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Christchurch Wastewater Treatment Plant

Quarterly Monitoring Report

# November - January 2020

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# Summary

This report summarises the results of parameters monitored by the Christchurch Wastewater Treatment Plant (CWTP) over the period November - January 2020 in accordance with consent CRC051724. Consent CRC051724 allows the discharge of treated wastewater from the CWTP Oxidation Ponds into the Pegasus Bay Coastal Marine Area via an ocean outfall.

Of the comprehensive sampling programme required by the consent, all samples were collected during the monitoring period and all monitored parameters achieved the required standards.

A leak from the air pressure release valve on the ocean outfall pipe resulted in an unauthorised discharge to the estuary in December. This was reported to Environment Canterbury at the time. Council has subsequently repaired the valve and put in an earth bund in order to try and get any future spill to drain back towards the oxidation pond rather than the estuary.

Also during this monitoring period, in January, Council advised Environment Canterbury that during the channel repairs programme an area of significant cracking was observed in a wall and this may have resulted in wastewater leaking into the surrounding ground. The affected section of channel is still isolated and currently undergoing repairs.

Christchurch Wastewater Treatment Plant Contents

Quarterly Monitoring Report

November - January 2020

1 Outfall Discharge 4

1.1 *Resource Consent Conditions* 4

1.2 Comments on Compliance 4

1.3 *Resource Consent Standard Conditions* 6

1.4 *Comments on Compliance* 6

1.5 *Dissolved BOD5 Compliance* 7

1.6 *Total Suspended Solids Compliance* 8

1.7 *Ammonia Nitrogen Compliance* 9

1.8 *Enterococci Monitoring* 10

1.9 *Faecal Coliform Compliance* 11

2 Receiving Environment Monitoring in Pegasus Bay 12

2.1 *Water Quality Resource Consent Conditions* 12

2.2 *Comments on Compliance* 12

2.3 *Beach Water Quality Analysis Results* 13

2.4 *Other Receiving Environment Analysis* 15

2.5 *Comments on Compliance* 15

#  Outfall Discharge

## *Resource Consent Conditions*

Consent CRC051724 allows CWTP to discharge up to 518,000 cubic metres per day of treated wastewater from the CWTP Oxidation Ponds at a maximum rate of six cubic metres per second into the Pegasus Bay coastal marine area. Compliance conditions regarding the physical discharge to the estuary are summarised in Table 1.1.1. Daily records of maximum outfall discharge flow rates and volumes are attached as an appendix to this report, and shown in summary in Figures 1.2.1 and 1.2.2.

Table 1.1.1 Pond Discharge Consent Compliance for Monitoring Period CRC051724

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Consent Condition** | **Parameter**  | **Compliance Condition** | **Compliance** |
| **Nov 19** | **Dec 19** | **Jan 20** | **Overall** |
| 2 | Discharge Content | Discharge is only wastewater from the CWTP ponds  |  |  |  | **** |
| 3 | Discharge Volume | Recorded  |  |  |  | **** |
| 4 | Discharge Rate | Recorded |  |  |  | **** |
| 9 | Outfall Maintenance | Routine maintenance completed and recorded |  |  |  | **** |
| 10 | Outfall Condition | Visual inspection of outfall | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| 12 | Pumping Pressure for a given flow | Monitored |  |  |  | **** |

**Key:**   Full Compliance  Minor, Isolated or Risk of Non-Compliance  Major or Consistent Non-Compliance

## Comments on Compliance

Flowrate and pressure data were recorded as per consent requirements.

 

Figure 1.2.1 - Daily Outfall Flow Totals

 

Figure 1.2.2 - Daily Peak Outfall Flows

## *Resource Consent Standard Conditions*

Conditions 15 and 16 of consent CRC051724 set out concentration standards for a selection of parameters monitored in compliance with condition 13. No more than 16 samples in each rolling 26 week period should exceed the standard value for contaminants listed under condition 15a, and if more than seven from eight consecutive samples should exceed the standard value ECan must be notified within 48 hours. No more than six from eight consecutive samples should exceed the standard value for contaminants listed under condition 16a, and no more than two from eight consecutive samples should exceed the higher value. If more than seven from eight exceed the standard value, or three from eight exceed the higher value, ECan must be notified within 48 hours. Compliance conditions regarding adherence to these standard values are summarised in Table 1.3.1. Analysis results are supplied to Environment Canterbury at quarterly intervals. Contaminant monitoring results for consent CRC051724 are discussed further in Sections 1.4 – 1.9.

