

Concrete Batching Plants

Monitoring Programme

Annual Report

2022-2023

Technical Report 2023-56



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Taranaki Regional Council
Private Bag 713
Stratford

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Executive summary

This report for the period July 2022 to June 2023 describes the monitoring programme implemented by the Taranaki Regional Council (the Council) to assess the environmental performance and consent compliance of two concrete batching plants within the Taranaki Region. The report also details the results of the monitoring undertaken and assesses the environmental effects of their activities. The two concrete batching plants covered by this programme are located in Hawera and Stratford.

The Council's monitoring programme for both the Hawera and Stratford plants included two inspections, and provision for sampling of the discharges and of the receiving waters in the vicinity of each site.

Firth Industries operate a concrete batching plant located on Glover Road, Hawera in the Tangahoe catchment. The site operation involves mixing of cement, aggregate, water and additives in concrete mixing trucks for delivery to end users. Recently it has been used only as a satellite plant. The site is also used for the storage of aggregate, sand and builders mix for retail sale.

Firth Industries holds one resource consent, which includes a total of seven conditions setting out the requirements that they must satisfy. The consent allows for the discharge of treated wastewater onto and into land and into an unnamed tributary of the Tawhiti Stream.

During the monitoring period, Firth Industries demonstrated a good level of environmental performance and high level of administrative performance.

There was a breach of consent conditions due to tracking of sand and silt from the site at the entry/exit point, which resulted in deposition in the roadside gutter. As a result council issued an abatement notice. The consent holder was quick to respond and addressed the issue within the time-frame specified thus complying with the abatement notice. Two subsequent site inspections noted the improvement and no further enforcement action was needed.

Fletcher Concrete and Infrastructure Ltd (Fletcher Concrete)'s subsidiary Firth Industries operates a concrete batching plant on a site just north of Stratford on State Highway 3 in the Kahouri catchment. Activities at the site include the storage and mixing of aggregate, cement, water and additives. The pre-cast facility and sales depot operated by Humes Pipeline Systems has been established.

Fletcher Concrete holds one resource consent, which includes a total of 13 conditions setting out the requirements that the consent holder must satisfy. The consent allows for the discharge of stormwater and wastewater onto and into land and into an unnamed tributary of the Kahouri Stream.

During the monitoring period, Fletcher Concrete and Infrastructure Ltd (Fletcher Concrete) demonstrated a good level of environmental performance and high level of administrative performance.

There was a breach of consent conditions identified from sampling undertaken during a heavy rainfall event. Levels of total suspended solids exceeded those allowed for in condition 7. Subsequently, mitigation methods have been implemented or are imminent. These include the use of hay bales at the discharge point, installation of a silt fence in the run-off drain and the relocation of aggregate. Sampling will be undertaken again once all mitigation is in place.

For reference, in the 2022-2023 year, consent holders were found to achieve a high level of environmental performance and compliance for 878 (87%) of a total of 1007 consents monitored through the Taranaki tailored monitoring programmes, while for another 96 (10%) of the consents a good level of environmental performance and compliance was achieved. A further 27 (3%) of consents monitored required improvement in their performance, while the remaining one (<1%) achieved a rating of poor.

This report includes recommendations for the 2023-2024 year.

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1 Introduction

1.1 Compliance monitoring programme reports and the Resource Management Act 1991

1.1.1 Introduction

This report is for the period July 2022 to June 2023 by the Taranaki Regional Council (the Council) on the monitoring programme associated with resource consents held by two concrete batching plants in the Taranaki Region, Firth Industries on Glover Road in Hawera, and Fletcher Concrete and Infrastructure Ltd (Fletcher Concrete) on Mountain Road in Stratford.

The report includes the results and findings of the monitoring programme implemented by the Council in respect of the consents held by Firth Industries, and Fletcher Concrete that relate to discharges of stormwater and/or wastewater onto and into land and/or into water within the Tangahoe, and Patea catchments respectively.

1.1.2 Structure of this report

Section 1 of this report is a background section. It sets out general information about:

- consent compliance monitoring under the *Resource Management Act 1991* (RMA) and the Council's obligations;
- the Council's approach to monitoring sites through annual programmes;
- the resource consents held by Firth Industries, and Fletcher Concrete in the Tangahoe and Patea catchments;
- the nature of the monitoring programme in place for the period under review; and

Each consent holder is covered in a separate section of the report (**Section 2, 3. and 4**). The subsections within each section of the report cover the following content:

Subsection 1 provides a description of the activities and operations conducted in the consent holders' site/catchment.

Subsection 2 presents the results of monitoring during the period under review, including scientific and technical data.

Subsection 3 discusses the results, their interpretations, and their significance for the environment.

Subsection 4 presents recommendations to be implemented in the 2022-2023 monitoring year.

A glossary of common abbreviations and scientific terms, and a bibliography, are presented at the end of the report.

1.1.3 The Resource Management Act 1991 and monitoring

The RMA primarily addresses environmental 'effects' which are defined as positive or adverse, temporary or permanent, past, present or future, or cumulative. Effects may arise in relation to:

- a. the neighbourhood or the wider community around an activity, and may include cultural and social-economic effects;
- b. physical effects on the locality, including landscape, amenity and visual effects;
- c. ecosystems, including effects on plants, animals, or habitats, whether aquatic or terrestrial;

- d. natural and physical resources having special significance (for example recreational, cultural, or aesthetic); and
- e. risks to the neighbourhood or environment.

