



Resource Management Charging Policy (2021 – 2024)

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Highlights

This Policy document contains our regime of resource management charges for the region. It comes into force on 1 July 2021 and includes:

- Resource consent application charges
- Consent monitoring charges
- Charges for not complying with a rule in a regional plan or the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA)
- Charges for providing information in relation to plans and resource consents
- Application charges for changing a plan or the Regional Policy Statement
- Charges associated with our work administering dams under the Building Act 2004.

The charge out rate for Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) staff for all work relating to our resource management charges is between \$115 – \$150 per hour depending on the level of service provided.

When you apply for a resource consent, an initial fixed application fee is required to be submitted with your application. These fees vary depending on the type of consent you apply for and how your application will be processed. Additional charges may apply depending on the nature and complexity of your application.

Once you receive a consent, you will receive either a one-off or ongoing (eg, quarterly or annually) consent monitoring charge which is split into three parts:

- A customer service charge
- A compliance monitoring charge (variable depending on your consent)
- A state of the environment monitoring (SOE) charge (variable depending on your consent).

GWRC will charge actual and reasonable costs for carrying out and monitoring all abatement notices and enforcement orders covering consented and unconsented activities. All inspections for non-complying environmental incidents will incur a minimum standard charge.

The key changes to the 2019 Policy are:

- The Policy will apply for a three year period in parallel with GWRC's Long Term Plan (2021-2031). Some changes will be phased in over the three years.
- From 1 July 2021, an **increase to the charge out rate** for all services by \$5/hour. The last review to the charge out rate was in 2019. Resource management

services increase from \$110/hour to \$115/hour (excl. GST). Consent processing and compliance monitoring services increase from \$130/hour to \$135/hour (excl. GST). Technical and science expert advice services increase from \$145/hour to \$150/hour.

- **A review of the charge out rate will be made after 1 July each.** At each review if the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and salary market movement for consent processing and compliance monitoring services has increased by more than 3.7% since 1 July 2021, an increase to the charge out rate of \$5/hour will take effect immediately.
- From 1 July 2021, an **increase in the customer service charge** from \$40/year to \$70/year. This will be phased in over three years. The last review on customer service charge was in 2011. Discounts where there are multiple consents for the same activity will apply.
- An **increase in state of the environment monitoring (SOE) charges.** The last review of SOE charge was in 2019. GWRC's Revenue and Finance Policy requires that 10-20% of the cost of Environmental Science activities are funded from user charges (SOE charges). The 2019 Policy recovered approximately 12.5% of the cost of Environmental Science activities. The proposed Policy will recover 14.4% of the cost of Environmental Science activities. Hence the total expected income from SOE charges is expected to rise from \$1.25 million to \$1.62 million. This will be phased in over three years.

There are a number of other minor amendments to the 2019 Policy.

Part 1: Policy

1. Introduction

1.1 About this document

This document is the Resource Management Charging Policy ("Policy") for the Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC). It describes the charges that are payable to GWRC for a range of resource management services.

We charge for processing your resource consent application. This is made up of an initial fixed application fee, and in some cases, an additional charge when the cost of processing your consent goes over the initial fixed application fee paid by \$67.50 or more. Should processing costs be less than the initial fixed application fee paid by \$67.50 or more, you will receive a refund.

If you obtain a consent, you will most likely receive a consent monitoring charge.

This document also describes our charges for:

- Processing applications for a change to a Regional Plan or the Regional Policy Statement
- Recovering costs for responding to environmental incidents that are not linked to the operation of a resource consent
- Provision of information and/or documents in relation to plans and resource consents
- Charges associated with our work administering dams under the Building Act 2004.

All of the charges in the Policy are made under either section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), under section 150 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA), or section 243 of the Building Act 2004 (BA). These charges are also consistent with the GWRC Revenue and Funding Policy.

1.2 Our philosophy

The RMA has an emphasis on the beneficiary pays principle: those who benefit from the use of natural and physical resources are expected to pay the full costs of that use.

The charges in this Policy reflect that philosophy, but they also recognise that the community benefits from much of the environmental monitoring carried out by GWRC. The regional community is therefore expected to share some of the costs of state of the environment monitoring.

1.3 Access to community resources

GWRC manages the community's resources. No individual owns our rivers, aquifers, air, and coastal waters. They are used by all of the regional community. However, by obtaining a resource consent, individuals can access these resources for their own private use and economic benefit.

GWRC's job is to facilitate this resource use. But it must also make sure that the resource use is sustainable, that it is available for public use, both now and in the future. The charges for consent applicants and consent holders in this Policy reflect the reasonable cost of GWRC doing this job.

1.4 Customer service

We are a customer service organisation. We want to provide you with excellent service and value for money. You have a right to good service which comes with the payment of your charges.

