# **Site Compliance Report**

Site No: REG603968

Site Owner: Waikato District Council

Site Name: Ngaruawahia WWTP: Old Taupiri Rd, Hopuhopu

Date: 18 January 2022

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

The following resource consents are held for the site:

Resource Consent	Status	Description	Commenced	Expiry
AUTH119642.01.02	Current	Discharge up to 11,200 cubic metres per day of treated wastewater from the Ngaruawahia WWTP into the Waikato River		31/03/2029
AUTH119643.01.01	Current	Discharge contaminants to air from activities associated with the Ngaruawahia WWTP	14/04/2011	31/03/2029
AUTH119644.01.01	Current	Discharge treated municipal wastewater sludge onto land during pond de-sludging from activities associated with the Ngaruawahia WWTP		31/03/2029
AUTH119645.01.01	Current	Use, upgrade and maintain an outflow pipeline structure including an outflow diffuser on the bed of the Waikato River for the discharge of treated wastewater from the Ngaruawahia WWTP		31/03/2029
AUTH119646.01.01	Current	Discharge treated wastewater (via seepage) to land and groundwater from activities associated with the Ngaruawahia WWTP	14/04/2011	31/03/2029
AUTH124828.01.01	Current	To discharge biosolids to land	23/10/2012	30/11/2022

This report examines the level of compliance of Waikato District Council with the selected conditions of the resource consents.

#### 2 BACKGROUND

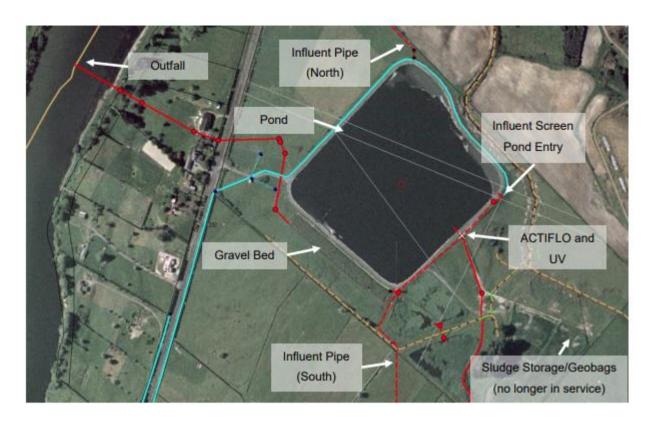
The Ngaruawahia wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) is operated by Watercare Services Limited under a contractual arrangement with Waikato District Council (WDC) on behalf of the community.

The Ngaruawahia WWTP is comprised of the following processes:

- Raw Influent screening;
- Oxidation pond;
- Pond outlet screening;
- Solids removal with ACTIFLO and chemical dosing including;
  - o Coagulant (alum) dosing;
  - o Polymer dosing;
  - o Caustic dosing.
  - Ultraviolet (UV) disinfection;



- Gravel-bed/rock lined channel;
- Waikato River outfall diffuser.



### 2.1 PREVIOUS COMPLIANCE HISTORY

A formal warning (doc ref 18433147) was issued in relation to the significant non-compliance attained in the previous annual audit for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

Date Period	Site Compliance
1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021	Moderate Non-Compliance
1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020	Significant non-compliance
1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019	Partial compliance
1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018	High level of compliance
1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017	High level of compliance

**Please note**: For the 2021-22 compliance year WRC has commenced using the new MfE compliance monitoring scoring regime that has been implemented nationwide for all regional councils. This new scoring system is designed to bring all the regions into line and make the measuring of national compliance much easier to compare.

#### **3 COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENT**

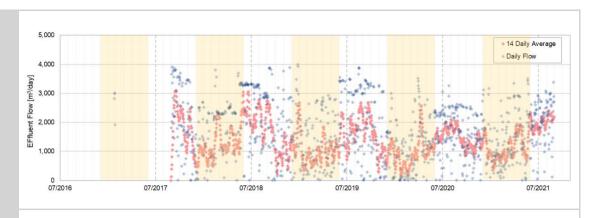
Unless otherwise specified in this document this assessment covers the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

This compliance assessment has been undertaken based on the submitted annual report by the consent holder, monitoring data supplied throughout the compliance period and any site inspections undertaken. Some administration, duplicate or irrelevant conditions have been omitted for brevity.

Please note that a description of the classification system used to describe compliance status is given in Appendix 1 of this report.

# AUTH119642.01.02 - Water - sewage

Activity Aut	horised: Discharge up to 11,200 cubic metres per day of treated wastewater from the Ngaruaw o River	vahia WWTP into
Condition No.	Description	
1	The wastewater treatment and disposal system shall be designed, operated and mainta accordance with: i) The application for this resource consent; ii) The document titled "Waikat Ngaruawahia and Huntly Wastewater Resource Consents Project, Resource Consents Application Effects on the Environment" dated March 2009 and recorded on Waikato Regional Council's conumbered 1458402; and iii) The document titled "Waikato District Council Ngaruawahia and Hu Resource Consents Project, Resource Consents Application: Response to RMA Section 92(1) Reconformation" dated August 2009 and recorded on Waikato Regional Council's document systems and the above documents.	o District Council n: Assessment of document system untly Wastewater juests for Further ystem numbered
Evidence		
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
3	Notwithstanding the stated limits in conditions of this consent, the consent holder shall make a practical efforts to ensure that the final wastewater quality is maximised within the capabilities system at all times.	
Evidence		
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
4	The maximum volume of treated wastewater discharged shall not exceed 11,200 cubic metres pe	er day.
Evidence	Compliant (see chart pg 24)	



