

Report 08.121
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Committee Regulatory
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Pollution Control Report

1. Purpose

To report on incident response, investigation and audit work undertaken by Greater Wellington's Pollution Control Team in the Wellington Region during the reporting period.

2. Background

The Environment Management Division manages the unauthorised use of the environmental via the following:

- 24-hour Incident Response service, addressing pollution complaints, environmental incidents and alleged non-compliance with regional plans.
- *Take Charge*, a pollution prevention programme to improve environmental performance and compliance of small to medium-sized businesses.
- Special Projects, which include the development of resource materials, and targeted investigations to establish baseline conditions, track trends, and characterise environmental problems.

3. Incidents

3.1 Incident summary for the period 4 January to 1 February 2008

A total of 96 incidents were recorded during this reporting period, as summarised in Figure 1. All incidents were responded to within the target response times.

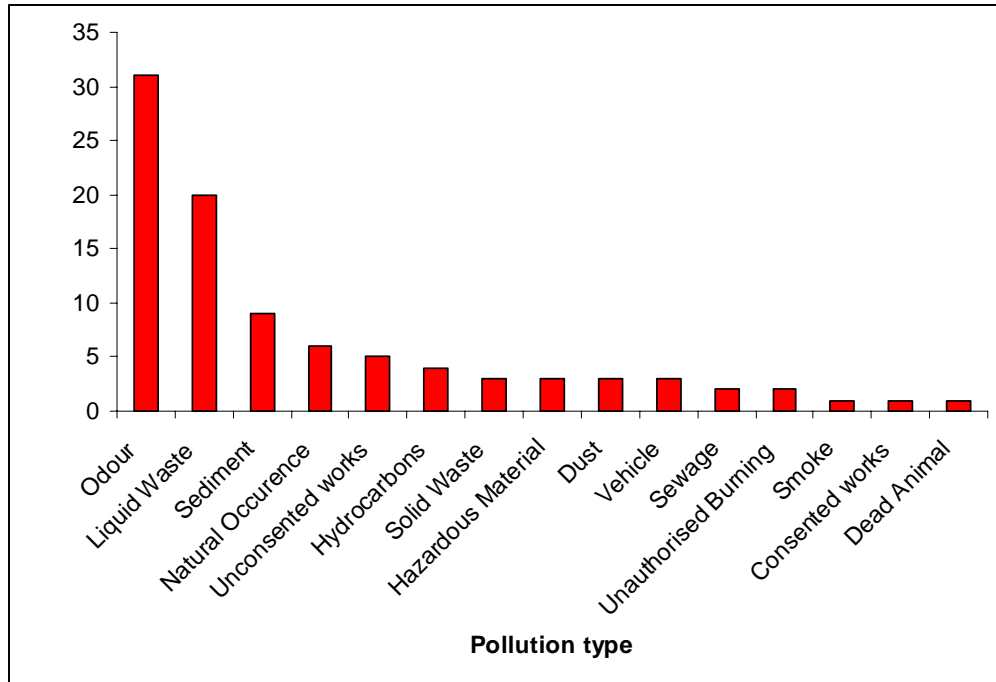


Figure 1: Summary of Incidents for period 4 January 2008 – 1 February 2008

Pollution Control officers were called to an incident at the Te Mome Stream, Lower Hutt. Eels were sited swimming away from the turbid area. Some dead fish were found during the investigation.

Greater Wellington Water Group was carrying out scouring of the pump and discharging the water from the Waiwhetu aquifer. The scouring process stirred up sludge from the river bed and may have exacerbated the existing low oxygen conditions, leading to anaerobic activity. GW Water Group has agreed to reduce the frequency of scouring events.



Pollution Control Officers attended a large chemical discharge incident at Aotea Quay Wellington.

Chemicals were being transported by train and could have been damaged in transport. The chemicals were identified and contained, to be collected by the owner. No contaminant was allowed to enter the storm water. Staff will cost recover the time for the clean up.



Pollution Control Officers in the Wairarapa were called to an oil spill incident in Masterton where an unsecured waste oil storage tank had been set alight.

This resulted in a 1000 litres of oil discharging to land and an unknown quantity entering into the stormwater network and the Kuripuni Stream.



An extensive cleanup was undertaken with Masterton District Council and Greater Wellington staff. Staff will cost recover the time for the clean up.

Officers also attended a discharge of waste water to the storm water at the premises of Gardenlea in Naenae. A letter was sent to them, asking questions regarding the discharge.