We recognise your desire to run a successful business or carry out activities on your land. We see ourselves as a partner in that success, looking after your continued access to the resources that are your raw materials.

To this end, the charges in this Policy are:

- Reasonable, fair, and consistent
- Based on the services we deliver
- Able to be estimated before you start your activity.

Every consent holder has someone who is personally responsible for ensuring you get the best service we can offer. If you want help with your consent, information about our monitoring programmes, or have a query about your account, email us at notifications@gw.govt.nz or call us on 0800 496734.

1.5 Charge out rate

The majority of charges identified in this Policy are determined based on staff charge out rates. The charge out rates at the commencement of this Policy (1 July 2021) are proposed to be:

Table 1.1: Charge out rates

Hourly charge out rate	Excl. GST	Incl. GST
Resource management services includes work associated with administration of consent applications, resource consents, and information requests	\$115.00	\$132.25
Consent processing, compliance monitoring, and environmental incident response services includes work associated with processing consent applications, monitoring resource consents and permitted activities, dam activities under the Building Act, and responding to environmental incidents	\$135.00	\$155.25
Technical or science expert services for technical and/or science expert advice on consent applications, compliance monitoring, and environmental incidents	\$150.00	\$172.50

As this Policy will be in force for a three year period to coincide with GWRC's Long Term Plan (2021-2031), a review of charge out rates will be undertaken and adjusted as required during the period of this Policy.

Charge out rates will be increased by \$5 per hour if there is an increase of 3.7% in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and annual market median salary for consent processing and compliance monitoring services. The increase of 3.7% will be based on establishing a baseline of CPI and annual market median salary when the salary market data is received in July-August 2021. The subsequent annual review of charge out rates will be undertaken when annual salary market data is received, normally in July-August each year.

A summary of what charges will apply for the term of this Policy is summarised below:

Table 1.2: 2021-2014 charge out rates

Year	Review	Comment
2021-2022 (1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022)	July-August 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charge out rate as shown in Table 1.1 Baseline of CPI and market salary established
2022-2023 (1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023)	July-August 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase charge out rate by \$5/hour if CPI and annual market median salary is greater than 3.7% since July-August 2021 No increase if CPI and annual market median salary threshold not met
2023-2024 (1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024)	July-August 2023	

1.6 Goods and Services Tax

The charges and formulae described in this document **do not include** GST.

2. Principles

The principles which have guided GWRC in setting its resource management charges are set out below.

2.1 Charges must be lawful

GWRC can only levy charges which are allowed by the RMA, the LGA, and the BA.

Section 36 of the RMA provides for consent application charges, consent administration and monitoring charges, and charges for carrying out state of the environment monitoring. Applications for the preparation of, or changes to, regional plans or policy statements may also be charged. This section also covers charging for information in respect of plans and resource consents and the supply of documents.

Section 150 of the LGA enables GWRC to prescribe the fees payable in respect of any inspection made by GWRC under the LGA or any other legislation. This provides for recovering the costs of responding to environmental incidents.

Section 243 of the BA allows for GWRC to impose fees or charges for performing functions and services under the Act. It also allows GWRC to recover its costs from a dam owner should we need to carry out building work in respect of a dangerous dam.

2.2 Charges must be reasonable

The sole purpose of a charge is to recover the reasonable costs incurred by GWRC in respect of the activity to which the charge relates – see RMA (section 36AAA(2)), LGA (section 150), and BA (section 243).

2.3 Charges must be fair

Charges must be fair and relate to consent holders' activities. GWRC can only charge consent holders to the extent that their actions have contributed to the need for GWRC's work.

GWRC must also consider the benefits to the community and to consent holders when setting a charge. It would be inequitable to charge consent holders for resource management work done in the interests of the regional community and *vice versa*. We take this into account when setting the proportion of charges we wish to recover for state of the environment and compliance monitoring from an individual consent holder.

Where possible, GWRC will look for opportunities to streamline and improve processes to ensure that consent processing and compliance monitoring functions continue to be cost effective and efficient.

With regard to state of the environment monitoring, GWRC must also relate any charge to the effects of consent holders' activities on the environment (see RMA section 36AAA(3)(c)).

2.4 Charges must be uniformly applied

Charges should be applied uniformly and consistently to users whose activities require them to hold a consent, and where GWRC incurs ongoing costs.

2.5 Charges must be simple to understand

Charges should be clear and easy to understand. The administration and collection of charges should be simple and cost effective.

2.6 Charges must be transparent

Charges should be calculated in a way that is clear, logical, and justifiable. The work of GWRC for which costs are to be recovered should be identifiable.

2.7 Charges must be predictable and certain

Consent applicants and resource users are entitled to certainty about the cost of their dealings with GWRC. The manner in which charges are set should enable customers to evaluate the extent of their liability.