#### Status Reasoning

6

Action Full Compliance Required

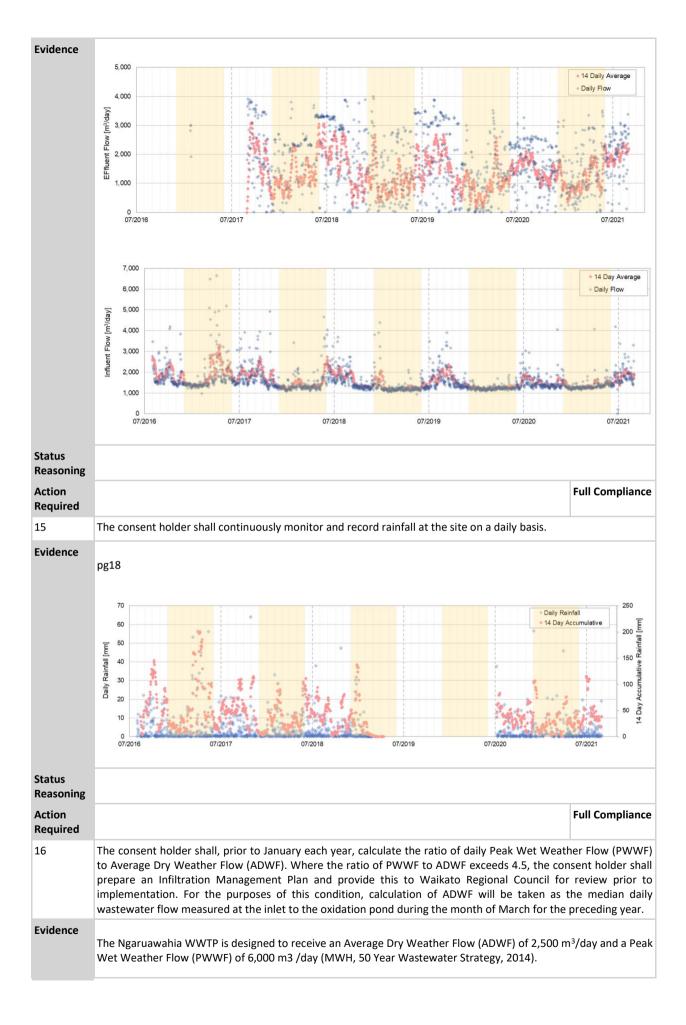
The consent holder shall ensure that, no later than 1 December 2012, the quality of the discharge immediately prior to entering the rock-lined channel shall comply with the following limits: i) The pH of the discharge shall not be less than 6 or greater than 9 pH units; ii) The median five day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand concentration shall not exceed 30 grams per cubic metre and the 90th percentile shall not exceed 60 grams per cubic metre; iii) The median suspended solids concentration shall not exceed 30 grams per cubic metre and the 90th percentile shall not exceed 60 grams per cubic metre; iv) The median ammoniacal-nitrogen concentration shall not exceed 10 grams per cubic metre and the 90th percentile shall not exceed 20 grams per cubic metre; v) The median total nitrogen (TN) concentration shall not exceed 25 grams per cubic metre; vi) The median summer (December to May inclusive) total nitrogen (TNsummer) concentration shall not exceed 20 grams per cubic metre; vii) The median summer (December to May inclusive) total nitrogen load (TNload) for Ngaruawahia Wastewater Treatment Plant and Huntly Wastewater Treatment Plant combined shall not exceed 57 kilograms per day; viii) The median total phosphorus (TP) concentration shall not exceed 8 grams per cubic metre; ix) The median summer (December to May inclusive) total phosphorus (TPsummer) concentration shall not exceed 8 grams per cubic metre; x) The median summer (December to May inclusive) total phosphorus load (TPload) for Ngaruawahia Wastewater Treatment Plant and Huntly Wastewater Treatment Plant combined shall not exceed 17.3 kilograms per day; xi) The median Escherichia coli (E.coli) concentration shall not exceed 126 cfu per 100 millilitres. For the purposes of this condition, to determine compliance with the median limits (excluding E.coli) no more than six samples in any 12 consecutive monthly samples over the period 1 July to 30 June each year shall exceed the specified limit. To determine compliance with the summer median limits, no more than 3 of the 6 monthly samples in any given summer (December to May) shall exceed the specified limit. To determine compliance with the median E.coli limit, no more than 26 samples in any 52 consecutive weekly samples shall exceed the specified limit. To determine compliance with the 90th percentile limits, no more than one sample in any ten consecutive monthly sampling events shall exceed the specified limit. Note: The discharge of treated wastewater to the Waikato River from the Huntly Wastewater Treatment Plant is authorised by consent 119647.

### Evidence

- i) The pH of the discharge shall not be less than 6 or greater than 9 pH units; Compliant
- ii) The median five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand concentration shall not exceed 30 grams per cubic metre and the 90th percentile shall not exceed 60 grams per cubic metre; Compliant
- iii) The median suspended solids concentration shall not exceed 30 grams per cubic metre and the 90th percentile shall not exceed 60 grams per cubic metre; Compliant
- iv) The median ammoniacal-nitrogen concentration shall not exceed 10 grams per cubic metre and the 90th percentile shall not exceed 20 grams per cubic metre; Non-compliant 26.6g/m<sup>3</sup>
- v) The median total nitrogen (TN) concentration shall not exceed 25 grams per cubic metre; Non-compliant  $30g/m^3$
- vi) The median summer (December to May inclusive) total nitrogen (TNsummer) concentration shall not exceed 20 grams per cubic metre; Non-compliant 26g/m³
- vii) The median summer (December to May inclusive) total nitrogen load (TNload) for Ngaruawahia Wastewater Treatment Plant and Huntly Wastewater Treatment Plant combined shall not exceed 57 kilograms per day; Compliant

