

South Taranaki District Council  
Patea Beach green waste discharge  
Monitoring Programme  
Annual Report  
2016-2017

Technical Report 2017-75

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Taranaki Regional Council

Private Bag 713

STRATFORD

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## Executive summary

South Taranaki District Council (STDC) operates a green waste disposal area located on Beach Road at Patea Beach. The site was established as a public facility that could accept green waste for sand dune stabilisation purposes. The site is consented to accept green waste from the Patea community and from STDC's kerbside and transfer station collection. This report for the period July 2016 to June 2017 describes the monitoring programme implemented by the Taranaki Regional Council (the Council) to assess STDC's environmental performance and consent compliance during the period under review. The report also details the results of the monitoring undertaken and assesses the environmental effects of STDC's activities.

STDC holds one resource consent, which includes a total of 12 conditions setting out the requirements that they must satisfy. The consent is for the purpose of discharging green waste onto land for stabilisation purposes.

### **During the monitoring period, an improvement was required in STDC's level of environmental performance at the Patea Beach green waste site.**

The Council's monitoring programme for the period under review included six compliance monitoring inspections of the site focussing on types of materials discharged, stormwater and leachate control, and emissions to air.

During the period under review, the Council received a complaint regarding illegal dumping at the site. During the investigation of this complaint, it was found that previously dumped unacceptable wastes had been incorporated into the green waste that had been placed and covered in the fore dune areas. This was being exposed by the severe coastal erosion that occurred during the spring months. An abatement notice was issued and STDC continued to monitor the coastal areas and remove any exposed unacceptable material.

As in previous years, the 2016-2017 monitoring showed that some illegal dumping of non green waste material occurred in the drop off area at the site on several occasions during the monitoring period. The surveillance equipment installed during 2015-2016 year, to aid in the prevention and identification of those illegally dumping unacceptable waste materials at the site, was not completely successful. As a result, the public green waste drop off area was closed mid way through the year under review.

During the monitoring year, an improvement was therefore required in the STDC's environmental performance and compliance with the resource consents defined in Section 1.1.4.

For reference, in the 2016-2017 year, 74% of consent holders in Taranaki monitored through tailored compliance monitoring programmes achieved a high level of environmental performance and compliance with their consents, while another 21% demonstrated a good level of environmental performance and compliance with their consents.

In terms of overall environmental and compliance performance by the consent holder over the last several years, this report shows that the STDC's performance has declined from a high level to improvement required for this site.

This report includes recommendations for the 2017-2018 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 2016 to June 2017 by the Taranaki Regional Council (the Council) on the monitoring programme associated with resource consents held by South Taranaki District Council (STDC). STDC holds a consent to discharge green waste onto and into the sand dunes situated on Beach Road at Patea Beach for the purpose of dune stabilisation.

This report covers the results and findings of the monitoring programme implemented by the Council in respect of the consent held by STDC that relates to the discharge of green waste onto sand dunes.

One of the intents of the *Resource Management Act 1991* (RMA) is that environmental management should be integrated across all media, so that a consent holder's use of water, air, and land should be considered from a single comprehensive environmental perspective. Accordingly, the Council generally implements integrated environmental monitoring programmes and reports the results of the programmes jointly. This report discusses the environmental effects of STDC's use of water, land, and air, and is the ninth combined annual report by the Council for the STDC Patea Beach site.

### 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 RMA and the Council's obligations;
- the Council's approach to monitoring sites through annual programmes;
- the resource consents held by STDC for the Patea green waste site;
- the nature of the monitoring programme in place for the period under review; and
- a description of the activities and operations conducted in the Company's site/catchment.

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

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

**Section 4** presents recommendations to be implemented in the 2017-2018 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' inasmuch 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 STDC, this report also assigns them a rating for their environmental and administrative performance during the period under review.

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 STDC'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 interpretations, 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 significant 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 in response to unauthorised incident reports, 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 in response to unauthorised incident reports. 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 in response to unauthorised incident reports. 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 failures 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.

For reference, in the 2016-2017 year, 74% of consent holders in Taranaki monitored through tailored compliance monitoring programmes achieved a high level of environmental performance and compliance with their consents, while another 21% demonstrated a good level of environmental performance and compliance with their consents.