Resource users need to know the cost of obtaining and maintaining a consent to manage their business and to plan for future growth and development. Charges should not change unnecessarily: any charges must be transparent and fully justified.

2.8 GWRC must act responsibly

GWRC should implement its charging policy in a responsible manner. Where there are significant changes in charges GWRC should provide advance warning and give consent holders the opportunity to make adjustments.

3. Application charges

3.1 Introduction

This section of this Policy describes our charges for your:

1. Application for a resource consent, application to change conditions or lapse date on an existing consent, application to transfer an existing consent, certificates of compliance, and deemed permitted activities
2. Application for the preparation or change of a regional plan or the Regional Policy Statement.

3.2 Applications for resource consents

3.2.1 Types of resource consent and resource consent application process

Resource consents permit you to do something that would otherwise contravene the RMA. GWRC processes the following consent types as classified by section 87 of the RMA:

- Water permit
- Discharge permit
- Land use consent
- Coastal permit

Resource consents are processed as either non-notified, limited notified, or publicly notified. The majority of consent applications are processed as non-notified. Our staff are happy to provide advice about your application for a resource consent. Our aim is to ensure your application is processed quickly and simply, while meeting the requirements set down in the RMA.

3.2.2 Charges for processing applications

GWRC charges consent applicants for any costs incurred when processing resource consent applications and most other application types. Charges include the costs of technical assessment, RMA assessment, peer review work and administration costs. We may also charge for travel time associated with site visits.

Our policy is that we charge the actual and reasonable costs for processing a resource consent application or other application type. This is based on the charge out rates identified in Table 3.1 below.

Table 3.1: Charge out rates for processing applications

Hourly charge out rate	Excl. GST	Incl. GST
Resource management services including consent registration, database entry, and notified consent processing support	\$115.00	\$132.25
Consent processing services including assessment of consent applications, decision recommendations	\$135.00	\$155.25
Technical or science expert services for technical and/or science expert advice on consent applications	\$150.00	\$172.50

Note: Charge out rates may alter following annual reviews as identified in section 1 of the Policy.

Before beginning to process an application we require an initial fixed application fee to be paid in full. These application fees are shown in Tables 3.2 and 3.3 and are explained in more detail in sections 3.3 and 3.4. Where processing costs exceed the initial fixed application fee, an additional charge for actual and reasonable costs is made. Under section 36AAB(2) of the RMA, **we will not begin to process any application until the initial fixed application fee is paid.**

Please note that application processing charges apply **even if your consent application is declined or you withdraw your application.**

3.2.3 Charges associated with pre-application advice

GWRC provides a pre-application advice service. Getting things right early in the process can save considerable time and expense later on, and we believe it is important that you know how to make an application and how it will be processed. The following pre-application services are **free of charge**:

- Initial pre-application meeting
- Site visit
- Follow up advice following meeting and/or site visit.

The staff time associated with our free pre-application service is capped at 4 hours and is only applicable to non-notified consents where the effects on the environment are considered to be minor. The free pre-application service does not include the time of any external experts engaged in pre-application services, or time spent reviewing draft applications including any Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE).

We will charge for pre-application services that exceed 4 hours of staff-time, the review of draft applications and AEEs, and the time of external experts. We will always advise you before we start charging for application advice. In most cases costs incurred for pre-application advice are included when calculating your final consent processing charges. However, for larger projects we may invoice before and during the resource consent process.

3.3 Application charges for non-notified resource consents, and other application types

3.3.1 Schedule of fees

Resource consent applications are processed as non notified (ie, not advertised in the newspaper and public submissions not called for) if their effects are minor, and those who might be affected by the activity agree to the consent being granted. The initial fixed application fees for non-notified resource consents are outlined in Table 3.2 on the following page.

There are other application types for resource management services. Most of these incur application charges which are also outlined in Table 3.2 on the following page. There are no charges for surrendering a resource consent.

All initial fixed application fees are the average cost of processing the application type. In many cases they will be the total cost you pay. However, for some applications the cost of processing may vary from these charges. In some circumstances you may receive a refund on your application fee or we may require an additional charge. When the processing costs are nearing the application fee paid, and costs are likely to significantly exceed the application fee paid, you will be advised of any potential additional charges.