	)	ompliant
	viii) The median total phosphorus (TP) concentration shall not exceed 8 grams per cubic metre; C	Omphant
	ix) The median summer (December to May inclusive) total phosphorus (TPsummer) concenexceed 8 grams per cubic metre; Compliant	tration shall not
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Status Reasoning		
Action Required	Please take action to improve the wastewater treatment quality to compliant levels.	Moderate Non- Compliance
7	Decommissioning of the wetland and gravel filter and construction of the rock-lined channel sh by 23 April 2013.	all be completed
Evidence		
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
8	The consent holder shall decommission the wetland and gravel filter, and construct the rock-line a manner so as to minimise sediment losses. To this end the works shall be undertaken in such they are consistent with the Waikato Regional Council document titled "Erosion and Sed Guidelines for Soil Disturbing Activities" (Technical Report No.2009/02, dated January 2009).	a manner so that
Evidence		
Status Reasoning		
Action		
Required		Full Compliance
<b>Required</b> 9	At least one month prior to decommissioning the wetland and gravel filter, the consent holde Management Plan to the Waikato Regional Council which details as a minimum how the decom and construction of the rock-lined channel will be undertaken, the design plan for the rock-line how compliance will be achieved with condition 8. Note: The Waikato Regional Council reserves comment on the Management Plan submitted and any subsequent changes to the Management	er shall provide a missioning works ned channel, and the right to make
	Management Plan to the Waikato Regional Council which details as a minimum how the decom and construction of the rock-lined channel will be undertaken, the design plan for the rock-lined compliance will be achieved with condition 8. Note: The Waikato Regional Council reserves	er shall provide a missioning works ned channel, and the right to make
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Evidence Status Reasoning Action Required	Management Plan to the Waikato Regional Council which details as a minimum how the decom and construction of the rock-lined channel will be undertaken, the design plan for the rock-line how compliance will be achieved with condition 8. Note: The Waikato Regional Council reserves comment on the Management Plan submitted and any subsequent changes to the Management biochemical oxygen demand, suspended solids, or ammoniacal-nitrogen exceed 90% of the conspecified in condition 6 of this consent, for 2 of 3 consecutive years then a "trigger" level will be a holder shall design, build and commission the appropriate upgrade to the treatment process after the "trigger" level is reached. The upgrade undertaken shall be designed to reduce the percentile concentration, as applicable, for the parameter for which the trigger was reached to	er shall provide a missioning works ned channel, and the right to make Plan.  Not assessed  lay carbonaceous insented limits, as met. The consent within two years a median or 90th less than 80% of

Status Reasoning As a result of the trigger level for ammoniacal nitrogen being met the following action is required to be taken by the consent holder.  The consent holder shall design, build and commission the appropriate upgrade to the treatment process within two years after the "trigger" level is reached. The upgrade undertaken shall be designed to reduce the median or 90th percentile concentration, as applicable, for the parameter for which the trigger was reached to less than 80% of the consented limit for that parameter.  Action The consent holder shall design, build and commission the appropriate upgrade to the state treatment process within two years after the "trigger" level is reached which was 30 June 2021. That date for an upgrade is 1 July 2023 and a pala for the upgrade to the plant should be submitted to WRC as soon as possible.  11.  Should the measured median concentration for total nitrogen (TN), total phosphorus (TP) or E.coll exceed 90% of the consented limits, as specified in condition 6 of this consent, for 2 of 3 consecutive years then a "trigger" level will be met. The consent holder shall design, build and commission the appropriate upgrade to the treatment process within two years after the "trigger" level is reached. The upgrade undertaken shall be designed to reduce the median concentration for the parameter for which the trigger was reached to less than 80% of the consented limit for that parameter.  Evidence The Trigger Level was met for TN median and summer median concentrations due to breaches in compliance years 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21.  Status Reasoning The consent holder shall design, build and commission the appropriate upgrade to reduce the median concentration for the parameter for which the trigger was reached to less than 80% of the consented limit, as a parameter.  Action Required  The consent holder is required to design, build and commission the appropriate upgrade to reduce the median concentration for the parameter for which the trigger was reached to less than			
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			Full Compliance
	14		ng the treatment



	for 20-21 compliance period the ratio was 3.4			
	Compliance Period	PWWF (m³/d)	ADWF (m³/d)	Ratio (PWWF/ADWF)
	July '16 - June '17	6,643	1,280	5.2
	July '17 - June '18	4,929	1,220	4.0
	July '18 - June '19	4,385	1,210	3.6
	July '19 - June '20	3,897	1,200	3.2
	July '20 - June '21	4,189	1,230	3.4
Status Reasoning				
Action Required				Full Compliance
17	The consent holder shall define a sampling lo for monitoring the parameters in conditions 5 to the satisfaction of Waikato Regional Counc	and 6. The location(		
Evidence				
Status Reasoning				
Action Required				Full Compliance
18	The consent holder shall take grab samples location specified in condition 17 of this con and 6. E.coli grab samples shall be taken on a	sent, for the purpose		
Evidence				
Status Reasoning				
Action Required				Full Compliance
19	All wastewater quality analyses shall be unde used shall be appropriate for the wastewater			nt laboratory. All methods
Evidence				
Status Reasoning				
Action Required				Full Compliance
20	The consent holder shall prepare an Operatic qualified and experienced person and shall do ensure compliance with the conditions of this the Plan shall include the following matters: it plans for the wastewater treatment facility construction of upgrades to the treatment monitoring and maintenance procedures to be monitoring to be carried out to ensure effect sampling location plan; vi) A schedule of the contingency plans to address anticipated var routine maintenance and all repairs that are protocols; ix) The current infiltration manage for improving and/or reviewing the plant monitoring to the continuous control within six months of commencement required as a result of any changes in plant plan shall be provided to Waikato Regional Waikato Regional Council reserves the right	etail how the treatments consent and consents of the score of the scor	ent system is to be on the 119643, 119644 are wastewater treatment of the sequence of the deslution of the deslution of the deslution of the sequence of the s	perated and maintained to and 119645. As a minimum ent plant including as-built, timing and methods of of the routine inspection, peration; iv) A schedule of a consent conditions; v) A che detailed response and Procedures for recording ponsibility and notification dging pond; xi) Procedures and with Waikato Regional dupdated annually and as a copy of the management quest to do so. Note: The