## 1.2 Process description

The site was established as a public facility that could accept green waste for sand dune stabilisation purposes. It is consented to accept green waste from the Patea community and from STDC. The aim of the activity is to place green waste and plant material, such as branches, along the eroding sand dune area, to act as a sand trap, facilitating the reinstatement of the dune system and aiming to prevent future erosion at the site. Members of the public are directed to specific drop off points at the beach area by means of signs. Periodically, the waste is moved from the drop off areas onto the dunes. STDC also conducts a programme of fortnightly inspections to identify and remove unacceptable wastes being dropped at the site by third party users, prior to the green waste being discharged onto the dunes. The discharge site is approximately 120 metres long and 25 metres wide, and is shown in Figure 2.

Patea Beach is an elevated site which for most of the time is dry. Rain that does fall on the site drains away at a very rapid rate. The site does not suffer from flooding from rain or tidal action, due to its elevation. Monitoring over the past four years noted no discharge of leachate or liquids from the base of the dune as a result of the discharge.

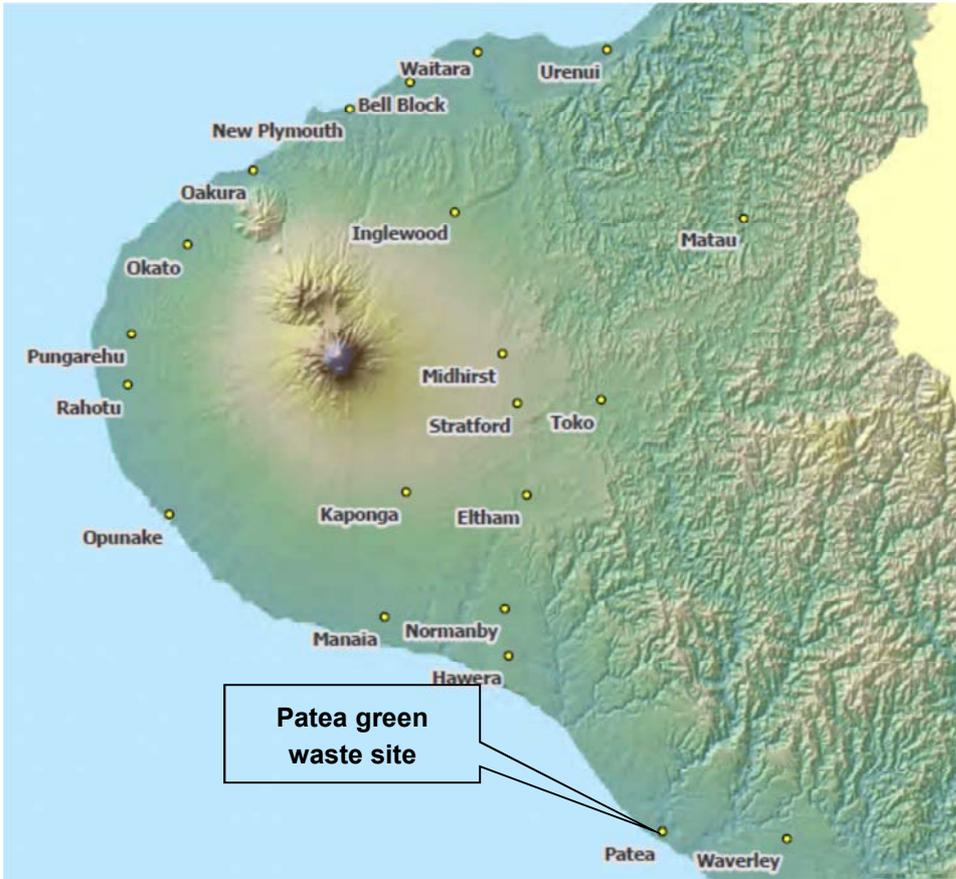


Figure 1 Regional map showing the location of the Patea green waste site



Figure 2 Aerial view of the Patea Beach green waste disposal area

## 1.3 Resource consents

### 1.3.1 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.

STDC holds discharge permit **6088-3** to cover the discharge of green waste onto and into land for stabilisation purposes. This permit was issued by the Council on 30 October 2007 under Section 87(e) of the RMA (renewing the earlier consent). It is due to expire on 1 June 2022. Prior to this STDC held consents 6088-1 and 6088-2 which were active from December 2002 to October 2007.

Condition 1 requires STDC to adopt the best practicable option as defined by Section 2 of the RMA to minimise adverse effects.