Table 3.2: Initial fixed application fees for non-notified resource consents, and other application types

Non-notified consent Type (s87 RMA)	Initial fee (excl. GST)	Initial fee incl. GST)	Hours
Discharge to Land	\$2,275.00	\$2,616.25	17
Discharge to Land/Water (earthworks)	\$3,355.00	\$3,858.25	25
Discharge to Water (other)	\$3,355.00	\$3,858.25	25
Discharge to Air	\$1,465.00	\$1,684.75	11
Take/Use, Water – new application	\$2,005.00	\$2,305.75	15
Take/Use, Water – replacement/renewal application	\$1,195.00	\$1,374.25	9
Dam/Divert Water	\$1,060.00	\$1,219.00	8
Land Use (land clearing, logging, soil disturbance, forestry)	\$1,735.00	\$1,995.25	13
Land Use (works in the bed of a lake or river, bridge, culvert)	\$1,127.50	\$1,296.63	8.5*
Land Use (bore) – standard	\$790.00	\$908.50	6*
Land Use (bore) – non-standard eg, sand trap/bore spear/geotechnical bore outside of Lower Hutt groundwater zone and any community drinking water supply protection area	\$587.50	\$675.63	4.5*

Non-notified consent Type (s87 RMA)	Initial fee (excl. GST)	Initial fee incl. GST)	Hours
Coastal Permit (existing boatshed or driving on beaches)	\$790.00	\$908.50	6*
Coastal Permit (other including new boatshed)	\$1,735.00	\$1,995.25	13
Other Consent Types	\$1,195.00	\$1,374.25	9
Change of consent conditions – administrative conditions only (s127, RMA) – see key note 3 below	\$520.00	\$598.00	4
Change of consent conditions – all other conditions (s127, RMA) – see key note 3 below	\$1,195.00	\$1,374.25	9
Other Application Type	Initial fee (excl. GST)	Initial fee incl. GST)	Hours
Change of lapse date (s125, RMA)	\$520.00	\$598.00	4
Transfer of water permit or discharge permit from site to site (s136(2)(b) & s137(3), RMA)	\$1,195.00	\$1,374.25	9
Certificate of compliance (s139, RMA)	\$1,465.00	\$1,684.75	11
Deemed permitted activities (s87BB, RMA) – see key note 4 below	\$405.00	\$465.75	3
Surrender of consent (s138)	No charge		
Transfer of land use consent, coastal permit, water permit, discharge permit to another person at the same site (s134, 135, 136(1), s136(2)(a), s137(1) – see key note 5 below	\$115.00	\$132.25	1

Key notes:

1. The hours specified above include 1 hour for resource management services (\$115/hour), and the remaining balance for consent processing services (\$135/hour). If charge out rates alter following any annual review as identified in section 1 of the Policy, the above initial fixed application fees will be changed to reflect any adjusted charge out rate.

2. The initial fixed application fee for consent types marked with a * includes a consent monitoring charge of \$67.50. This covers 0.5 hours for compliance monitoring (eg, registering bore logs on our Wells Database, and checking any photographic records sent to us). This is because the majority of these consent types are one-off and not monitored with a site inspection. No further consent monitoring charges apply after the granting of consent in these instances.

3. For applications to change consent conditions, *administrative conditions* include monitoring and reporting requirements. *All other conditions* include conditions relating to avoiding, remedying, or mitigating environmental effects, eg, rates of take/discharge, water quality standards, maintaining environmental flows, construction methodology.

4. Deemed permitted activities (DPA's) are generally invoiced when a decision on a DPA is made in writing. If the actual and reasonable costs of are less than the fixed fee of \$405.00,

a lesser fee will be applied. If the actual and reasonable costs of are greater than the fixed fee of \$405.00, an additional charges will apply.

5. This only applies to transfers of consent(s) to another person/entity that does not include any changes to the activity or conditions. Where other changes are required, the actual and reasonable cost of transferring consent(s) are recovered. This fixed fee is invoiced generally to the new consent holder at the completion of the transfer.

3.3.2 Waiver of fees

GWRC may at its discretion, waive non-notified fees in relation to any consents required for wetland restoration. This is because GWRC supports the protection of wetland ecosystems, and their restoration.

Where there is more than one application required for the same proposal, an initial fixed application charge is required for each application. In some instances, GWRC may waive, at its discretion, the requirement to pay all initial fixed application fees associated with multiple applications.

3.4 Application charges for limited and publicly notified resource consents

3.4.1 Schedule of fees

In general, a resource consent is **publicly notified** (ie, advertised on our website and public submissions called for) if its effects are more than minor. Where the effects on the environment are considered to be minor, but it is not possible to obtain the written agreement of all those who might be affected by a proposed activity, the application is **limited notified**.

The fixed application charges for limited and publicly notified consents are required to be paid at two points in time:

1. When the application is lodged the initial application fee is required
2. If a hearing is required to determine the application, a further application fee will be invoiced when the hearing is notified.

The initial fixed application charges for a limited notified or publicly notified resource consent are as follows:

Table 3.3: Initial fixed application fees for limited notified or publicly notified resource consents

Resource consent process	Initial fee (excl. GST)	Initial fee (incl. GST)
Initial limited notified application fee (up to hearing)	\$10,000	\$11,500
Initial publicly notified application fee (up to hearing)	\$20,000	\$23,000
Further application fee if hearing scheduled for less than 5 days is required	\$20,000	\$23,000

Resource consent process	Initial fee (excl. GST)	Initial fee (incl. GST)
Further application fee if hearing scheduled for 5 days or more is required	\$50,000	\$57,500

Key notes:

1. The initial fixed application fees for limited notified or publicly notified consents applies to each proposal and not each consent application if multiple consents are required for the same proposal.