Table 1.3.1 Contaminant Limits Consent Compliance November – January 2020 CRC051724

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Consent Condition** | **Parameter**  | **Compliance Condition** | **Compliance** |
| **Nov 19** | **Dec 19** | **Jan 20** | **Overall** |
| 15a  | Dissolved BOD5 | Concentration does not exceed 20 g/m3 |  |  |  | **** |
| Total Suspended Solids | Concentration does not exceed 50 g/m3 |  |  |  | **** |
| Ammoniacal Nitrogen | Concentration does not exceed 40 g/m3 |  |  |  | **** |
|  16a | Faecal Coliforms | Concentration does not exceed 1,000(standard)/5,000(higher) MPN/100mL |  |  |  | **** |
| Enterococci | Concentration does not exceed 1,500 MPN/100mL |  |  |  | **** |

**Key:**   Compliance Achieved with no Exceedance of Standard  Compliance Achieved with Occasional Exceedance of Standard  Exceedance of Standard resulting in Non-Compliance

## *Comments on Compliance*

Most samples were collected and analysed. This quarter there is one missing DO result and two missing Ammonia results. There was one exceedance of the total suspended solids standard, however this is not a non-compliance with the consent conditions.

## *Dissolved BOD5 Compliance*

The median dissolved BOD5 concentration for the reporting period was 1.9g/m3. This is lower than the median concentrations in the previous quarter and lower than the same quarter in 2019. There were no exceedances of the standard value (20.0 g/m3) in the current monitoring quarter.

Table 1.5.1 Pond Discharge Dissolved BOD5

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Median Value [g/m3]Current Monitoring Quarter (November 2019 – January 2020) | 1.9 | Number of Exceedances Current Monitoring Quarter (November 2019 – January 2020) | 0 |
| Median Value [g/m3]Previous Monitoring Quarter (August 2019 – October 2019) | 3 | Number of Exceedances Previous Monitoring Quarter (August 2019 – October 2019) | 0 |
| Median Value [g/m3]Same Monitoring Quarter of Previous Year (November 2018 – January 2019) | 2.65 | Number of Exceedances Same Monitoring Quarter of Previous Year (November 2018 – January 2019) | 0 |

1.5.2 Pond Discharge Dissolved BOD5



## *Total Suspended Solids Compliance*

The median total suspended solids concentration for the monitoring period was 25 g/m3. This is higher than the previous quarter and lower than the same quarter last year. There was no exceedance of the standard value (50 g/m3) this quarter.

Table 1.6.1 Pond Discharge Total Suspended Solids

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Median Value [g/m3]Current Monitoring Quarter (November 2019 – January 2020) | 25 | Number of Exceedances Current Monitoring Quarter (November 2019 – January 2020) | 0 |
| Median Value [g/m3]Previous Monitoring Quarter (August 2019 – October 2019) | 9.8 | Number of Exceedances Previous Monitoring Quarter (August 2019 – October 2019) | 0 |
| Median Value [g/m3]Same Monitoring Quarter of Previous Year (November 2018 – January 2019) | 26 | Number of Exceedances Same Monitoring Quarter of Previous Year (November 2018 – January 2019) | 1 |

1.6.2 Pond Discharge Total Suspended Solids



## *Ammonia Nitrogen Compliance*

The median total ammonia nitrogen concentration for the monitoring period was 19 g/m3. This was lower than the previous quarter and higher than the same quarter last year. There were zero exceedances of the 40 g/m3 limit.

Table 1.7.1 Pond Discharge Ammoniacal Nitrogen

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Median Value [g/m3]Current Monitoring Quarter (November 2019 – January 2020) | 19 | Number of Exceedances Current Monitoring Quarter (November 2019 – January 2020) | 0 |
| Median Value [g/m3]Previous Monitoring Quarter (August 2019 – October 2019) | 26 | Number of Exceedances Previous Monitoring Quarter (August 2019 – October 2019) | 0 |
| Median Value [g/m3]Same Monitoring Quarter of Previous Year (November 2018 – January 2019) | 10.25 | Number of Exceedances Same Monitoring Quarter of Previous Year (November 2018 – January 2019) | 0 |

1.7.1 Pond Discharge Ammoniacal Nitrogen

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## *Enterococci Monitoring*

The median enterococci concentration during the reporting period was 25 MPN/100mL. This was higher than previous quarter and lower the same quarter last year. There were no exceedances of the 1,500 MPN/100ml limit during the reporting quarter.