In drafting and reviewing conditions on discharge permits, and in implementing monitoring programmes, the Council is recognising the comprehensive meaning of 'effects' in as much as is appropriate for each activity. Monitoring programmes are not only based on existing permit conditions, but also on the obligations of the RMA to assess the effects of the exercise of consents. In accordance with Section 35 of the RMA, the Council undertakes compliance monitoring for consents and rules in regional plans, and maintains an overview of the performance of resource users and consent holders. Compliance monitoring, including both activity and impact monitoring, enables the Council to continually re-evaluate its approach and that of consent holders to resource management and, ultimately, through the refinement of methods and considered responsible resource utilisation, to move closer to achieving sustainable development of the region's resources.

1.1.4 Evaluation of environmental and administrative performance

Besides discussing the various details of the performance and extent of compliance by the consent holders, this report also assigns a rating as to each Company's environmental and administrative performance during the period under review. The rating categories are high, good, improvement required and poor for both environmental and administrative performance. The interpretations for these ratings are found in Appendix II.

For reference, in the 2022-2023 year, consent holders were found to achieve a high level of environmental performance and compliance for 878 (87%) of a total of 1007 consents monitored through the Taranaki tailored monitoring programmes, while for another 96 (10%) of the consents a good level of environmental performance and compliance was achieved. A further 27 (3%) of consents monitored required improvement in their performance, while the remaining one (<1%) achieved a rating of poor.¹

1.2 Resource consents

1.2.1 Water discharge permit summary

Firth Industries, and Fletcher Concrete hold water permits 1274-3 and 5026-2, the details of which are summarised in the table below. Summaries of the conditions attached to Firth Industries and Fletcher Concrete's permits are set out in Section 3.3.3 and 4.3.3 of this report.

A summary of the various consent types issued by the Council is included in Appendix I, as are copies of all permits held by the consent holders during the period under review.

Table 1 Summary of the concrete batching plants' resource consents

Consent holder	Consent no.	Purpose	Review	Expiry
Firth Industries (Division of Fletcher Concrete and Infrastructure Ltd)	1274-3	To discharge treated wastewater from a concrete batching plant via settling ponds onto and into land and into an unnamed tributary of the Tawhiti Stream in the Tangahoe catchment	June 2022	1 June 2028

¹ The Council has used these compliance grading criteria for more than 19 years. They align closely with the 4 compliance grades in the MfE Best Practice Guidelines for Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement, 2018

Consent holder	Consent no.	Purpose	Review	Expiry
Fletcher Concrete and Infrastructure Ltd	5026-2	To discharge stormwater and wastewater from a concrete product manufacturing and storage site onto and into land and into an unnamed tributary of the Kahouri Stream in the Patea catchment	June 2022	1 June 2028

1.2.2 Air emission summary

The air emissions from each of the two sites have previously been assessed as a permitted activity as the activities at the sites comply with the requirements of Rule 13 of the *Regional Air Quality Plan for Taranaki* (RAQP).

Although not mandatory, Firth Industries and Fletcher Concrete had previously chosen to apply for certificates of compliance, which confirm that, at the time the applications were considered, the emissions to air from the sites complied with the RAQP, and that no resource consents were required to cover emissions to air from the sites at that time.

1.3 Monitoring programme

1.3.1 Introduction

Section 35 of the RMA sets obligations upon the Council to gather information, monitor and conduct research on the exercise of resource consents within the Taranaki region. The Council is also required to assess the effects arising from the exercising of these consents and report upon them.

The Council may therefore make and record measurements of physical and chemical parameters, take samples for analysis, carry out surveys and inspections, conduct investigations, and seek information from consent holders.

The monitoring programme for the Firth Industries and Fletcher Concrete sites consisted of three primary components.

1.3.2 Programme liaison and management

There is generally a significant investment of time and resources by the Council in:

- ongoing liaison with the resource consent holder over consent conditions and their interpretation and application;
- discussion over monitoring requirements;
- preparation for any consent reviews, renewals or new consent applications;
- advice on the Council's environmental management strategies and content of regional plans and;
- consultation on associated matters.

1.3.3 Site Inspections

The annual inspection schedule under this programme is for two site inspections per site. With regard to consents for the discharge to water, the main points of interest were plant processes with potential or actual discharges to receiving watercourses, including contaminated stormwater and process wastewaters. Air inspections focused on plant processes with associated actual and potential emission sources and characteristics, including potential odour, dust, noxious or offensive emissions. Sources of data being collected by the consent holder were identified and accessed, so that performance in respect of operation,

internal monitoring, and supervision could be reviewed by the Council. The neighbourhood was also surveyed for environmental effects.

1.3.4 Chemical sampling

During the year under review Council undertook sampling of both the discharges from the site and/or the water quality upstream and downstream of the discharge point and mixing zone, if discharges were occurring from the site at the time of inspection.

The number and type of samples collected at each of the sites during the year under review are shown in Table 2.

The samples were analysed primarily for contaminants typical of this type of industry, that is, pH, oil and grease, and suspended solids.

Table 2 Summary of the number and type of surface water samples collected.

Consent holder	Number of discharge samples	Number of receiving water samples
Firth Industries	-	-
Fletcher Concrete	1	2

1.3.5 Investigations, interventions, and incidents

The monitoring programme for the year was based on what was considered to be an appropriate level of monitoring, review of data, and liaison with the consent holders. During the year matters may arise which require additional activity by the Council, for example provision of advice and information, or investigation of potential or actual causes of non-compliance or failure to maintain good practices. A pro-active approach that in the first instance avoids issues occurring is favoured.

For all significant compliance issues, as well as complaints from the public, the Council maintains a database record. The record includes events where the individual/organisation concerned has itself notified the Council. Details of any investigation and corrective action taken are recorded for non-compliant events.