submitted and any subsequent changes to the Plan. Evidence i) A description of the wastewater treatment plant including as-built plans for the wastewater treatment facilities; Compliant with the description but no as-builts were included. ii) A description of the sequence, timing and methods of construction of upgrades to the treatment plant; the O&M Plan states: There are no planned upgrade works for the plant. There are a couple of matters that are still outstanding at the time of this update of the O & M Plan. These include: The remaining sludge that is stored in the storage pond needs to be removed and the remainder of the pond area converted to Geotube pad; There would be an advantage in installing a rectangular discharge weir at the inlet to the Johnson screw screen to prevent the oxidation being accidentally lowered if certain valves are left in the "open" position or if the volume processed through the Actiflo is excessive for a few days. As the connected population increases the quality of organic treatment in the oxidation pond will deteriorate and further in-pond treatment may be required. The quality of the effluent from the pond needs to be monitored regularly and upgrade works planned as needed. The upgrade to inpond treatment is likely to require additional aeration by way of bottom-deployed air diffusers, possibly with Aqua Mats – such upgrades could be staged. iii) A description and schedule of the routine inspection, monitoring and maintenance procedures to be undertaken to ensure effective plant operation; - Compliant iv) A schedule of monitoring to be carried out to ensure effective plant operation and compliance with consent conditions; - Compliant v) A sampling location plan; Non-compliant as no sampling location plan is included in the plan vi) A schedule of the treatment plant critical aspects and the detailed response and contingency plans to address anticipated variations from normal plant operation; Compliant vii) Procedures for recording routine maintenance and all repairs that are undertaken; Compliant but could be viii) Chain of command, responsibility and notification protocols; Non-compliant as the listed staff have nearly all moved on from WDC ix) The current infiltration management plan; Non-compliant, some details about infiltration are included but no plan. x) The operation of the de-sludging pond; Non-compliant, no specific information on the operation of the desludging pond xi) Procedures for improving and/or reviewing the plant management plan. Non-compliant, no details on improving or reviewing the plan are included. This Plan shall be lodged with Waikato Regional Council within six months of commencement of this consent, and shall be reviewed and updated annually and as required as a result of any changes in plant operation or management. An electronic copy of the management plan shall be provided to Waikato Regional Council within 10 working days of a request to do so Status The plan was submitted in 2014 (doc ref 3516605) and has not been reviewed or updated since that time. Reasoning Action Please review and update the O&M plan to ensure the plan is relevant and matches the Low Risk Non-Required current site layout and processes that exist on site. Don't forget to update the contact details. Compliance 21 The treatment system and discharge to the Waikato River shall be operated, maintained and managed by appropriately experienced personnel in accordance with the Operations and Management Plan pursuant to condition 20 of this consent. Evidence WDC/WSL staff are appropriately experienced personnel however the O&M plan does not include mention of many aspects of the site operation that they currently undertake. Status Reasoning

Action Required		Full Compliance
22	The consent holder shall ensure contractors are made aware of the conditions of this resourensure compliance with those conditions.	rce consent and
Evidence		
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
23	In conjunction with consent 119643, the consent holder shall maintain and keep a Complaint complaints made about the treatment and discharge operations received by the consent hold shall record: i) The date, time and duration of the event/incident that has resulted in the colocation of the complainant when the event/incident was detected; iii) The possible cause of the weather conditions and wind direction at the site when the incident allegedly occurred, if scomplaint; v) Any corrective action undertaken by the consent holder in response to the complashall be made available to the Waikato Regional Council at all reasonable times. Complaints whon-compliance with the conditions of this resource consent shall be forwarded to the Waikato within 5 working days of the complaint being received.	der. The Register omplaint; ii) The incident; iv) The significant to the aint. The Register lich may indicate
Evidence	WDC operates a CRM complaints system	
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
24	The consent holder shall place and maintain a sign in the vicinity of the discharge to the Waikate way that it is conspicuous to river users, advertising of the presence of the wastewater discharge against the use of the location for swimming.	
Evidence	The dive report of March 2021 states that no sign is in place.	
Status Reasoning		
Action Required	Please ensure that WDC/WSL places and maintains a sign in the vicinity of the discharge to the Waikato River, in such a way that it is conspicuous to river users, advertising of the presence of the wastewater discharge and warning against the use of the location for swimming	Low Risk Non- Compliance
25	The consent holder shall maintain landscape and screen planting as detailed in the report titled Council Ngaruawahia Waste Water Treatment Visual Analysis", dated March 1998, and recor Regional Council's document system numbered 67984.	
Evidence		
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Not assessed
26	The consent holder shall be responsible for any erosion that occurs as a result of the exercise of for any erosion works that become necessary to preserve the integrity and stability of the bank River. Note: A separate resource consent may be required as a result of the need to undertake works. Any such consent shall be obtained by the consent holder at their sole expense prior to undertaken.	s of the Waikato e erosion control
Evidence	No details or reports of any erosion issues at the Ngaruawahia site have been reported	
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Not assessed

27	The discharge to the Waikato River shall be via a multi-port diffuser located on the bed of the Wa	ikato River.
Evidence		
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
28	Ports 2, 4, 6 and 8 of the diffuser, as numbered from the true right bank of the Waikato River, sh unless specifically permitted in writing by the Waikato Regional Council.	all remain closed
Evidence	Unable to assess which ports were open or blocked/closed due to a lack of information in the March 2021.	ne dive report of
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Low Risk Non- Compliance
29	The consent holder shall maintain the outfall diffuser in an operational state such that the dischalance 3, 5, 7 and 9 is uniform along the operational length of the diffuser and providing effective wastewater in the river flow.	
Evidence	Unable to assess which ports were open or blocked/closed due to a lack of information in the March 2021.	ne dive report of
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Low Risk Non- Compliance
30	The consent holder shall undertake a survey of the diffuser at six monthly intervals to demons with conditions 28 and 29 of this consent. The frequency of the surveys may be reduced to no less years following written request to and approval from the Waikato Regional Council. The result and any recommendation as to the frequency of future surveys shall be provided to the Waikato within 30 days of the survey.	ss than every two
Evidence	Dive surveys now undertaken at yearly intervals by mutual agreement between the consent hold	er and WRC
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
31	The consent holder shall forward the results of the monitoring undertaken pursuant to condition to the Waikato Regional Council, via electronic means, within one month of receipt of the result holder.	
Evidence		
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
32	The consent holder shall provide to the Waikato Regional Council, Waikato-Tainui Te Kauhanga (Claims and Environmental Unit), and Hopuhopu Manawhenua Roopu a written report by 30 year addressing the following: i) A summary of the monitoring results required by conditions consent for the year ending 30 June; ii) Critically analyse the monitoring data collected and emerging trends; iii) Comment on compliance with the conditions of this resource consent; iv) non-compliance or difficulties in achieving compliance with the conditions of this resource description of and a summary of the efficacy of any remedial works undertaken; v) Comment on and any remedial works planned and the efficacy of these works in subsequent reports; vi) considered relevant to the consent holder. A quarterly report shall be prepared and distribut	September each of this resource comment on any Any reasons for a consent and a infiltration rates Any other issue