Condition 2 states that the consent shall be exercised as per the information supplied with the application.

Condition 3 requires that site be controlled.

Condition 4 specifies the nature of the material that can be discharged at the site.

Condition 5 specifies signage requirements at the site.

Condition 6 requires that STDC removes any unacceptable wastes discharged at the site.

Condition 7 requires STDC to comply with Council rules in regards to pest plants at the site.

Condition 8 requires that no waste be discharged at or below the high water springs mark.

Condition 9 states that the discharge to land shall not result in contaminants entering surface water.

Condition 10 requires stormwater to be controlled on site to prevent erosion.

Condition 11 is a lapse condition.

Condition 12 provided for review of the conditions of the consent, with no further review opportunities before the expiry of the consent.

This summary of consent conditions may not reflect the full requirements of each condition. The consent conditions in full can be found in the resource consent, which is appended to this report (Appendix I).

## 1.4 Monitoring programme

### 1.4.1 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 Patea Beach site consisted of two primary components.

## 1.4.2 Programme liaison and management

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

- ongoing liaison with resource consent holders over consent conditions and their interpretation and application;
- in 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.

## 1.4.3 Site inspections

The Patea Beach green waste site was scheduled for six routine compliance monitoring inspections, however the site was visited a total of ten times during the monitoring period. Routine compliance monitoring inspections focused on ensuring that only permitted waste was discharged to the dune area, fly and dust nuisances, and noxious or offensive emissions, and any sign of leaching or surface flows. The neighbourhood was surveyed for environmental effects such as litter and pest plants. Inspections noted the type of materials dropped off at the site and manner in which they were discharged to the dunes.

## 2 Results

### 2.1.1 Inspections

Six routine compliance monitoring inspections were carried out during the period under review. One of the main focuses of the inspections is to check that prohibited material (as stated by STDC signage) states is removed from the drop off areas prior to any discharges occurring to the dunes.

Additional inspections were also undertaken in order to follow up on a complaint received on 28 August 2017 regarding non compliant material being disposed of at the site. The inspections undertaken in relation to this incident are also discussed below.

#### 25 August 2016

The site was inspected in overcast conditions following heavy overnight rain. There was a light northerly breeze at the time of inspection.

It was found that the green waste in the lower drop off areas had recently been pushed back towards the coast. This area was now clean and tidy, and the green waste was now being deposited at the upper site.

There were no issues found in relation to odour or inorganic material. The site was well drained considering the weather conditions prior to inspection.

No unacceptable wastes were found in the discharge (coastal) areas that were checked.

The area was well sign posted and the site was well managed at the time of inspection.

#### 29 August 2016

An inspection was undertaken following complaints received about dumping of material that is not approved green waste (condition 4 of consent 6088-3), and the consent holder was informed that this is not permitted in the discharge area.

The prohibited materials found included some domestic refuse, plastics, rubber underlay, and polystyrene.

The following action was to be taken:

- Arrange for all forbidden material to be removed from this area.
- Steps must be taken to prevent dumping of forbidden materials.
- Ensure full compliance with resource consent conditions.

#### 5 September 2016

Following the discovery of inorganic wastes from previous placement of material being exposed by dune erosion (30 August, refer Section 2.2), a meeting was held with the consent holder and their consultant to discuss the operation and management of the project. The future of the project, and the options for ensuring that the operation of it is in accordance with the resource consent was discussed.

The site was then inspected in regard to actions taken to comply with the consent. It was found that all inorganic material had been removed, but it was considered that ongoing dune/beach erosion was likely to reveal more material after each significant high tide, and that this would require removal.

The following action was to be taken:

- Comply with the Council resource consent 6088-3.
- Continue monitoring of the site and remove all material that is not "approved" green waste.

6 September 2016

A further follow-up inspection was carried out at the Patea green waste facility.

After having being found cleared of inorganic material at inspection on 5 September 2016, it was found that small pockets of inorganic material had been exposed by eroding sand dunes due to recent high tides.

There had also been a trailer load of unacceptable waste dumped at the drop off area.

This inspection coincided with the high tide (1253 hrs 1.12 m) and it was evident that high seas were causing dune erosion.

Photos were taken showing the pockets of inorganic material amongst the green waste at and below the site.

The following action was to be taken:

- Continue to remove any inorganic material at and along the coast on a regular basis.