2. The initial fixed application fees also apply to changes to consent conditions (s127, RMA) which are required to be processed on a limited notified or publicly notified basis.

Under section 36AAB(2) of the RMA, the processing of any application will be stopped if the applicable fixed fee is not paid in full. The processing of the application will not commence until the initial fixed application fee is paid. If a hearing is required, the processing of the application will be stopped and, if required, the hearing postponed until the fee is paid.

The actual and reasonable cost of processing a limited or publicly notified resource consent varies considerably and is dependent on a number of factors such as how well the applicant has consulted relevant parties, how well the application is prepared, the number of submissions received, and how difficult the issues are to resolve.

3.4.2 Resource consent hearings

The cost of the Hearing Panel when made up from Council members is charged as per the schedule set in the Local Government Members (2019/20) (Local Authorities) Determination 2019. Council members are reimbursed for time spent at a formal site inspection, preparing for a hearing, the hearing, and in deliberations. At the time of writing this Policy the charges are as follows:

- Chairperson of hearing panel – \$100/hour
- Elected member on hearing panel – \$80/hour

Independent commissioners can be appointed to decide your consent application in the following circumstances:

1. An iwi commissioner is commonly appointed to a Hearing Panel
2. Where GWRC considers the issues are sufficiently complex in nature, or the size of the hearing in terms of public interest
3. Where there is a conflict of interest, eg, where an internal department of GWRC is applying for resource consent
4. At the request of a submitter
5. At the request of an applicant.

Where independent commissioners are appointed at the request of the applicant or Council, the full costs of the independent commissioners are on charged to the applicant. Where independent commissioners are appointed at the request of submitters, the applicant pays for the hearing costs that would have been incurred if there was a Hearing Panel of Councillors, whilst the balance of any additional costs are passed on to the submitters who requested independent commissioners.

Any disbursements incurred by the Hearing Panel and/or independent commissioners such as photocopying, meals, travel and accommodation are on charged to the applicant.

3.4.3 Cost estimates and regular invoicing

For limited and publicly notified resource consent applications we will provide you with a summarised cost estimate which we will update where necessary.

GWRC has the discretion to invoice additional charges during the processing of an application and once processing has been completed. Once any consent processing costs exceed the paid initial fee or further fixed fee, GWRC will regularly invoice (eg, monthly or quarterly) or at key stages of the notified process.

3.4.4 Application charges where application processed by Environment Protection Agency or via direct referral to Environment Court

Where an application is a proposal of national significance that the Minister for the Environment directs to be processed by the Environment Protection Agency, all actual and reasonable costs incurred by GWRC for the s88 completeness check and key issues report will be on charged to the applicant.

Where an application is processed via direct referral to the Environment Court, all actual and reasonable costs incurred by GWRC up to notification of the application will be on charged to the applicant. All costs incurred after that point, will be sought through the normal Environment Court costs order process.

3.5 **Application charges for the preparation or change of a Regional Plan or the Regional Policy Statement¹**

3.5.1 Receiving, accepting or adopting a request

When GWRC receives a request to prepare or change a Regional Plan or to change the Regional Policy Statement, it may treat the request in one of three ways.

GWRC may decide to:

¹ Only Ministers of the Crown or local authorities can apply to change the Regional Policy Statement.

1. Decline the request. In this case, the request would go no further
2. "Accept" the request, but to charge the applicant the cost of processing the application
3. "Adopt" the request. In this case we will meet the cost of making the change after the initial assessment.

A request may be adopted if GWRC considers the benefit of the change accrues wholly to the community as distinct from the person or persons making the request.

In all three cases above, we charge the actual and reasonable costs for the initial assessment of the merits of the request. The application charge for this assessment is set out in Table 3.4. The actual costs of this assessment will vary depending on the nature and complexity of the request.

The charge out rate for any actual and reasonable costs are the same as those outlined in Table 3.1.

3.5.2 Schedule of fees

The charges levied by GWRC in relation to a Regional Plan or Regional Policy Statement changes are set out in Table 3.4.

Table 3.4: Initial fixed application fee for the preparation or change of a Regional Plan or the Regional Policy Statement

	Initial fee (excl. GST)	Initial fee (incl. GST)
Charge for assessing a request before deciding to decline, accept, or adopt it; <u>and</u>	\$6,900.00	\$7,935.00
Charge for processing a request which is accepted; <u>or</u>	\$17,250.00	\$19,837.50
Charge for processing a request which is adopted	No charge	

The charge for processing a change which GWRC has accepted (but not adopted) is intended to provide for:

- Public notification of the change and the calling of submissions
- Preparation of a summary of submissions
- Advertising for further submissions.