3.2 Incident significance

The incidents are assessed for significance as determined by the severity, extent and duration of environmental effects. This ranking is used to track incident trends. The majority of incidents attended were considered to have negligible affects and only 3 of the 96 were considered to significant. The incidents categorised as “Not Assessed” are those where officers did not attend the scene, or where officers were unable to assess the severity, extent or duration of environmental effects

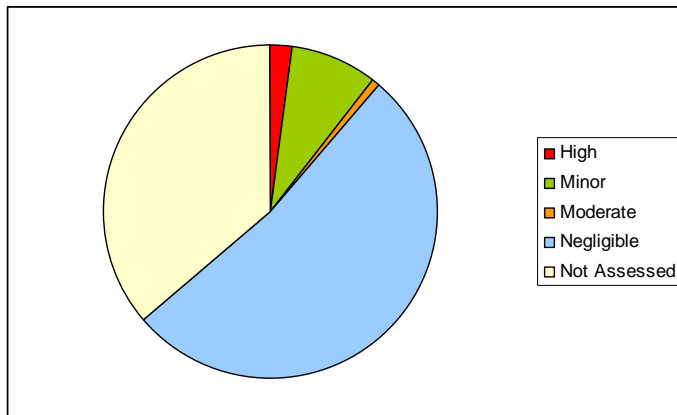


Figure 2: Incident significance for the period 4 January 2008 – 1 February 2008

3.3 Incident distribution

Figure 3 shows the regional distribution of incidents. The majority of the incidents are reported in the urban areas. However, there are an increasing number of incidents in the Wairarapa in 2007/08 year.

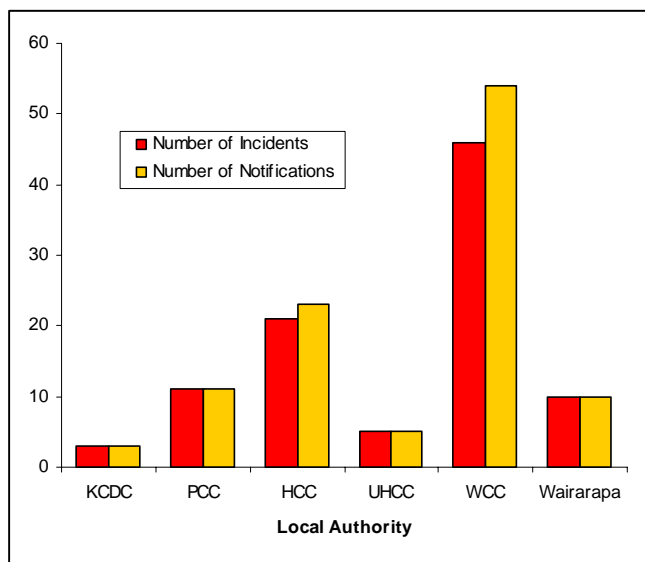


Figure 3: Incident distribution by local authority

4. Enforcement action

Table 1 summarises enforcement action taken from 4 January to 29 February 2008.

Table 1: Summary of enforcement action

Regulatory tool	Number issued
Advisory Notices	34
Infringement Notices	7
Abatement Notices	11
Enforcement Orders	3
Prosecutions	2
(& information's laid)	10

4.1 Summary of enforcement action

Infringement Notices

John Cameron: Unconsented works in the Monks Stream (Fine \$500)

Valley 4WD Inc: Sediment discharge to water, (Fine \$750), Bronwyn Way, Paparangi

Transpacific Technical Services: Breach of Resource Consent for offensive and objectionable odour, (Fine \$1000), Port Road, Petone

Daniel Renshaw Drainage Contractor Ltd: Breach of resource consent condition 1, (Fine \$750), (Fine \$500), 25 Seagull Place, Whitby

R & C Parbhu: Breach of resource consent condition 1, (Fine \$500), 104 Derwent Street, Island Bay, Wellington 6023

Ken Stronge: Dairy effluent discharges, (Fine \$750), Upper Belvedere Road, RD1, Carterton

Enaki Investments Limited: Dairy effluent discharges, (Fine \$750), Level 17, 10 Customhouse Quay, Wellington

Abatement Notices

Selwyn McLachlan: Abatement for unauthorised works in the Ruamahanga River, Masterton, Wairarapa

John Fijn (Nelson): Four Abatement Notices for illegal works, stream restoration and wetland restoration, Brookfield Lane, Wainuiomata

Anthony Arnold Colenso: Cease unauthorised discharges to air, Tory Street, Petone

Derek Odlin: Cease unauthorised discharges to air, Tory Street, Petone

Tama Coker: Cease discharge of hydrocarbons to land. The Wellington region

Tone Fiso: Abatement for unauthorised works in a tributary of the Mangaroa River, 16 Maymorn Road, Upper Hutt

R & C Parbhu: Abatement for unauthorised works in a tributary of the Owhiro Stream, 104 Derwent Street, Island Bay

Advisory Notices

A significant number of advisory notices (18) were issued in the Wairarapa as part of the dairy compliance inspections. These will form the first part of the wider dairy compliance for 2007/08.

5. Take Charge

The Pollution Control Team has completed all the EnviroSMART audits for the 2006/07 intakes (except two businesses which have relocated) and are conducting revisits to ensure all recommendations have been completed.

A *Take Charge* report has been completed and recommendations set for Resene Paints in Naenae, Lower Hutt.

We continue our *Take Charge* audits and compliance checks of businesses in the Grenada North Business Park. *Take Charge* certificates are being issued to businesses that have completed the audit process to Greater Wellington's satisfaction.

6. Communication

No further public communication is necessary for this report.

7. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. ***Receives the report; and***
2. ***Notes the contents.***

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

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