Complaints may be alleged to be associated with a particular site. If there is potentially an issue of legal liability, the Council must be able to prove by investigation that the identified individual/organisation is indeed the source of the incident (or that the allegation cannot be proven).

Table 3 below sets out details of any incidents recorded, additional investigations, or interventions required by the Council in relation to the Company's activities during the 2022-2023 period. This table presents details of all events that required further investigation or intervention regardless of whether these were found to be compliant or not.

Table 3 Incidents, investigations, and interventions summary table

Date	Company	Details	Compliant (Y/N)	Enforcement Action Taken?	Outcome
20/10/2022	Firth (Hawera)	Silt and sand tracking from site onto road and gutter	N	Abatement notice	Maintenance increased. Tracking reduced.

Date	Company	Details	Compliant (Y/N)	Enforcement Action Taken?	Outcome
17/03/2023	Fletcher Industries (Stratford)	Sampling revealed an exceedance of suspended solids in the discharge limits specified in the Resource Consent	N	No	Hay bales put in place. Plans to install a new sump, move aggregate further away from run off area, silt fence to be installed in runoff drain, organic binder to be used on unsealed area and relocating truckwash.

2 Firth Industries (Division of Fletcher Concrete and Infrastructure Ltd)

2.1 Process Description

Firth Industries operate a concrete batching plant on a site at Glover Road, Hawera in the Tangahoe catchment.

The operation primarily involves the mixing of aggregate, cement, water and additives in a concrete truck mixing bowl in order to produce concrete which is then delivered to the end user. Builder's mix and aggregate are also retailed from the site.

A concreting operation was established on this site prior to 1967. Firth Industries have been operating at the site since the 1980's.

Wastewater on the site consists of stormwater from around the concrete batching plant and aggregate storage areas, as well as water from washing the concrete trucks. Therefore, the wastewater typically contains some cement deposits and other sediments. Wastewater is treated in a three pond settling system, with water recycled from the third pond for truck washing and use in the concrete making process.

Sludge from the settling ponds is removed periodically and stored on site to dry. Excess concrete from the returning trucks is also off loaded at the site, and is then made into large blocks and sold to farmers and local contractors.



Figure 1 Location of Firth Industries site, Glover Road, Hawera

2.2 Results

2.2.1 Inspections

Routine inspections were undertaken on the 20 October, 2022 and 20 March 2023. A non - compliance was noted during the 20 October inspection and two subsequent follow-up inspections were undertaken on 25 October and 15 December 2022.



Figure 2 Location of Firth Industries provisional sampling sites

2.3 Discussion

2.3.1 Discussion of site performance

No complaints from the public were received regarding the effects of operations at the Firth Hawera site. However, the October inspection found there were issues with tracking from the site, i.e. vehicle movements transporting silt and sand off site, which was building up in the roadside gutter. It was noted that the area is swept weekly and was due to be swept the next day, however further work was needed to prevent this issue. This was deemed to be a non-compliance with condition 1 of the Resource Consent which states; "The consent holder shall at all times adopt the best practicable option, as defined in section 2 of the Resource Management Act 1991, to prevent or minimise any adverse effects on the environment from the exercise of this consent." As such an abatement notice was issued. The situation was similar on the first follow up visit (25 October) but greatly improved on the subsequent visit on 15 December 2022.

A further inspection was undertaken on 20 March 2023 which also found that the situation was much improved thus the abatement notice had been complied with.

Inspections following the issuing of the abatement notice indicate that operations at the Firth Industries site have been unlikely to have caused significant adverse effects on the receiving environment during the latter half of the 2022-2023 monitoring period. It was noted that there was no evidence of sediments being discharged from the site into the tributary/wetland at the times of inspection.

2.3.2 Evaluation of performance

A summary of Firth Industries' compliance record for the year under review is set out in Table 4.

Table 4 Summary of performance for Firth Industries consent 1274-3

<i>Purpose: To discharge treated wastewater from a concrete batching plant via settling ponds onto and into land and into an unnamed tributary of the Tawhiti Stream in the Tangahoe catchment</i>		
Condition requirement	Means of monitoring during period under review	Compliance achieved?
1. Best practicable option	Inspections of the site and systems	No
2. Discharge volume limit	Inspections of the site	Yes
3. Washwater to be directed for treatment prior to discharge	Inspections of the site	Yes
4. Maintain silt and sediment system	Inspections of site and records	Yes
5. Concentration limits	No discharge at time of inspection	N/A
6. Mixing zone effects	Inspections of site and receiving water	Yes
7. Optional review of conditions	Next optional review date June 2022	N/A
Overall assessment of consent compliance and environmental performance in respect of this consent		Good
Overall assessment of administrative performance in respect of this consent		High

During the 2022-2023 monitoring year, Firth Industries demonstrated a good level of environmental performance following the abatement notice on 26 October. Their administrative performance was rated high. Ratings are defined in Appendix II.

There was a breach of consent conditions due to vehicle tracking from the site. However, the effects on the receiving environment were mitigated by the quick response of the consent holder.

2.3.3 Recommendations from the 2021-2022 Annual Report

In the 2021-2022 Annual Report, it was recommended:

1. THAT in the first instance, monitoring of discharges from Firth Industries in the 2022-2023 year continues at the same level as in 2021-2022.
2. THAT should there be issues with environmental or administrative performance in 2021-2022, monitoring may be adjusted to reflect any additional investigation or intervention as found necessary.

Recommendation one was undertaken. Recommendation two involved two re-inspections following one identified issue.