	March, June and December of each year. These progress reports shall address the monitorin preceding 12 months, including the rolling 12 month median value. The reports shall be distrib Regional Council, Waikato-Tainui Te Kauhanganui Incorporated (Claims and Environmental Unit Manawhenua Roopu.	outed to Waikato
Evidence	WRC assumes this is being done	
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
33	The consent holder shall notify the Waikato Regional Council within 24 hours (where practicabl holder becoming aware of the limits specified in conditions 4, 5 and 6 of this resource consent be any accidental discharge, plant breakdown or other circumstance which is likely to result in consent being exceeded. The consent holder shall, within 10 working days of the incident occurrence written report to the Waikato Regional Council, identifying the breach, possible causes and steps compliance.	eing exceeded, or the limits of this curring, provide a
Evidence	The consent holder notifies WRC of any significant issue pertaining to plant performance.	
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
34	The consent holder shall as soon as reasonably practicable, notify the Waikato District Council (C – Operations Unit), Watercare Services Limited, and the Waikato Regional Council of an event to ras a consequence of an event, have a significant adverse effect on the quality of the water will River at the abstraction points of the Hopuhopu, Huntly, Te Kauwhata and Tuakau (Auckland) Water consent holder shall record the reasons why the situation occurred, the actions taken by the colon assessment of what measures can be adopted in the future to minimise such occurrences are request from the Waikato Regional Council provide a report to the Waikato Regional Council Officer of Health addressing this matter.	hat may in itself, ithin the Waikato iter Supplies. The nsent holder and and upon written
Evidence		
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Not assessed
35	The consent holder shall, by 30 September 2015 and every five years thereafter, submit to the Council a Wastewater Treatment Review Report, the scope of which shall include: i) An performance of the treatment system with respect to the initial plant design; ii) Identification of in the plant design or operation and the measures that are or have been undertaken to address that an anticipated (or actual) improvement in treated wastewater quality; iii) Timetable for the capital upgrade to cater for actual population growth; iv) A review of the trend in the combinate by the Ngaruawahia and Huntly wastewater treatment plant discharges to the total niphosphorus load in the Waikato River at Mercer Bridge since commencement of this consent.	analysis of the f any deficiencies hese deficiencies e treatment plant ned contribution
Evidence	A Wastewater Treatment Review Report was submitted to WRC in 2015. a second report was submitted in November 2021.	due in 2020 and
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Low Risk Non- Compliance
36	The consent holder shall retain suitably qualified persons to review the findings outlined "Alternatives Study" of the AEE, recorded on Waikato Regional Council's document system nur at intervals as below. The investigations shall include the feasibility, technology and econom collection, treatment and disposal systems for wastewater including land-based disposal optishall be carried out in consultation with Waikato-Tainui Te Kauhanganui Incorporated (Claims ar unit) and Hopuhopu Manawhenua Roopu and the findings of the reviews shall be adopted by	d in Appendix 5 nbered 1458402, ics of alternative ons. The reviews nd Environmental

	Authorisation Compliance:	Moderate Non- Compliance
Action Required	Report due by 31 March 2022	Not assessed
Status Reasoning		
Evidence	The third review shall cover the same matters and options as the second review and shall b reported to Waikato Regional Council, Waikato-Tainui Te Kauhanganui Incorporated (Claims ar unit) and the Hopuhopu Manawhenua Roopu not later than 31 March 2022. Note: Comn treatment upgrade is subject to condition 13.	nd Environmental
	Council for the proposed upgrade of the treatment system. The first review shall focus on alter options for removal of algae from the effluent after the pond systems and UV disinfection prior rock-lined channel. The review shall include (but not be limited to) consideration of sand filter, algae treatment system that has been identified by Hopuhopu Manawhenua Roopu. This completed and reported to the Waikato Regional Council, Waikato-Tainui Te Kauhanganui Incommental unit) and the Hopuhopu Manawhenua Roopu not later than 30 September review shall consider all aspects that are covered in Appendix 5 of the AEE and shall include (but) consideration of Bio-Filtro and an algae treatment system that has been identified by Hopuho Roopu. The review shall be completed and reported to Waikato Regional Council, Waikato-Tainui Incorporated (Claims and Environmental unit) and the Hopuhopu Manawhenua Roopu not late 2016. The third review shall cover the same matters and options as the second review and shand reported to Waikato Regional Council, Waikato-Tainui Te Kauhanganui Incorporate Environmental unit) and the Hopuhopu Manawhenua Roopu not later than 31 March 2022. Not of any treatment upgrade is subject to condition 13.	to the proposed Bio-Filtro and an review shall be proporated (Claims 2011. The second ut not be limited by Manawhenua it Te Kauhanganui er than 31 March all be completed (Claims and

# AUTH119643.01.01 - Air - odour

Activity Aut	horised: Discharge contaminants to air from activities associated with the Ngaruawahia WWTP	
Condition No.	Description	
1	The discharge to air shall be undertaken in general accordance with: i) The application for this rii) The document titled "Waikato District Council Ngaruawahia and Huntly Wastewater Re Project, Resource Consents Application: Assessment of Effects on the Environment" dated recorded on Waikato Regional Council's document system numbered 1458402; and iii) The "Waikato District Council Ngaruawahia and Huntly Wastewater Resource Consents Project, Re Application: Response to RMA Section 92(1) Requests for Further Information" dated August 20 on Waikato Regional Council's document system numbered 1531323; subject to the conditions b prevail should any inconsistency occur between the conditions and the above documents.	source Consents March 2009 and document titled esource Consents 009 and recorded
Evidence		
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
2	The consent holder shall ensure contractors are made aware of the conditions of this resournsure compliance with those conditions.	irce consent and
Evidence		
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
3	The consent holder shall pay to the Waikato Regional Council any administrative charge fixed in section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991, or any charge prescribed in accordance with under section 360 of the Resource Management Act.	