Photograph 1 Previously discharged material exposed by erosion

### 9 September 2016

An inspection was undertaken with a Council officer following an extreme weather event. It was found that the very strong winds and rough seas from a southerly direction had caused quite significant erosion and subsidence of the sand hills. As expected, this had exposed more inorganic material that needed removal. The area on the fore dune above the beach had been significantly impacted by the wind and this had caused more plastics and prohibited materials to become evident in the green waste disposal area.

The following action is to be taken:

- As per the abatement notice issued to STDC please ensure that all prohibited and inorganic materials are removed on a daily basis, or as soon as practicable.

### 9 November 2016

The site was inspected in light northerly wind conditions.

It was found that the majority of green waste material was being deposited at the upper site with only a small amount of green waste dumped at the lower site. The area was well sign posted.

A pile of car tyres and other inorganic material had recently been dumped at the upper site.

No unacceptable wastes were found in the discharge (coastal) areas that were checked, although extreme weather had exposed old green waste material along the fore dune above the high tide mark.

There were no issues in regards to odour and the site was well drained considering the weather conditions two days prior to inspection.

The following action was to be taken:

- Continue to ensure that all prohibited and inorganic materials are removed on a daily basis, or as soon as practicable as per Abatement Notice (EAC-21265).

### 23 January 2017

It appeared that contractors were regularly removing inorganic material from the upper drop off area. The lower drop off area had a concrete barrier placed across the laydown preventing vehicle access.

No significant unacceptable wastes were found in the discharge (coastal) areas that were checked, apart from a few plastic type items recently exposed by erosion.

There were no issues in regards to odour and the site was again well drained considering the weather conditions prior to the inspection.

The posted signage at the site was good.

It was noted that significant wind and sea erosion was continuing below the green waste site right down the coast towards the Patea River mouth.

The following action is to be taken:

- Continue to remove unacceptable waste and continue with regular inspections.

### 9 February 2017

At this inspection it was found that the STDC Patea green waste facility site was now closed to the public. There were several signs displayed around the drop off areas informing people to dispose of their green waste material at the Patea Transfer Station. Old concrete power poles had been placed around the drop off areas to prevent vehicles access, reducing the chances of people dumping. The complainant was also at the site, and he was now concerned about residents disposing of refuse around the town. There were no compliance issues reported.

20 March 2017

A brief inspection of the site was undertaken. There was no unauthorised dumping found.

11 May 2017

The site was inspected in heavy rain.

It was found that the public are still able to access the site for recreational purposes, but there are several signs at the site clearly stating 'Site Closed. Please take any green waste to the Patea Transfer Station at Scotland St, Patea'. At the time of inspection the signage had been observed, as there was no dumping of any green waste or unauthorised inorganic material found at the closed site.

The heavy rain at the time of inspection prevented access to the beach to check if any of the previously discharged material had been eroded and/or any inorganic material had been exposed. The consent holder was informed that this would be checked at the next inspection.

The following action was to be undertaken:

- Continue to monitor the site for possible unauthorised dumping, and for possible coastal erosion exposing inorganic material that would need to be removed.

## 2.2 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 STDC. 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.

The Council operates and maintains a register of all complaints or reported and discovered excursions from acceptable limits and practices, including non-compliance with consents, which may damage the environment. The incident register includes events where the individual concerned has itself notified the Council. The register contains details of any investigation and corrective action taken.

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 company is indeed the source of the incident (or that the allegation cannot be proven).

In the 2016-2017 period, the Council was required to undertake significant additional investigations and interventions, or record incidents, in association with the STDC's conditions in their resource consent or provisions in Regional Plans.

28 August 2016

A complaint was received that unauthorised materials had been disposed of at an approved green waste disposal site near Patea.

Investigation found that unauthorised materials, including plastics and rubber, had been disposed of at the site. It was also found that some historic materials from the site had become uncovered by erosion and were discharging into the Tasman Sea. Abatement Notice EAC-21265 was issued requiring the resource consent to be complied with by 8 September 2016.

A sign was in place advising what type of wastes were accepted at the site, however prohibited materials had been dumped at the site. An inspection notice was issued advising that the unauthorised materials needed to be removed from the site.

A further inspection was undertaken on 30 August 2016, where it was found that the prohibited materials had not been removed. At the time of inspection it was also found that historically dumped inorganic materials had been exposed and were discharging into the Tasman Sea.