2.3.4 Alterations to monitoring programmes for 2022-2023

In designing and implementing the monitoring programmes for air/water discharges in the region, the Council has taken into account:

- the extent of information already made available through monitoring or other means to date;
- its relevance under the RMA;
- the Council's obligations to monitor consented activities and their effects under the RMA;

- the record of administrative and environmental performances of the consent holder; and
- reporting to the regional community.

The Council also takes into account the scope of assessments required at the time of renewal of permits, and the need to maintain a sound understanding of industrial processes within Taranaki exercising resource consents.

It is proposed that for 2023-2024, the programme remains unchanged.

It should be noted that the proposed programme represents a reasonable and risk-based level of monitoring for the site in question. The Council reserves the right to subsequently adjust the programme from that initially prepared, should the need arise if potential or actual non-compliance is determined at any time during 2022-2023.

2.4 Recommendations

1. THAT in the first instance, monitoring of discharges from Firth Industries in the 2023-2024 year continues at the same level as in 2022-2023.
2. THAT should there be issues with environmental or administrative performance in 2023-2024, monitoring may be adjusted to reflect any additional investigation or intervention as found necessary.

3 Fletcher Concrete and Infrastructure Ltd

3.1 Process description

Fletcher Concrete operates a concrete batching plant, including storage and retail of concrete product, on a site just north of Stratford on State Highway 3 (Mountain Road). The site is run by a division of Fletcher Concrete, namely Firth Industries. The pre cast facility and sales depot run by Humes Pipeline Systems has been disestablished.

The concrete batching plant operation primarily involves the mixing of aggregate, cement, water and additives in a concrete truck mixing bowl in order to produce concrete, which is then delivered to the end user.

A tributary of the Kahouri Stream runs under the plant site. Washwater from the plant is treated by settlement in two small ponds, followed by soakage in two stone-filled pits. Concrete truck washings are treated separately by settlement in two small ponds in series, followed by two soakage ponds. Washwater may be re-circulated from the fourth pond to increase residence time for settling. Discharges to the stream tributary can occur from both soakage systems.

Sludge from the settling ponds is removed periodically and stored on site to dry. Excess concrete from the returning trucks is also off loaded at the site. Local farmers take the dry material for use as fill material and to maintain driveways.

Stormwater from yard areas and the roof of the main building currently soaks to ground, or drains through soak holes or grit interceptors before discharging to the unnamed tributary of the Kahouri Stream.



Figure 3 Location of the Fletcher Concrete Firth Industries site, Stratford

3.2 Results

3.2.1 Inspections

Routine compliance monitoring inspections were undertaken on 17 March and 9 May 2023. Sampling undertaken during the March inspection revealed there was non-compliance with the limits specified for suspended solids in Resource Consent 5026. The May inspection identified some measures that were in place and further intentions to mitigate the issue.

See Section 3.2.2 below for all results

3.2.2 Results of discharge and receiving environment monitoring

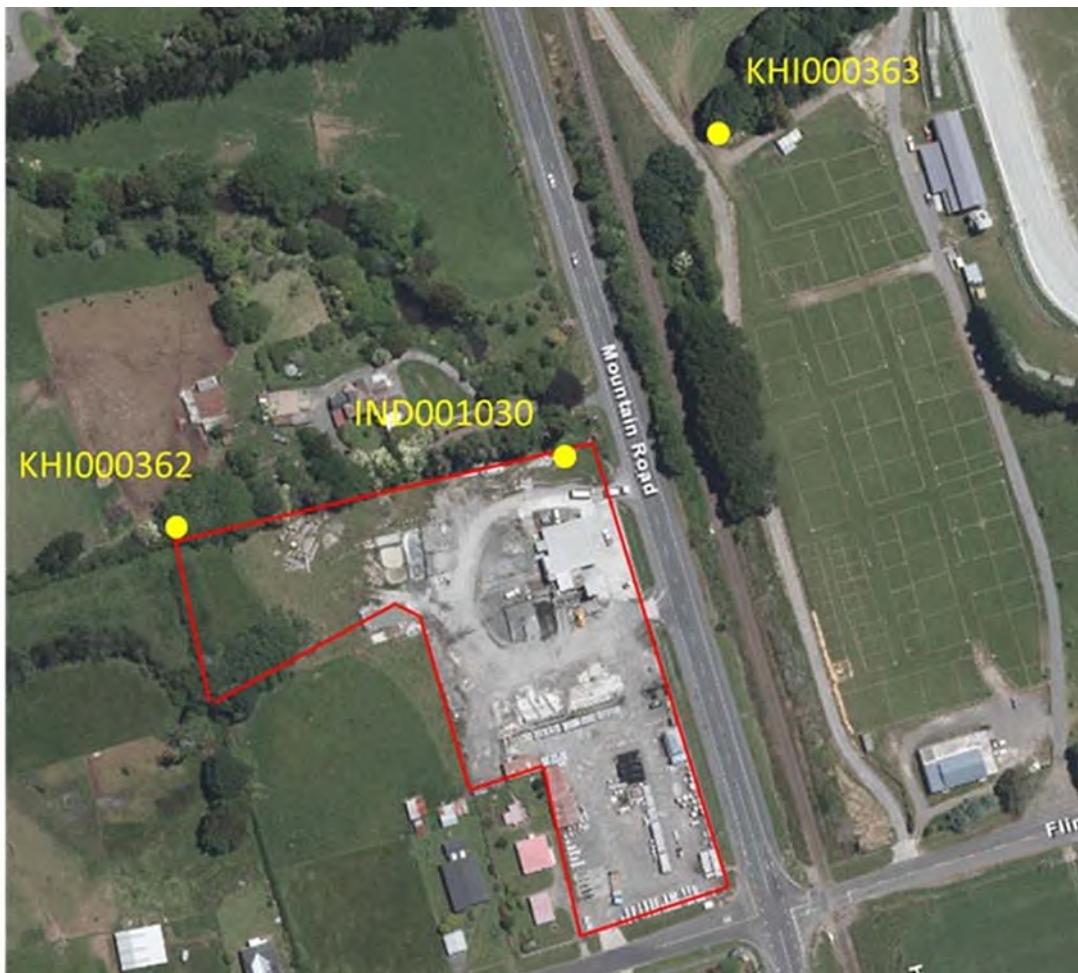


Figure 4 Fletcher Concrete (Firth Industries) sampling sites, Stratford

The monitoring sites associated with the Fletcher Concrete Stratford depot are shown in Figure 4.

