

DAIRY AND STREAM CROSSING SURVEY

2019/20 Snapshot



MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

KEY POINTS



47 A total of 47 dairy farms operate in Marlborough.



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



13 farms operate under Resource Consent.



89% of farms were compliant after the follow up inspections were completed.



9% of farms were non-compliant after the follow up inspections.



0 significant non-compliance was observed.

NOTE: Farms with no storage or systems located within 20m of a waterway have previously been rated as significantly non-compliant. Since the 2017/18 season they have been 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 2019/20 monitoring programme

What was found during the 2019/20 inspections and annual monitoring

Marlborough District Council monitored all 47 dairy farms during the 2019/20 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 which assessed the compliance against the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan (PMEP) rules for dairy shed effluent.

87% of farms were rated as compliant after first inspection, this increased to 89% after follow up inspections were completed.

11% of farms were assessed as non-complaint, this decreased to 9% after the follow up inspections.

Areas of Non-compliance:

- Ponding of effluent.
- Storage system located within 20m of waterway.
- Odour detected beyond property boundary

Non-compliance:

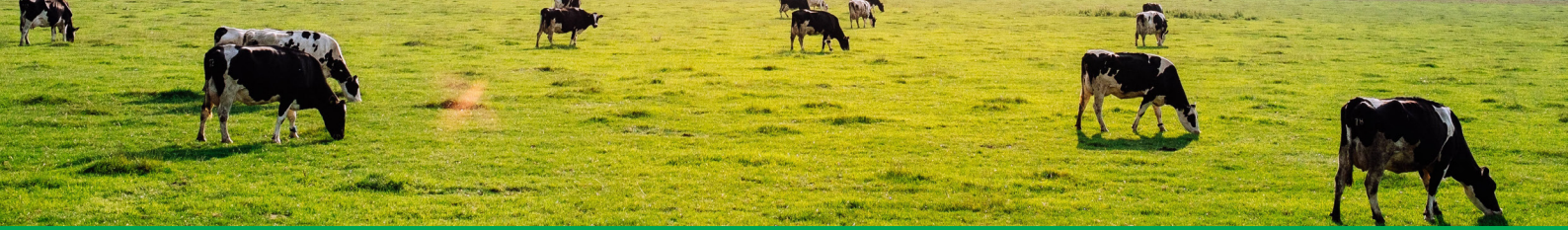


Ponding from effluent spread to land.

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

	2017/2018 Percentage	2017/2018 Follow up Percentage	2018/2019 Percentage	2018/2019 Follow up Percentage	2019/2020 Percentage	2019/2020 Follow up Percentage
Full Compliance	86%	88%	82%	86%	87%	89%
Technical Non-Compliance	6%	6%	4%	4%	2%	2%
Non-Compliant	8%	6%	12%	10%	11%	9%
Significant Non-Compliance	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%

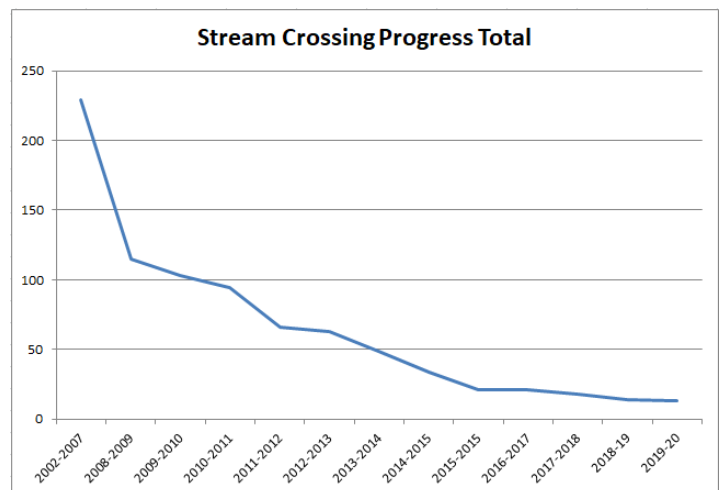
Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan

- 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;
- A compliance report for the PMEP rules was completed for each farm that operates under the permitted activity standards 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	2018/2019 Follow up Percentage	2019/2020 Follow up Percentage
Full Compliance	100%	94%
Technical Non-Compliance	0%	0%
Non-Compliant	0%	6%
Significant Non-Compliance	0%	0%

Stream Crossing Progress Total



PMEP Compliance

- 32 farms have effluent storage systems that are lined with an impermeable material;
- 5 storage systems are located within a Flood Hazard Area - 2 of these farms hold a resource consent to legalise the location;
- 3 farms have discharge fields located within a Soil Sensitive Area - all 3 farms have resource consent to legalise the discharge of dairy effluent to land.
- One stream crossings have been removed this season;
- The remaining 13 low priority stream crossings are on four farms, with 8 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

Phone: 03 520 7400
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