The actual cost will vary depending on the number and complexity of submissions received.

The charge **does not** include any cost associated with processing the change after the receipt of further submissions. This is because the amount of work necessary to take the proposed change through the remainder of the process

laid down in the First Schedule to the RMA may vary considerably depending on the magnitude or complexity of the proposal and the number of submissions received.

This can best be estimated once the public has demonstrated its interest in the change through the public submission and further submission phase. We will recover any actual and reasonable costs that exceed the amounts shown in this section by way of an additional charge under section 36 of the RMA.

We will provide an estimate of the total cost of the application when the period for submissions on the requested change has closed.

If the cost of processing a request which has been accepted is less than \$17,250 (excl. GST), we will refund the difference.

3.6 Charging basis

To process your resource consent application or other application type, or request to change a Regional Plan or the Regional Policy Statement we charge for our actual and reasonable costs in the following way:

1. Staff services:

Staff time is charged on the basis of actual time spent. The charge-out rate is dependent on the services provided as outlined below:

Hourly charge out rate	Excl. GST
Resource management services including consent registration, database entry, and notified consent processing support	\$115.00
Consent processing or plan change services including assessment of consent applications, decision recommendations	\$135.00
Technical or science expert services for technical and/or science expert advice	\$155.00

Note: Charge out rates may alter following annual reviews as identified in section 1 of the Policy.

2. Consultant services:

Consultant services are charged on the basis of actual and reasonable cost of the services provided.

3. Iwi services:

Where iwi services are required to work through any matters raised through the resource consent process, GWRC will (at its discretion) pass on the actual and reasonable costs of iwi providing those services. This will most likely occur in any resource consent applications where

the activity is undertaken in a Schedule C site of significance to mana whenua as prescribed in the Proposed Natural Resources Plan.

(Explanatory note: GWRC incurs the cost of standard comments provided by iwi for non-notified consent applications. This cost is not passed on to consent applicants. However in instances such as those described above, there may be considerable time and associated costs for iwi to appropriately advise on a resource consent application. In such instances, consent applicants are encouraged to engage and reimburse iwi services directly. This policy recovers costs of iwi services in the circumstances where it is necessary for GWRC to pass on the actual and reasonable costs of iwi services.

4. Disbursements:

Disbursements include advertising expenses, laboratory analysis, consultants, photocopying (at 20 cents per A4 page), and hearing costs (other than staff time) eg, venue hire

The fees do not include any charges payable to the Crown in respect of any application (eg, the Maritime Safety Agency's fee for checking the navigational safety of maritime structures).

3.7 Resource Management (Discount on Administrative Charges) Regulations 2010

3.7.1 Introduction

Changes to the RMA in 2009, resulted in the implementation of the Resource Management (Discount on Administrative Charges) Regulations “Discount Regulations” which sets a default discount policy for resource consents that are not processed within statutory timeframes.

Whilst the Discount Regulations allow for Councils to implement a more generous policy, GWRC’s policy is to adhere to the Discount Regulations.

3.7.2 Value and scope of Discount Regulations

The Discount Regulations set out a discount of 1% for each day an application is processed over the statutory timeframes specified in the RMA, up to a maximum of 50% (ie, 50 working days).

The Discount Regulations apply to the processing of most resource consent applications or applications to change consent conditions. They do not apply to the following:

- Applications to extend consent lapsing periods (s127, RMA)
- Consent reviews (s128, RMA)
- Certificates of compliance (s139, RMA)
- Replacement consent applications when applications are processed prior to the expiry of a resource consent
- When an applicant withdraws a resource consent application.

If your application is not processed within statutory timeframes, you will be advised at the time a decision is made on your consent and a discount will be identified accordingly in line with the Discount Regulations.

If you have any questions regarding your charges and whether the Discount Regulations apply to the processing of your consent, email us at notifications@gw.govt.nz or phone us on 0800 496734.

The Discount Regulations can be viewed in full at <http://www.legislation.govt.nz/>. The Ministry for the Environment (MfE) has prepared some helpful guidance on the Discount Regulations². This information can be accessed at the MfE website www.mfe.govt.nz.

3.8 Your right of objection and appeal

If you consider any additional charge (that is any charge which exceeds the initial fixed application fees specified in Tables 3.2, 3.3, or 3.4) is unreasonable, you may object to GWRC in accordance with s357 of the RMA. You need to make your objection in writing to GWRC within 15 working days of receiving your invoice. GWRC will hear your objection and make a decision on whether to uphold it.

If you are still not satisfied then you may appeal GWRC's decision to the Environment Court.

