow up inspections.



0%

significant non-compliance observed during onsite inspections.

NOTE: Farms with no storage or systems located within 20m of a waterway have previously been rated as significantly non-compliant. This season they were rated as non-compliant which reflects that no environmental effects were observed as a result of the non-compliance. The change in compliance rating is in line with Council's compliance rating schedule and other regional councils throughout New Zealand.

Snapshot of the 2017/18 monitoring programme

What was found during the 2017/18 inspections and annual monitoring

Marlborough District Council monitored all 52 dairy farms during the 2017/18 survey. Monitoring consists of conducting a site visit to each farm and assessing any records that are required to be provided by resource consent conditions.

This season a second compliance report was completed for each farm which assessed the compliance against the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan (PMEP) rules for dairy shed effluent.

86% of farms were rated as compliant after first inspection, this increased to 88% after follow up inspections were completed.

14% of farms were assessed as non-complaint, this decreased to 12% after the follow up inspections.

Areas of Non-compliance:

- Ponding of effluent.
- Storage system located within 20m of a waterway.
- No storage.
- Nitrogen loading exceeded.

Non-compliance:

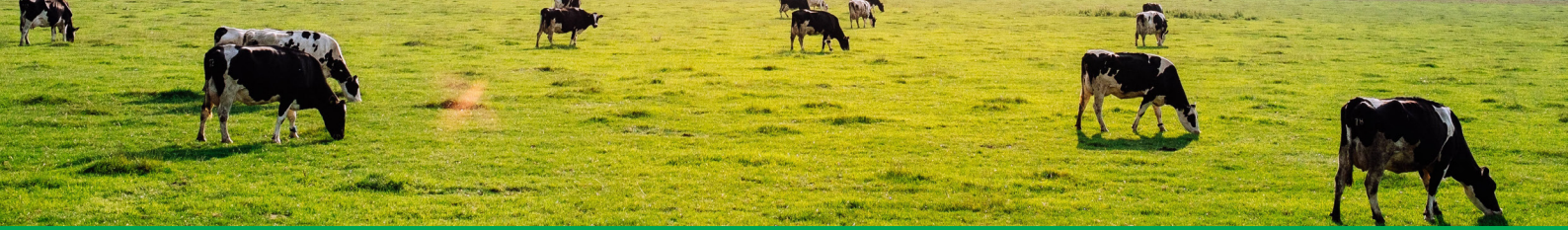


Ponding from effluent spread to land.

Summary of Compliance Rating System

Results reported in this snapshot reflect the compliance of each permitted activity standard or resource consent condition, the lowest rated condition is the overall compliance level. For example a wastewater discharge consent could have 25 conditions of which 23 are rated compliant (green), 1 is rated minor non-compliance and 1 is rated significant non-compliance – the consent is rated significant non-compliance.

Full Compliance	Technical non-compliance	Environmental non-compliance	Significant non-compliance
100% compliance with all consent conditions/ permitted activity standards assessed	Non-compliance with condition which are considered to only have minor or no adverse environmental effects. E.g. failure to keep records	Breach of effects based/best practice conditions/rules that cause minor actual or potential environmental effects. E.g. ponding of wastewater remediated immediately.	Significant breach of effects based/best practice conditions/ rules that cause actual or potential environmental effects. E.g. multiple exceedances of parameters or wastewater reaching a waterway.



Compliance Levels over the last three seasons

	2015/2016 Percentage	2015/2016 Follow up Percentage	2016/2017 Percentage	2016/2017 Follow up Percentage	2017/2018 Percentage	2017/2018 Follow up Percentage
Full Compliance	73%	91%	85%	91%	86%	88%
Technical non-compliance	2%	0%	2%	2%	6%	6%
Environmental non-compliance	17	0%	2%	0%	8%	6%
Significant non-compliance	18%	9%	11%	7%	0%	0%

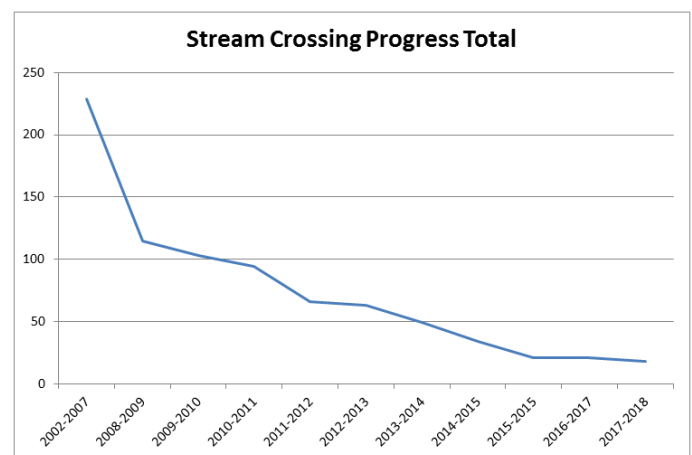
Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan

- The PMEP was notified 9 June 2016
- The discharge of dairy farm effluent into or onto land is a permitted activity within the Rural Environment Zone and the Coastal Environment Zone;
- 7 rules had immediate legal effect;
- 3 have legal effect from 9 June 2019;
- A compliance report for the PMEP rules was completed for each farm this season in order to provide the farmers with an indication of future compliance for the effluent system as it currently operates

PMEP Compliance rate for rules with immediate legal effect

Compliance Rating	2017/2018 Percentage	2017/2018 Follow up Percentage
Full Compliance	90%	92%
Technical Non-compliance	2%	2%
Non-compliance	8%	6%
Significant Non-compliance	0%	0%

Stream Crossing Progress Total



PMEP from 9 June 2019

- 35 farms will require the storage system to be lined with an impermeable material;
- 7 storage systems are located within a Flood Hazard Area;
- 4 farms have discharge fields located within a Soil Sensitive Area;
- A total of 38 farms will be non-compliant if no action is taken to upgrade the current system.
- Unfortunately there have been no improvements in eliminating the remaining stream crossings since last season;
- The remaining 18 low priority stream crossings are on six farms, with 10 crossings being located on one farm;
- The remaining stream crossings have been highlighted to the farmers concerned and plans for elimination have been put in place to be followed up.

For More Information

For more information on compliance and enforcement monitoring undertaken by Marlborough District Council, contact the Environmental Protection Group

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