Discharge and receiving water samples were collected during the inspection on 17 March, 2023. The results of this sampling are shown in Table 5.

Table 5 Monitoring results of Fletcher Concrete receiving water sampling, 17 March 2023

Parameters	Unit	KHI000362 100 m upstream	IND001030 discharge	KHI000363 100 m downstream	Discharge consent limits
Temperature	Deg. C	16.2	17.7	16.3	-
Conductivity	mS/m	8.8	11.7	8.6	-

Parameters	Unit	KHI000362 100 m upstream	IND001030 discharge	KHI000363 100 m downstream	Discharge consent limits
pH	-	7.1	9.7	7.1	-
Oil and Grease	g/m ³	-	<10	-	-
Suspended solids	g/m ³	98	380	99	100

The sample from site IN001030 (discharge of settling pond) gave a total suspended solids reading of 380 gm⁻³ thus significantly exceeding the 100 gm⁻³ limit specified in the Resource Consent.

3.3 Discussion

3.3.1 Discussion of site performance

Visual inspections of the Fletcher concrete site in Stratford have observed that generally the site appears to be well managed. However, one discharge sample taken during the year under review was non-compliant with consent conditions 7. The reading of 380 g/m³ significantly exceeded the consent limit of 100 g/m³. As such, several mitigation methods have and are to be implemented to avoid future non-compliance. These include the use of hay bales, installation of a new lined wedgepit for sediment settlement before discharge, moving the aggregate further away from the discharge point, use of an organic binder to be used on the unsealed area to reduce sediment tracking, relocating the truckwash area and utilising silt fencing.

These measures should reduce the turbidity that was observed during the site inspection and subsequently the measured total suspended solids.

No air related matters were noted during the period under review.

3.3.2 Environmental effects of exercise of consents

The raised level of turbidity and subsequently high suspended solid quantity that occurred during heavy rainfall has potential to cause adverse effects on the ecology of the receiving water body. Effects during discharge are masked by the suspended solids upstream of the site, but ongoing discharge of sediment laden water has potential for long-term degradation.

3.3.3 Evaluation of performance

A summary of Fletcher Concrete's compliance record for the year under review is set out in Table 6.

Table 6 Summary of performance for Fletcher Concrete's consent 5026-2

Purpose: To discharge stormwater and wastewater from a concrete product manufacturing and storage site onto and into land and into an unnamed tributary of the Kahouri Stream in the Patea catchment.		
Condition requirement	Means of monitoring during period under review	Compliance achieved?
1. Best practicable option	Inspection of the site	No
2. Maximum catchment area	Inspection of the site	Yes
3. Discharge volume limit	Inspection of the site and discharge system	Yes
4. System in accordance with information supplied with application	Inspection of the site	Yes
5. Hazardous substances storage bunded	Inspection of the site	Yes

Purpose: To discharge stormwater and wastewater from a concrete product manufacturing and storage site onto and into land and into an unnamed tributary of the Kahouri Stream in the Patea catchment.		
Condition requirement	Means of monitoring during period under review	Compliance achieved?
6. Receiving water pH range, 6.0-9.0	Sampling	Yes
7. Concentration limits	Sampling and visual assessment of the discharge	No
8. Mixing zone effects	Inspections of the site and receiving water	Yes
9. Contingency planning	Plan on file November 2015	Yes
10. Stormwater management plan	Plan on file November 2015	Yes
11. Notification of any changes to processes	No changes	N/A
12. Consent lapse	Consent has been exercised	N/A
13. Optional review of conditions	Next optional review date June 2022	N/A
Overall assessment of environmental performance and compliance in respect of this consent		Good
Overall assessment of administrative performance in respect of this consent		High

During the 2022-2023 monitoring year, Fletcher Concrete demonstrated a good level of environmental performance and a high level administrative compliance with their resource consent as defined in Appendix II.

3.3.4 Recommendations from the 2021-2022 Annual Report

In the 2021-2022 report it was recommended:

1. THAT in the first instance monitoring of discharges from Fletcher Concrete in the 2022-2023 year continues at the same level as in 2021-2022.
2. THAT should there be issues with environmental or administrative performance in 2022-2023, monitoring may be adjusted to reflect any additional investigation or intervention as found necessary.

Recommendation one was undertaken. Recommendation two was not implemented.

3.3.5 Alterations to the monitoring programme for 2023-2024

In designing and implementing the monitoring programmes for water discharges in the region, the Council has taken into account:

- the extent of information already made available through monitoring or other means to date;
- its relevance under the RMA;
- the Council's obligations to monitor consented activities and their effects under the RMA;
- the record of administrative and environmental performances of the consent holder; and
- reporting to the regional community.

The Council also takes into account the scope of assessments required at the time of renewal of permits, and the need to maintain a sound understanding of industrial processes within Taranaki exercising resource consents.

It is proposed that for 2023-2024, the programme remains unchanged.