You may not object to any of the charges listed in Tables 3.2, 3.3, or 3.4.

² Ministry for the Environment. 2010. *Resource Management (Discount on Administrative Charges) Regulations 2010 – Implementation Guidance*. Wellington: Ministry for the Environment.

4. Consent monitoring charges for resource consents

4.1 Introduction

This section of the Policy sets the charges which GWRC levies annually in relation to resource consents. Under section 36(1)(c) of the RMA, GWRC may charge for costs associated with its ongoing consent management responsibilities. These include:

- The administration and monitoring of resource consents
- The gathering of information necessary to monitor the state of the environment of the region.

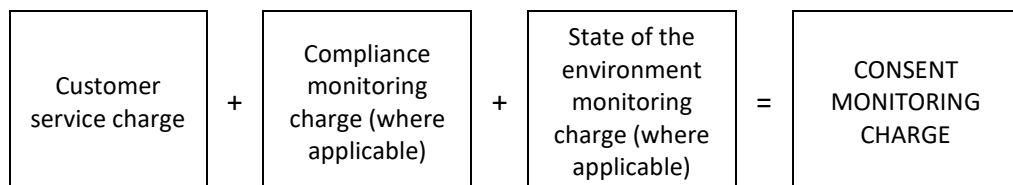
Where the charges set in this section are inadequate to cover GWRC's reasonable costs, GWRC may impose an additional charge under section 36(5) of the RMA.

4.2 Consent monitoring charges

The components of the consent monitoring charge which consent holders face are:

- A fixed customer service charge
- A fixed or variable charge for compliance monitoring
- A fixed or variable charge for state of the environment monitoring.

Your Consent Monitoring Charge



4.3 The customer service charge

Summary: The annual customer service charge for administering your consent is \$70 (excl. GST). Whether there are multiple consents for the same activity (ie, the same WGN/WAR consent number) a discount of \$20 per consent will apply for any additional consents. **The customer service charge is being phased in over three years.**

4.3.1 What we do for your money

There is a cost in providing a range of customer services relating to consents. We pass this cost on to consent holders. The services we provide are:

- Information and advice about your consent
- The maintenance of an up-to-date record of your consent on our database

- A record of any changes in the status of your consent (eg, if you surrender your consent)³
- The administration of these charges
- The maintenance and storage of your permanent consent file.

We welcome any inquiry about your consent and are happy to assist you in understanding these charges. Please email us at notifications@gw.govt.nz or phone us on 0800 496 734.

4.3.2 The basis for the customer service charge

The basis for the customer service charge is the time spent on the above tasks by GWRC staff. As most consents take about the same time to maintain, this cost is averaged across all consent holders. A standard customer service charge applies to all consents.

The charge includes overhead costs which are related to the services we deliver. These costs include office rental, stationery, and computer costs. Only those overheads that can be reasonably attributed to the provision of services to customers are charged for. Other GWRC overheads, such as the cost of corporate services, management, and Council meetings are **not** charged to consent holders.

The customer service charge has remained the same at \$40 since 2011. GWRC is currently upgrading its database support systems. It is appropriate that part of the cost of this upgrade is recovered by consent holders.

4.3.3 Application of the customer service charge

The customer service charge is \$70 per consent per year (excl. GST). **This will be phased in over three years from 1 July 2021.**

The full customer service charge applies to consents which:

- Are active and where there is ongoing administration and/or monitoring by GWRC or by the consent holder
- Are temporarily inactive, but where there will be ongoing administration and/or monitoring when the consent becomes active.

Where a consent holder has multiple consents for the same activity a discount is applied to each consent after the first consent as shown below:

No. of consents for an activity	Cost (excl. GST) 2021-22	Cost (excl. GST) 2022-23	Cost (excl. GST) 2023-24
1	\$50	\$60	\$70
2	\$100	\$110	\$120
3	\$150	\$160	\$170

³ We will not accept a surrender or transfer of a consent unless all outstanding fees have been paid.

No. of consents for an activity	Cost (excl. GST) 2021-22	Cost (excl. GST) 2022-23	Cost (excl. GST) 2023-24
4	\$200	\$210	\$220
5	\$250	\$260	\$270

Generally an activity is considered to have the same location and same purpose and be linked to one WGN/WAR number. Where there may be different WGN/WAR numbers they will be considered as a separate activity, unless special circumstances apply.

4.3.4 Circumstances where the customer service charge does not apply

The customer service charge does not apply:

- For most land use consents (bores and works in the bed of a lake or river) and coastal permits, where no compliance inspections are required to be undertaken
- The activity for which the consent was granted has concluded, and the consent will most likely not be active in the future
- Other circumstances at our discretion.

The charge does not apply in these circumstances because little or no work is required to maintain the record on the database in the long term.