Table 1.8.1 Pond Discharge Enterococci

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Median Value [g/m3]Current Monitoring Quarter (November 2019 – January 2020) | 25 | Number of Exceedances Current Monitoring Quarter (November 2019 – January 2020) | 0 |
| Median Value [g/m3]Previous Monitoring Quarter (August 2019 – October 2019) | <10 | Number of Exceedances Previous Monitoring Quarter (August 2019 – October 2019) | 0 |
| Median Value [g/m3]Same Monitoring Quarter of Previous Year (November 2018 – January 2019) | 30 | Number of Exceedances Same Monitoring Quarter of Previous Year (November 2018 – January 2019) | 0 |

1.8.1 Pond Discharge Enterococci



## *Faecal Coliform Compliance*

The median concentration for the reporting period was 125 MPN/100 mL, which is higher than the median for the previous quarter, and higher than the same quarter last year. There was one exceedance of the standard faecal coliform limit.

Table 1.9.1 **Pond Discharge Faecal Coliforms**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Median Value [g/m3]Current Monitoring Quarter (November 2019 – January 2020) | 125 | Number of Exceedances Current Monitoring Quarter (November 2019 – January 2020) | 1 |
| Median Value [g/m3]Previous Monitoring Quarter (August 2019 – October 2019) | 85 | Number of Exceedances Previous Monitoring Quarter (August 2019 – October 2019) | 0 |
| Median Value [g/m3]Same Monitoring Quarter of Previous Year (November 2018 – January 2019) | 115 | Number of Exceedances Same Monitoring Quarter of Previous Year (November 2018 – January 2019) | 0 |

1.9.1 Pond Discharge Faecal Coliforms



# Receiving Environment Monitoring in Pegasus Bay

## *Water Quality Resource Consent Conditions*

All samples were collected and analysed as required by consent condition 18. Samples for condition 18 are collected from South New Brighton Beach at Jellicoe Street, Sumner Beach at the surf club, and New Brighton at the Surf Club. Sampling for condition 22a is due February 2021.

Table 2.1.1 Receiving Environment Water Quality Consent Compliance

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Consent Condition** | **Parameter**  | **Compliance Condition** | **Compliance** |
| **Nov – Jan 20** |
| 18 | Faecal Coliforms | Sampled and Analysed | ☺ |
|   | Enterococci | Sampled and Analysed | ☺ |
| 22a | Temperature | 2 yearly  | na |
|   | DO | 2 yearly  | na |
|   | Salinity | 2 yearly  | na |
|  | Total Suspended Solids | 2 yearly  | na |
|  | Nitrogen Oxides | 2 yearly  | na |
|   | Ammoniacal Nitrogen | 2 yearly  | na |
|  | Dissolved Reactive Phosphorus | 2 yearly  | na |
|  | Chlorophyll-a | 2 yearly  | na |
|  | Trace Metals  | 2 yearly  | na |
|   | Faecal Coliforms | 2 yearly  | na |
|   | Enterococci | 2 yearly  | na |
|  | Phytoplankton Species | 2 yearly  | na |

**Key:**   Full Compliance  Minor, Isolated or Risk of Non-Compliance  Major or Consistent Non-Compliance

## *Comments on Compliance*

All results for the Pegasus Bay area were within consent for the recording period.

*Beach Water Quality Analysis Results*

Samples for condition 18 were taken at weekly intervals from the prescribed onshore locations. Results are presented in Figures 2.3.1 and 2.3.2. Any retest results are contained in the appendices.

2.2.1 Enterococci Levels at beaches adjacent to the Outfall



2.2.2 Faecal Coliform Levels at beaches adjacent to the Outfall



## *Other Receiving Environment Analysis*

Consent conditions 23, 25, 26 and 27 call for monitoring of the marine environment around the outfall at various frequencies, some of which fall in the monitoring period. These requirements are summarised in Table 2.3.1, and the results are attached as an appendix to this report. Sampling for Conditions 23 – 26 are next due 2022, while condition 36 is now only undertaken if requested by members of the community.

Table 2.3.1 Receiving Environment Monitoring Consent Compliance

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Consent Condition** | **Parameter**  | **Frequency** | **Compliance Condition** | **Compliance** |
| **Nov – Jan 20** |
| 23 | Marine Sediments | 5-yearly | Not monitored this quarter | — |
| 25 | Benthic Invertebrates | 5-yearly | Not monitored this quarter | — |
| 26 | Epibenthic Fauna | 5-yearly | Not monitored this quarter | — |
| 27 | Shellfish | Quarterly | Sampled and analysed |  |
| 29 | Complaints | As required | Recorded and reported |  |
| 31 | Report | Quarterly and Annually | Report and information lodged with ecan  |  |
| 36 | Community Liaison Group | Annually | Not done this quarter | — |

**Key:**   Full Compliance  Minor, Isolated or Risk of Non-Compliance  Major or Consistent Non-Compliance

## *Comments on Compliance*

No complaints regarding the ocean outfall have been received this quarter. This report and supporting documentation will be submitted to Environment Canterbury.