It should be noted that the proposed programme represents a reasonable and risk-based level of monitoring for the site(s) in question. The Council reserves the right to subsequently adjust the programme from that initially prepared, should the need arise if potential or actual non-compliance is determined at any time during 2022-2023.

3.4 Recommendations

1. THAT in the first instance monitoring of discharges from Fletcher Concrete in the 2023-2024 year is increased to two sets of sampling rather than the one undertaken in 2022-2023.
2. THAT should there be issues with environmental or administrative performance in 2023-2024, monitoring may be adjusted to reflect any additional investigation or intervention as found necessary.

Glossary of common terms and abbreviations

The following abbreviations and terms may be used within this report:

Bund	A wall around a tank to contain its contents in the case of a leak.
Conductivity	Conductivity, an indication of the level of dissolved salts in a sample, usually measured at 25°C and expressed in µS/cm.
Incident	An event that is alleged or is found to have occurred that may have actual or potential environmental consequences or may involve non-compliance with a consent or rule in a regional plan. Registration of an incident by the Council does not automatically mean such an outcome had actually occurred.
Intervention	Action/s taken by Council to instruct or direct actions be taken to avoid or reduce the likelihood of an incident occurring.
Investigation	Action taken by Council to establish what were the circumstances/events surrounding an incident including any allegations of an incident.
Incident Register	The Incident Register contains a list of events recorded by the Council on the basis that they may have the potential or actual environmental consequences that may represent a breach of a consent or provision in a Regional Plan.
L/s	Litres per second.
m ²	Square Metres:
mS/m	Millisiemens per metre.
Mixing zone	The zone below a discharge point where the discharge is not fully mixed with the receiving environment. For a stream, conventionally taken as a length equivalent to 7 times the width of the stream at the discharge point.
µS/cm	Microsiemens per centimetre.
pH	A numerical system for measuring acidity in solutions, with 7 as neutral. Numbers lower than 7 are increasingly acidic and higher than 7 are increasingly alkaline. The scale is logarithmic i.e. a change of 1 represents a ten-fold change in strength. For example, a pH of 4 is ten times more acidic than a pH of 5.
Physicochemical	Measurement of both physical properties (e.g. temperature, clarity, density) and chemical determinants (e.g. metals and nutrients) to characterise the state of an environment.
Resource consent	Refer Section 87 of the RMA. Resource consents include land use consents (refer Sections 9 and 13 of the RMA), coastal permits (Sections 12, 14 and 15), water permits (Section 14) and discharge permits (Section 15).
RMA	<i>Resource Management Act 1991</i> and including all subsequent amendments.
SS	Suspended solids.
Temp	Temperature, measured in °C (degrees Celsius).
Turb	Turbidity, expressed in NTU.

*an abbreviation for a metal or other analyte may be followed by the letters 'As', to denote the amount of metal recoverable in acidic conditions. This is taken as indicating the total amount of metal that might be solubilised under extreme environmental conditions. The abbreviation may alternatively be followed by the

letter 'D', denoting the amount of the metal present in dissolved form rather than in particulate or solid form.

For further information on analytical methods, contact an Environmental Quality Manager.

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Appendix I

Resource consents held by Firth Industries and Fletcher Concrete

(For a copy of the signed resource consent
please contact the TRC Consents department)

[Water abstraction permits](#)

Section 14 of the RMA stipulates that no person may take, use, dam or divert any water, unless the activity is expressly allowed for by a resource consent or a rule in a regional plan, or it falls within some particular categories set out in Section 14. Permits authorising the abstraction of water are issued by the Council under Section 87(d) of the RMA.

[Water discharge permits](#)

Section 15(1)(a) of the RMA stipulates that no person may discharge any contaminant into water, unless the activity is expressly allowed for by a resource consent or a rule in a regional plan, or by national regulations. Permits authorising discharges to water are issued by the Council under Section 87(e) of the RMA.

[Air discharge permits](#)

Section 15(1)(c) of the RMA stipulates that no person may discharge any contaminant from any industrial or trade premises into air, unless the activity is expressly allowed for by a resource consent, a rule in a regional plan, or by national regulations. Permits authorising discharges to air are issued by the Council under Section 87(e) of the RMA.

[Discharges of wastes to land](#)

Sections 15(1)(b) and (d) of the RMA stipulate that no person may discharge any contaminant onto land if it may then enter water, or from any industrial or trade premises onto land under any circumstances, unless the activity is expressly allowed for by a resource consent, a rule in a regional plan, or by national regulations. Permits authorising the discharge of wastes to land are issued by the Council under Section 87(e) of the RMA.

[Land use permits](#)

Section 13(1)(a) of the RMA stipulates that no person may in relation to the bed of any lake or river use, erect, reconstruct, place, alter, extend, remove, or demolish any structure or part of any structure in, on, under, or over the bed, unless the activity is expressly allowed for by a resource consent, a rule in a regional plan, or by national regulations. Land use permits are issued by the Council under Section 87(a) of the RMA.

[Coastal permits](#)

Section 12(1)(b) of the RMA stipulates that no person may erect, reconstruct, place, alter, extend, remove, or demolish any structure that is fixed in, on, under, or over any foreshore or seabed, unless the activity is expressly allowed for by a resource consent, a rule in a regional plan, or by national regulations. Coastal permits are issued by the Council under Section 87(c) of the RMA.