A further inspection was undertaken on 5 September 2016 where it was found that the previously exposed materials had been removed from where it was likely to enter the Tasman Sea. However it was likely that historical inorganic materials and green waste would continue to be exposed and discharge into the Tasman Sea. STDC were instructed to continue to remove any inorganic material at and along the coast on a regular basis.

## 3 Discussion

### 3.1 Discussion of site performance

During the period under review unacceptable waste was observed in the drop off areas of the site on three occasions. As the general public have access to the site, it is difficult to prevent illegal dumping, and this has been an on-going issue at the site. STDC had the responsibility of removing this unacceptable material prior to placement of the green waste in the dune areas. At inspection it has been found that previously observed unacceptable wastes had been removed, and that new material had subsequently been dumped showing that STDC had continued with a programme of rubbish removal as per the requirements of special condition 6 of the consent, but that the dumping of unacceptable wastes at the site by the public continued to be a problem.

In the 2015-2016 year, STDC had tried to resolve this issue by installing surveillance equipment and signage stating that those dumping illegally would be fined.

During the year under review, Council was advised by a member of the public that coastal erosion was resulting in green waste and incorporated inorganic waste previously placed in the dune areas becoming exposed. An abatement notice was issued requiring STDC to comply with the conditions of the resource consent. The coastal erosion continued to expose minor amounts of inorganic material, and STDC continued to monitor and remove the unacceptable wastes as they became exposed.

As STDC's attempt to control illegal dumping at the site by the public had not been successful, the site was closed to the public just prior to the inspection undertaken in February 2017. The Council has been advised that the future management of the site would be by the controlled importing of green waste that would be placed in accordance with the recommendations of their consultant.

### 3.2 Environmental effects of exercise of consents

As outlined in previous compliance monitoring reports the inclusion of unacceptable waste could potentially cause adverse environmental effects if it was buried with the green waste rather than being removed.

During the year under review, it was found that although unacceptable materials were removed from the site on a regular basis, some had previously been incorporated into the fill areas when the green waste was discharged to the dunes, compacted and levelled. The inorganic wastes being exposed by the severe coastal erosion were being removed as they became exposed. There has been no leachate observed discharging from the sand dune area or the stockpiled green waste during the period under review, or in previous years. These factors, combined with the sandy substrate and low rainfall at the beach would be restricting the production of leachate from the green waste. It is therefore considered that, so long as STDC continues to monitor for and remove exposed unacceptable material from the coastline the environmental effects from the activities at the site, are likely to be no more than minor.

### 3.3 Evaluation of performance

A tabular summary of STDC's compliance record at this site for the year under review is set out in Table 1.

Table 1 Summary of performance for consent 6088-3

<b>Purpose: To discharge green waste onto land for stabilisation purposes</b>		
<b>Condition requirement</b>	<b>Means of monitoring during period under review</b>	<b>Compliance achieved?</b>
1. STDC to adopt the best practicable option	Site specific monitoring programme – programme management	Appropriate measures undertaken to prevent continued discharge of unacceptable wastes
2. Consent shall be carried out in accordance with application information	Site specific monitoring programme – programme management	Evident that not all unacceptable wastes were identified and removed prior to green waste placement
3. Limit discharge to specific areas	Site specific monitoring programme – inspection	Yes
4. Only green waste to be discharged	Site specific monitoring programme – site inspections	Yes-controlled with fortnightly inspections and removal
5. Maintain signage	Site specific monitoring programme – site inspections	Yes
6. Unauthorised material shall be removed from the site	Site specific monitoring programme – site inspections	Previously discharged unacceptable wastes found
7. Comply with Pest Plant Plan	Site specific monitoring programme – no pest plant growth noted during inspections	Yes
8. Green waste shall not be discharged or moved below the mean high water springs mark	Site specific monitoring programme – site inspections	Previously discharged unacceptable wastes found
9. Contaminants shall not enter surface water	Site specific monitoring programme – site inspections	Likely that previously discharged material has been washed into the sea by the spring storms due to severe coastal erosion
10. STDC to control surface water on the site	Site specific monitoring programme – site inspections	Yes
11. Relates to lapse of the consent	N/A	Yes