Evidence		
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
4	The operation, management and maintenance of the Ngaruawahia Wastewater Treatment Plar in any objectionable odours at or beyond the boundary of the properties on which the treatment	
Evidence	No complaints or reports of any objectionable odours at or beyond the boundary of the prop compliance period	
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
5	There shall be no discharge of airborne contaminants as a result of the activities authorised consent to the extent that it causes an adverse effect at or beyond the boundary of the subject p the treatment plant is located. Note: For the purpose of this consent, the Waikato Regional Co guidelines for assessment in chapter 6.4 of the Waikato Regional Plan to determine whether ac occurring from the discharge of odour or particulate matter.	roperty on which uncil will use the
Evidence	No complaints or reports of any airborne contaminants at or beyond the boundary of the prop compliance period	erties during this
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
6	The consent holder shall prepare an Odour Management Plan. This Plan shall be prepared by a and experienced person and shall detail the methods and operational procedures adopted by the to ensure compliance with the conditions of this consent. The Plan may form part of the Management Plan specified in consent 119642. As a minimum the Odour Management Plan following matters: i) A description of the entire wastewater treatment facility; ii) A description, monitoring and maintenance procedures to be undertaken to ensure effective pla compliance with consent conditions; iii) Details of operational and maintenance procedures to release from the inlet screen; iv) Details of operational and maintenance procedures to miniming from the oxidation pond; v) Details of operational and maintenance procedures to miniming the oxidation pond sludge drying and handling; vi) Details of contingency plans and procedure or equipment failure at the treatment plant; vii) Details of the odour complaints procedure and response procedure. This Plan shall be lodged with Waikato Regional Council within commencement of this consent, and shall be reviewed and updated annually and as required a changes in plant operation or management. An electronic copy of the management plan shall Waikato Regional Council within 10 working days of a request to do so. Note: The Waikato reserves the right to make comment on the Operations and Management Plan submitted and changes to the Plan.	e consent holder Operations and shall address the ption of routine nt operation and minimise odour se odour release ur release during dures to address e, record keeping n six months of as a result of any Il be provided to Regional Council
Evidence	i) A description of the entire wastewater treatment facility; compliant	
	ii) A description of routine inspection, monitoring and maintenance procedures to be under effective plant operation and compliance with consent conditions; compliant	taken to ensure
	iii) Details of operational and maintenance procedures to minimise odour release from the inl compliance as no specific procedures to minimise odours are mentioned. Sniff tests are required visited.	
	iv) Details of operational and maintenance procedures to minimise odour release from the oxida compliance - no specific measures relating to the oxidation pond are included	tion pond; Partial
	v) Details of operational and maintenance procedures to minimise odour release during pond	d desludging and

	vi) Details of contingency plans and procedures to address power or equipment failure at the treatment planet of Non-compliant - no specific contingencies mentioned relating to power or equipment failure and odours.	
	vii) Details of the odour complaints procedure, record keeping and response procedure. Partial compliance some information pertaining to the odour complaints procedure is included	
	This Plan shall be lodged with Waikato Regional Council within six months of commencement of shall be reviewed and updated annually and as required as a result of any changes in plan management. An electronic copy of the management plan shall be provided to Waikato Region 10 working days of a request to do so.	ant operation or
Status Reasoning	There is limited information in the O&M Plan relating to many aspects of the condition that are re	equired
Action Required	Please review the O&M plan and ensure that requirements in the conditions are covered in the plan.	Low Risk Non- Compliance
7	In conjunction with consent 119642, the consent holder shall maintain and keep a Complaints Register for all complaints made about the treatment and discharge operations received by the consent holder. The Register shall record: i) The date, time and duration of the event/incident that has resulted in the complaint; ii) The location of the complainant when the event/incident was detected; iii) The possible cause of the incident; iv) The weather conditions and wind direction at the site when the incident allegedly occurred, if significant to the complaint; v) Any corrective action undertaken by the consent holder in response to the complaint. The Register shall be made available to the Waikato Regional Council at all reasonable times. Complaints which may indicate non-compliance with the conditions of this resource consent shall be forwarded to the Waikato Regional Council within 5 working days of the complaint being received.	
Evidence	WDC operates a CRM complaints system	
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
8	The consent holder shall notify the Waikato Regional Council of any incident, including power, mechanical or process failure, leading to a significant emission of odour from the plant, within 24 hours of the incident being brought to the attention of the consent holder, or the next working day. A written report shall be forwarded to the Waikato Regional Council within seven working days of the event occurring describing the incident, the reasons for it occurring, its consequences (including the nature of any complaints), the measures taken to remedy or mitigate its effects, and any measures taken to prevent a recurrence of the event, including any changes proposed to the Odour Management Plan.	
Evidence	WDC/WSL notifies WRC as required of any incidents	
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
	Authorization Compliance	Low Risk Non- Compliance
	Authorisation Compliance:	

# AUTH119644.01.01 - Land - sewage

Activity Authorised: Discharge treated municipal wastewater sludge onto land during pond de-sludging from activities associated with the Ngaruawahia WWTP

Condition No.	Description	
1	The sludge removal and treatment operation shall be undertaken in general accordance with: i) The application for this resource consent; ii) The document titled "Waikato District Council Ngaruawahia and Huntly Wastewater Resource Consents Project. Resource Consents Application: Assessment of Effects on the Environment" dated	

rch 2009 and recorded on Waikato Regional Council's document system numbered 1456 cument titled "Waikato District Council Ngaruawahia and Huntly Wastewater Resource Consents Application: Response to RMA Section 92(1) Requests for Further Information of and recorded on Waikato Regional Council's document system numbered 153132 additions below which shall prevail should any inconsistency occur between the condition cuments.  The consent holder shall ensure contractors are made aware of the conditions of this resource compliance with those conditions.	Consents Project, ion" dated August 3; subject to the ns and the above
	ource consent and
	ource consent and
	ource consent and
	Full Compliance
	Full Compliance
	Full Compliance
At the beginning of each programme of sludge removal from the oxidation pond or holding pond, the consent holder shall inform the Waikato Regional Council in writing, at least 10 working days prior to commencement or each event, of the start date of the works authorised by this resource consent.	
sludge disposal operations have been undertaken during this compliance period	
	Not assessed
	Full Compliance
	Sludge disposal operations have been undertaken during this compliance period  Authorisation Compliance:

### AUTH119645.01.01 - Bed - structure

Activity Authorised: Use, upgrade and maintain an outflow pipeline structure including an outflow diffuser on the bed of the Waikato River for the discharge of treated wastewater from the Ngaruawahia WWTP