Discharge Permit
Pursuant to the Resource Management Act 1991
a resource consent is hereby granted by the
Taranaki Regional Council

Name of Consent Holder: Firth Industries
(Division of Fletcher Concrete & Infrastructure Limited)
P O Box 99904
Newmarket
AUCKLAND 1149

Consent Granted Date: 14 July 2010

Conditions of Consent

Consent Granted: To discharge treated wastewater from a concrete batching plant via settling ponds onto and into land and into an unnamed tributary of the Tawhiti Stream in the Tangahoe catchment at or about (NZTM) 1710199E-5617961N

Expiry Date: 1 June 2028

Review Date(s): June 2016, June 2022

Site Location: Glover Road, Hawera

Legal Description: Site location: Lot 2 DP 17199 Blk V Hawera SD
Discharge point: Lot 1 DP 19937

Catchment: Tangahoe

Tributary: Tawhiti

*For General, Standard and Special conditions
pertaining to this consent please see reverse side of this document*

General condition

- a. The consent holder shall pay to the Taranaki Regional Council [the Council] all the administration, monitoring and supervision costs of this consent, fixed in accordance to section 36 of the Resource Management Act.

Special conditions

1. The consent holder shall at all times adopt the best practicable option, as defined in section 2 of the Resource Management Act 1991, to prevent or minimise any adverse effects on the environment from the exercise of this consent.
2. The discharge shall not exceed a total volume of 2 cubic metres per day.
3. All wash water shall be directed for treatment through the sediment retention pond system prior to discharge from the site.
4. The consent holder shall maintain the sediment retention pond system, including regular removal of the sediment accumulated in ponds, to ensure adequate retention time for the discharge to meet the special conditions 5 and 6 of this consent.
5. Constituents of the discharge shall meet the standards shown in the following table.

<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Standard</u>
suspended solids	Concentration not greater than 200 gm ⁻³
oil and grease	Concentration not greater than 15 gm ⁻³

This condition shall apply before entry of the treated wash water into the receiving waters at a designated sampling point approved by the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council.

6. After allowing for reasonable mixing, within a mixing zone extending 25 metres downstream of the discharge point, the discharge shall not give rise to any or all of the following effects in the receiving water:
 - a) an increase of pH by more than 0.5 pH units;
 - b) the production of any conspicuous oil or grease films, scums or foams, or floatable or suspended materials;
 - c) any conspicuous change in colour or visual clarity;
 - d) any emission of objectionable odour;
 - e) the rendering of fresh water unsuitable for consumption by farm animals;
 - f) any significant adverse effects on aquatic life.

Consent 1274-3

7. In accordance with section 128 and section 129 of the Resource Management Act 1991, the Taranaki Regional Council may serve notice of its intention to review, amend, delete or add to the conditions of this resource consent by giving notice of review during the month of June 2016 and/or June 2022 for the purpose of ensuring that the conditions are adequate to deal with any adverse effects on the environment arising from the exercise of this resource consent, which were either not foreseen at the time the application was considered or which it was not appropriate to deal with at the time.

Signed at Stratford on 14 July 2010

For and on behalf of
Taranaki Regional Council

Director-Resource Management

Discharge Permit
Pursuant to the Resource Management Act 1991
a resource consent is hereby granted by the
Taranaki Regional Council

Name of Consent Holder: Fletcher Concrete & Infrastructure Limited
Private Bag 99904
Newmarket
AUCKLAND

Consent Granted Date: 7 May 2009

Conditions of Consent

Consent Granted: To discharge stormwater and wastewater from a concrete product manufacturing and storage site onto and into land and into an unnamed tributary of the Kahouri Stream in the Patea catchment at or about (NZTM) 1710131E-5646578N

Expiry Date: 1 June 2028

Review Date(s): June 2016, June 2022 and/or within 3 months of receiving notification under special condition 11

Site Location: 3524 Mountain Road, Stratford

Legal Description: Lots 1 & 2 DP 6111 Lot 1 DP 5823 Blk I Ngaere SD

Catchment: Patea

Tributary: Kahouri

*For General, Standard and Special conditions
pertaining to this consent please see reverse side of this document*

General conditions

- a) On receipt of a requirement from the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council the consent holder shall, within the time specified in the requirement, supply the information required relating to the exercise of this consent.
- b) Unless it is otherwise specified in the conditions of this consent, compliance with any monitoring requirement imposed by this consent must be at the consent holder's own expense.
- c) The consent holder shall pay to the Council all required administrative charges fixed by the Council pursuant to section 36 in relation to:
 - i) the administration, monitoring and supervision of this consent; and
 - ii) charges authorised by regulations.

Special conditions

1. The consent holder shall at all times adopt the best practicable option, as defined in section 2 of the Resource Management Act 1991, to prevent or minimise any adverse effects on the environment from the exercise of this consent.
2. The stormwater discharged shall be from a catchment area not exceeding 13,700 m².
3. The discharge of wastewater shall not exceed 5 m³/day.
4. The wastewater and stormwater system shall be as indicated in the drawings provided with application 6133 titled *Fletcher Concrete and Infrastructure Ltd Stratford Site Mountain Road (SH3) S1-00, S1-01, S1-02, S1-03, and S1-03 Diagram 1*.
5. Any above ground hazardous substances storage areas shall be bunded with drainage to sumps, or other appropriate recovery systems, and not directly to the stormwater catchment.
6. After allowing for reasonable mixing, within a mixing zone extending 25 metres downstream of the discharge point, the discharge shall not, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, give rise to a pH level in the receiving waters outside of the range 6.0-9.0.
7. Constituents of the discharge shall meet the standards shown in the following table.

<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Standard</u>
suspended solids	Concentration not greater than 100 gm ⁻³
total recoverable hydrocarbons	Concentration not greater than 15 gm ⁻³ [as determined by infrared spectroscopic technique]
Chloride	Concentration not greater than 50 gm ⁻³

Consent 5026-2

This condition shall apply before entry of the treated stormwater into the receiving waters at a designated sampling point approved by the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council.