<b>Purpose: <i>To discharge green waste onto land for stabilisation purposes</i></b>		
<b>Condition requirement</b>	<b>Means of monitoring during period under review</b>	<b>Compliance achieved?</b>
12. Optional review provision re environmental effects	Provision for review June 2016	N/A
Overall assessment of consent compliance and environmental performance in respect of this consent		<b>Improvement required</b>
Overall assessment of administrative performance in respect of this consent		<b>Good</b>

N/A = not applicable

An improvement in the STDC's environmental performance and compliance with the resource consents is required as defined in Section 1.1.4. During the year under review, severe coastal erosion was resulting in previously discharged material becoming exposed. This material was found to contain unacceptable wastes. Measures undertaken to address this issue were regular monitoring of the coastal area and removal of the unacceptable material, and closure of the public green waste drop off area.

### 3.4 Recommendations from the 2015-2016 Annual Report

In the 2015-2016 Annual Report, it was recommended:

1. THAT monitoring of consented activities at the STDC Patea Beach green waste site in the 2016-2017 year continues at the same level as in 2015-2016.

This recommendation was implemented.

### 3.5 Alterations to monitoring programmes for 2017-2018

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

- the extent of information made available by previous authorities;
- its relevance under the RMA;
- its obligations to monitor emissions/discharges and their effects under the RMA; and
- to report 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 emitting to the atmosphere/discharging to the environment.

It is proposed that for 2017-2018 the number of scheduled inspections of the Patea green waste site be reduced from six to four, with the provision for two additional inspections should it be deemed necessary.

## 4 Recommendation

1. THAT monitoring of consented activities at the STDC Patea Beach green waste site in the 2017-2018 be amended from that undertaken in 2016-2017, by reducing the number of scheduled inspections from six to four, with the provision for two additional inspections should it be deemed necessary.

## Glossary of common terms and abbreviations

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

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.
m <sup>2</sup>	Square Metres.
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.

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# Appendix I

## Resource consents held by STDC Patea Beach green waste discharge

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



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

Name of  
Consent Holder: South Taranaki District Council  
Private Bag 902  
HAWERA 4640

Consent Granted  
Date: 30 October 2007

**Conditions of Consent**

Consent Granted: To discharge domestic green waste onto land for the  
purpose of stabilising sand dunes at or about  
2637357E-6158276N

Expiry Date: 1 June 2022

Review Date(s): June 2010, June 2016

Site Location: Patea Beach, Beach Road, Patea

Legal Description: Sec 137 SO 2680 SO 6641 Pt Lot 6 DP 648 Pt Sec 74 Blk  
VII Carlyle SD

Catchment: Patea

### 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 exercise of this consent shall be undertaken in accordance with the documentation submitted in support of application 4491. Specifically this includes *Patea Beach Management Plan, South Taranaki District Council (June 2007)*. If there is any contradiction between the documentation submitted in support of the application and the conditions of this consent, the conditions of this consent shall prevail.
3. Dumping of green waste by the public shall be limited to specific designated areas identified by signs. The consent holder shall regularly remove the green waste from the dumping area and deposit it in the quantities and at the locations necessary to achieve the purpose of this consent.
4. For the purposes of this consent, domestic green waste is defined as: leaves, grass clippings, hedge trimmings, sticks/branches/logs with a diameter no greater than 100 mm, and other similar material all in quantities consistent with maintenance of a residential garden. Specifically excluded from the definition are: sticks/branches/logs with a diameter greater than 100 mm; timber (treated or not); and any viable plant identified in the *Pest Management Strategy for Taranaki: Plants*.
5. The consent holder shall ensure that signs at the dumping points clearly describe the waste that may be dumped.
6. The consent holder shall remove any dumped material from the site that is not green waste (as defined in condition 4).
7. The consent holder shall comply with the requirements of the *Pest Management Strategy for Taranaki: Plants* at the site.
8. The consent holder shall ensure that no waste discharged to the site is placed at or below the mean high water springs mark.

## Consent 6088-3

9. The discharge to land shall not result in any contaminant entering surface water.
10. The consent holder shall control and maintain all stormwater at the site to minimise erosion or scour of the adjacent foredune area to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council.
11. This consent shall lapse on the expiry of five years after the date of issue of this consent, 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.
12. 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 2010 and/or June 2016, 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 30 October 2007

For and on behalf of  
Taranaki Regional Council

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**Director-Resource Management**