Condition No.	Description
1	The outfall structure shall be maintained and operated in general accordance with: i) The application for this resource consent; ii) The document titled "Waikato District Council Ngaruawahia and Huntly Wastewater Resource Consents Project, Resource Consents Application: Assessment of Effects on the Environment" dated March 2009 and recorded on Waikato Regional Council's document system numbered 1458402; and iii) The document titled "Waikato District Council Ngaruawahia and Huntly Wastewater Resource Consents Project, Resource Consents Application: Response to RMA Section 92(1) Requests for Further Information" dated August 2009 and recorded on Waikato Regional Council's document system numbered 1531323; subject to the conditions below, which shall prevail should any inconsistency occur between the conditions and the above documents.
Evidence	
Status Reasoning	
Action Required	Full Compliance
2	The consent holder shall ensure contractors are made aware of the conditions of this resource consent and ensure compliance with those conditions.
Evidence	

Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
4	The discharge of treated wastewater to the Waikato River shall be via a multi-port diffuser located on the bed of the Waikato River.	
Evidence		
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
5	Ports 2, 4, 6 and 8 of the diffuser, as numbered from the true right bank of the Waikato River, sh unless specifically permitted in writing by the Waikato Regional Council.	all remain closed
Evidence	see dive survey from March 2021 (doc ref 20203770 )	
	5 diffusers were found, and the following observations made: Diffuser 1: 150mm clearance above observed. Diffuser 2: 150mm clearance above riverbed; no flow observed. Diffuser 3: Just clear observed. Diffuser 4: 150mm clear of riverbed; flow observed. Diffuser 5: Just clear of riverbed; no damage or debris was found, and the warning sign was clearly visible from the river	of riverbed; flow
Status Reasoning	Unable to assess compliance as the dive survey failed to account for all the ports and did not re that were found as to their location from the bank etc.	ference the ones
	only 3 ports were found to be flowing of the 5 located.	
Action Required	Please ensure dive company provides the relevant information as per the consent condition requirements	Low Risk Non- Compliance
6	The consent holder shall maintain the outfall diffuser in an operational state such that the discha 3, 5, 7 and 9 is uniform along the operational length of the diffuser and providing effective of wastewater in the river flow.	
Evidence	No damage or debris was found. The screen was cleaned and photos captured. What appears to be a soft patch over a small hole in the pipeline was found partially detached. No warning sign was found  Only 3 ports were found to be flowing of the 5 located. Please ensure that 4 ports are operational	
Status Reasoning	25% of the required discharge ports are not visibly functioning, thus reducing the level of diffusion required. Now warning sign visible. a patched hole was losing its protective covering.	
Action Required	Ensure that 4 ports of the diffuser are operational as a minimum, install a warning sign on the bank that is visible to river users.	Full Compliance
7	The consent holder shall undertake a survey of the diffuser at six monthly intervals to demonstrate compliance with conditions 5 and 6 of this consent. The frequency of the surveys may be reduced to no less than every two years following written request to and approval from the Waikato Regional Council. The results of each survey and any recommendation as to the frequency of future surveys shall be provided to the Waikato Regional Council within 30 days of the survey.	
Evidence	this has been reduced to annually by mutual agreement	
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
8	The consent holder shall notify the Waikato Regional Council in writing at least five working commencement of survey works.	ng days prior to

Evidence		
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Not assessed
9	The consent holder shall be responsible for the structural integrity and maintenance of the out for the provision and maintenance of any erosion control works that become necessary to prese integrity of the outfall, and/or to control erosion as a result of exercise of this consent. Any such the satisfaction of the Waikato Regional Council. Note: A separate resource consent may be recoff the need to undertake erosion control works. Any such consent shall be obtained by the other sole expense prior to any works being undertaken.	rve the structural works shall be to quired as a result
Evidence		
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Not assessed
10	Any and all earthmoving machinery, pumps and generators associated with use and maintenance shall be operated in a manner which ensures that spillages of fuel, oil and similar contaminants are prevented, particularly during refueling and machinery servicing and maintenance. Refueling and lubrication activities shall be carried out away from any surface water such that any spillage can be contained and does not enter any surface water or unsealed ground.	
Evidence		
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Not assessed
11	The consent holder shall maintain the structure so that no part of the structure is lost (e.g. bre water) or results in a navigational hazard. Any material that is lost from the structure shall retrieved by the consent holder. Should the material lost be a hazard to navigation the Waikato shall be informed immediately.	be immediately
Evidence		
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Not assessed
	Authorisation Compliance:	Low Risk Non- Compliance
	-	

# AUTH119646.01.01 - Water - sewage

Activity Authorised: Discharge treated wastewater (via seepage) to land and groundwater from activities associated with the Ngaruawahia WWTP

Condition No.	Description
1	The discharge shall be undertaken in general accordance with: i) The application for this resource consent; ii) The document titled "Waikato District Council Ngaruawahia and Huntly Wastewater Resource Consents Project, Resource Consents Application: Assessment of Effects on the Environment" dated March 2009 and recorded on Waikato Regional Council's document system numbered 1458402; and iii) The document titled "Waikato District Council Ngaruawahia and Huntly Wastewater Resource Consents Project, Resource Consents Application: Response to RMA Section 92(1) Requests for Further Information" dated August 2009 and recorded on Waikato Regional Council's document system numbered 1531323; subject to the conditions below, which shall prevail should any inconsistency occur between the conditions and the above documents.
Evidence	

Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
4	The consent holder shall manage and maintain the integrity of all ponds, wetlands, rock structures that form any part of the wastewater treatment process so as to minimise the volume such structures so far as practicable.	
Evidence		
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
	Authorisation Compliance:	Full Compliance