8. After allowing for reasonable mixing, within a mixing zone extending 25 metres downstream of the discharge point, the discharge shall not, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, give rise to any or all of the following effects in the receiving water:
 - a) the production of any conspicuous oil or grease films, scums or foams, or floatable or suspended materials;
 - b) any conspicuous change in the colour or visual clarity;
 - c) any emission of objectionable odour;
 - d) the rendering of fresh water unsuitable for consumption by farm animals;
 - e) any significant adverse effects on aquatic life.
9. The consent holder shall maintain a contingency plan. The contingency plan shall be adhered to in the event of a spill or emergency and shall, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council, detail measures and procedures to be undertaken to prevent spillage or accidental discharge of contaminants not authorised by this consent and measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate the environmental effects of such a spillage or discharge.
10. The consent holder shall maintain a stormwater management plan. This plan shall be adhered to at all times and shall, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council document how the site is to be managed in order to minimise the contaminants that become entrained in the stormwater. The plan shall include but not necessarily be limited to:
 - a) the loading and unloading of materials;
 - b) maintenance of conveyance systems;
 - c) general housekeeping; and
 - d) management of the interceptor system.
11. The consent holder shall notify the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council, prior to making any changes to the processes or operations undertaken at the site, or the chemicals used or stored on site, that could alter the nature of the discharge. Any such change shall then only occur following receipt of any necessary approval under the Resource Management Act. Notification shall include the consent number, a brief description of the activity consented and an assessment of the environmental effects of any changes, and be emailed to worknotification@trc.govt.nz. Notification by fax or post is acceptable if the consent holder does not have access to email.
12. This consent shall lapse on 30 June 2014, unless the consent is given effect to before the end of that period or the Taranaki Regional Council fixes a longer period pursuant to section 125(1)(b) of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Consent 5026-2

13. In accordance with section 128 and section 129 of the Resource Management Act 1991, the Taranaki Regional Council may serve notice of its intention to review, amend, delete or add to the conditions of this resource consent by giving notice of review:

- a) during the month of June 2016 and/or June 2022; and/or
- b) within 3 months of receiving a notification under special condition 11 above;

for the purpose of ensuring that the conditions are adequate to deal with any adverse effects on the environment arising from the exercise of this resource consent, which were either not foreseen at the time the application was considered or which it was not appropriate to deal with at the time.

Signed at Stratford on 7 May 2009

For and on behalf of
Taranaki Regional Council

Director-Resource Management

Appendix II

Categories used to evaluate environmental and administrative performance

Categories used to evaluate environmental and administrative performance

Environmental performance is concerned with actual or likely effects on the receiving environment from the activities during the monitoring year. Administrative performance is concerned with the Company's approach to demonstrating consent compliance in site operations and management including the timely provision of information to Council (such as contingency plans and water take data) in accordance with consent conditions.

Events that were beyond the control of the consent holder and unforeseeable (that is a defence under the provisions of the RMA can be established) may be excluded with regard to the performance rating applied. For example loss of data due to a flood destroying deployed field equipment.

The categories used by the Council for this monitoring period, and their interpretation, are as follows:

Environmental Performance

High: No or inconsequential (short-term duration, less than minor in severity) breaches of consent or regional plan parameters resulting from the activity; no adverse effects of significance noted or likely in the receiving environment. The Council did not record any verified unauthorised incidents involving environmental impacts and was not obliged to issue any abatement notices or infringement notices in relation to such impacts.

Good: Likely or actual adverse effects of activities on the receiving environment were negligible or minor at most. There were some such issues noted during monitoring, from self-reports, or during investigations of incidents reported to the Council by a third party but these items were not critical, and follow-up inspections showed they have been dealt with. These minor issues were resolved positively, co-operatively, and quickly. The Council was not obliged to issue any abatement notices or infringement notices in relation to the minor non-compliant effects; however abatement notices may have been issued to mitigate an identified potential for an environmental effect to occur.

For example:

High suspended solid values recorded in discharge samples, however the discharge was to land or to receiving waters that were in high flow at the time;
Strong odour beyond boundary but no residential properties or other recipient nearby.

Improvement required: Likely or actual adverse effects of activities on the receiving environment were more than minor, but not substantial. There were some issues noted during monitoring, from self-reports, or during investigations of incidents reported to the Council by a third party. Cumulative adverse effects of a persistent minor non-compliant activity could elevate a minor issue to this level. Abatement notices and infringement notices may have been issued in respect of effects.

Poor: Likely or actual adverse effects of activities on the receiving environment were significant. There were some items noted during monitoring, from self-reports, or during investigations of incidents reported to the Council by a third party. Cumulative adverse effects of a persistent moderate non-compliant activity could elevate an 'improvement required' issue to this level. Typically there were grounds for either a prosecution or an infringement notice in respect of effects.

Administrative performance

High: The administrative requirements of the resource consents were met, or any failure to do this had trivial consequences and were addressed promptly and co-operatively.

Good: Perhaps some administrative requirements of the resource consents were not met at a particular time, however this was addressed without repeated interventions from the Council staff. Alternatively

adequate reason was provided for matters such as the no or late provision of information, interpretation of 'best practical option' for avoiding potential effects, etc.

Improvement required: Repeated interventions to meet the administrative requirements of the resource consents were made by Council staff. These matters took some time to resolve, or remained unresolved at the end of the period under review. The Council may have issued an abatement notice to attain compliance.

Poor: Material failings to meet the administrative requirements of the resource consents. Significant intervention by the Council was required. Typically there were grounds for an infringement notice.