### AUTH124828.01.01 - Land - solid waste

Activity Authorised: To discharge biosolids to land		
Condition No.	Description	
1	The discharge of sewage sludge to land shall be undertaken in general accordance with: i) resource consent; ii) The document titled "Ngaruawahia Biosolids Disposal Consenting Pro Application: Assessment of Effects on the Environment" dated June 2012 and recorded Council's document system numbered 2209397 and iii) The document titled "Section 92 consent application for the disposal of biosolids to land", dated 25 June 2012 and recorded Council's document system numbered 2211843; iv) Technical Note dated 26 September consultant Garret Hall of MWH following meeting to discuss issues relating to biosolid recorded on Waikato Regional Council's document system numbered 2271841	ect, Resource Consent on Waikato Regional Prequest for resource d on Waikato Regional 2012 from applicants
Evidence	No sludge discharge has occurred during this compliance period	
Status Reasoning		
Action Required		Full Compliance
	Authorisation Compliance:	Not assessed

# 4 SUMMARY OF COMPLIANCE

Based on the conditions selected for monitoring, compliance has been assessed as:

Authorisation	Authorisation Description	Compliance Status
AUTH119642.01.02	Discharge up to 11,200 cubic metres per day of treated wastewater from the Ngaruawahia WWTP into the Waikato River	
AUTH119643.01.01	Discharge contaminants to air from activities associated with the Ngaruawahia WWTP	Low Risk Non-Compliance
AUTH119644.01.01	Discharge treated municipal wastewater sludge onto land during pond de-sludging from activities associated with the Ngaruawahia WWTP	·

AUTH119645.01.01	Use, upgrade and maintain an outflow pipeline structure including an outflow diffuser on the bed of the Waikato River for the discharge of treated wastewater from the Ngaruawahia WWTP	
AUTH119646.01.01	Discharge treated wastewater (via seepage) to land and groundwater from activities associated with the Ngaruawahia WWTP	
AUTH124828.01.01	To discharge biosolids to land	Not assessed

**Overall Site Compliance:** 

**Moderate Non-Compliance** 

#### 5 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

The performance of the Ngaruawahia WWTP has been deteriorating over time and this has probably been due to the build up of sludge within the main pond and issues in operating the actiflo system. The site is currently having the pond desludged and some improvement is expected after that process has been completed. Unfortunately, the performance of the treatment system has triggered the consent limits that require an upgrade solution. The determinants in question are ammoniacal nitrogen and total nitrogen. The consent holders annual report states:

"The exceedances were sufficient to meet the TN and ammoniacal nitrogen Trigger Levels detailed in Condition 10 and Condition 11 of the Resource Consent. The outcome of meeting the Trigger Levels is that the consent holder must endeavour to carry out upgrades that will bring the measurements of interest (TN and ammoniacal nitrogen) down to 80% of the compliance values. Pond desludging has been scheduled to satisfy this requirement (Q4 2021)."

#### Condition 11 of the consent states:

The consent holder is required to design, build and commission the appropriate upgrade to the treatment process within two years after the "trigger" level is reached. the trigger level was reached by 30 June 2021. therefore, the date for the upgrade to be commissioned by 1 July 2023.

Therefore, we should expect to see full compliance achieved for these two determinants by July 2023.

The Operations and Maintenance manual was last reviewed and updated in 2014, and a review is well over due to ensure the O&M manual matches the actual processes and equipment currently on site.

The dive survey undertaken annually needs to ensure that the information required for assessment in the conditions is adequately reported on in the survey report. The diffuser ports need to be identified and a reference given as to which end of the diffuser the comments and photos are taken from.

### **6 SUMMARY OF ACTIONS REQUIRED**

The following actions are required to be undertaken:

Resource consent	Condition	Action Required	
AUTH119642.01.02	10	The consent holder shall design, build and commission the appropriate upgrade to the treatment process within two years after the "trigger" level is reached which was 30 June 2021. That date for an upgrade is 1 July 2023 and a plan for the upgrade to the plant should be submitted to WRC as soon as possible.	
AUTH119642.01.02	11	The consent holder is required to design, build and commission the appropriate upgrade to the treatment process within two years after the "trigger" level is reached. the trigger level was reached by 30 June 2021. therefore the date for the upgrade to be commissioned by 1 July 2023.	
AUTH119642.01.02	20	Please review and update the O&M plan to ensure the plan is relevant and matches the current site layout and processes that exist on site. Don't forget to update the contact details.	
of the discharge to the Waikato River, in such a way conspicuous to river users, advertising of the present		Please ensure that WDC/WSL places and maintains a sign in the vicinity of the discharge to the Waikato River, in such a way that it is conspicuous to river users, advertising of the presence of the wastewater discharge and warning against the use of the location for swimming	
AUTH119642.01.02 36 Report due by 31 March 2022		Report due by 31 March 2022	
AUTH119643.01.01	.01 6 Please review the O&M plan and ensure that requirements in the conditions are covered in the plan.		
AUTH119645.01.01	5	Please ensure dive company provides the relevant information as per the consent condition requirements	
AUTH119645.01.01	Ensure that 4 ports of the diffuser are operational as a minimum, a warning sign on the bank that is visible to river users.		

### 7 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL

I recommend the following actions for Ngaruawahia WWTP for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021:

- Issue a Formal Warning for the non-compliances attained during the compliance period.
- Issue a Letter of Direction requiring a response as to how they intend to improve compliance following t limits being reached.
- The site to remain as a Focus Area 1 site due to the previous non-compliances and be audited again for the compliance period.

**Edward Prince** 

Senior Resource Officer - Infrastructure

**Resource Use** 

Date: 26 January 2022

### 7.1 Decision

I have reviewed this audit report and agree with the recommendations.



Hugh Keane
Team Leader - Infrastructure
Resource Use

Date: 26 January 2022

APPENDIX 1 Compliance Rating System	
Compliance Status	Compliance Grade
	Not Assessed
	Full Compliance Full compliance with all relevant consent conditions, plan rules, regulations and national environmental standards.
	Low Risk Non-Compliance  Non-compliance with some of the relevant consent conditions, plan rules, regulations and national environmental standards.  Non-compliance carries a low risk of adverse environmental effects or is technical in nature (e.g. failure to submit a monitoring report).
	Moderate Non-Compliance  Non-compliance with most of the relevant consent conditions, plan rules, regulations and national environmental standards, where there are some environmental consequences and/or there is a moderate risk of adverse environmental effects.
	Significant Non-Compliance  Non-compliance with many of the relevant consent conditions, plan rules, regulations and national environmental standards, where there are significant environmental consequences and/or a high risk of adverse environmental effects.