4.4 The compliance monitoring charge

Summary: Your compliance monitoring programme is tailored to your individual circumstances. You pay only the cost of monitoring your consent.

4.4.1 What we do for your money

The purpose of compliance monitoring is to confirm that consent holders are meeting the conditions of their consents. The conditions on resource consents are designed to control any adverse effects on the environment arising from the exercise of the consent. We need to know that consents are being complied with. In this way we can ensure the resource you are using remains fit for you and other consent holders to use.

We have a strategic compliance monitoring programme that prioritises monitoring of particular consented activities. In principle, this programme focusses more monitoring on consents likely to have an environmental impact if their conditions are not being complied with.

How your activity fits within our strategic compliance monitoring programme is determined at the time your consent is granted and when our programme is reviewed each year. How much compliance monitoring is required varies

according to the nature of your activity, its size and frequency, and its potential environmental impact.

As part of the compliance monitoring programme for a consent, we may:

- Carry out site visits and inspections (where required)
- Review management plans and/or the results of any monitoring carried out by you or your consultants
- Advise you on the outcome of the compliance visit.

Occasionally, we may also need to use outside expertise to assist with the monitoring of some consents. The costs of these experts may be included as part of your compliance monitoring charge.

4.4.2 The basis for the compliance monitoring charge

The basis for the compliance monitoring charge is the actual and reasonable cost of carrying out your compliance monitoring programme. You pay only the cost of monitoring compliance with your consent.

GWRC has considered the criteria in section 36 of the RMA before setting this charge. It considers that the need for this type of monitoring arises only because of consent holder’s activities and that the benefits accrue entirely to consent holders. It is appropriate, then, for consent holders to bear the reasonable cost of this monitoring.

Fixed and variable charges are made up of the cost of staff time to carry out an inspection (if required), audit any monitoring information provided by you, follow up any non-compliance, and reporting back to you outcomes of any compliance monitoring (if required).

The charge-out rate is dependent on the services provided as outlined in Table 4.1 below:

Table 4.1: Charge out rates for consent monitoring

Hourly charge out rate	Excl. GST
Compliance monitoring services including undertaking site visits and auditing any monitoring information supplied by consent holders	\$135.00
Technical or science expert services for technical and/or science expert advice on compliance monitoring information supplied by consent holders	\$150.00

Note: Charge out rates may alter following annual reviews as identified in section 1 of the Policy.

Where GWRC uses an external consultant, the actual and reasonable costs of consultant services will be passed on to the consent holder.

Where iwi services are required to work through any matters relating to compliance monitoring, GWRC may at its discretion, pass on the actual and reasonable costs of iwi providing those services. This will most likely occur for any resource consents where the activity is undertaken in a Schedule C site of significance to mana whenua as prescribed in the Proposed Natural Resources Plan. Any such monitoring costs are also likely to have been identified at the time your resource consent is processed.

4.4.3 Application of the compliance monitoring charge

The compliance monitoring charge applies to all consents for which a compliance monitoring programme is established. Depending on the activity, either fixed or variable charges will apply. Table 4.2 below generally outlines what activities incur fixed or variable charges:

Table 4.2: Fixed and variable charges for various activities

Fixed charges	Variable charges
Water takes	Municipal wastewater
Agricultural effluent	Municipal water supplies
Industrial, non-municipal, and winery discharges	RoNS projects and earthworks
Coastal works, structures, and activities	Urban stormwater
River works, bridges, and culverts	Air discharges
Boatsheds	Landfills, cleanfills, and quarries
Bores	Contaminated sites
Swing moorings	Forestry
	Reclamation
	1080 and agrichemical

Fixed charges are set charges which generally apply to activities where conditions are very similar or the same. If an activity identified for fixed charges is non-standard, then variable charges may apply to that non-standard activity, eg, a water take with non-standard consent conditions may require additional monitoring.

Fixed charges under section 36(1) of the RMA are not open to objection and appeal.

Variable charges apply to activities where consent conditions and the nature and scale of activity are likely to vary. All variable charges are based on actual and reasonable costs since the previous invoice. There may be some instances where the variable charge may be \$0 as no monitoring is undertaken in the previous year.

Variable charges are considered additional charges under section 36(5) of the RMA. Section 36(7) provides for any additional charge to be open to objection and appeal.

All **fixed and variable charges** for compliance monitoring activities are provided in Part 2A of this Policy.

4.4.4 Circumstances where the annual compliance monitoring charge does not apply

Some activities in our strategic compliance monitoring programme are not inspected. Only minimal monitoring is completed. These activities include:

- Bores
- Most river works
- Most coastal works and activities.

For these activities a compliance monitoring charge of \$67.50 is included when the consent is processed. Note: In special circumstances, for some of the above activities an inspection may be required and fixed or variable charges will apply.

4.4.5 Additional compliance monitoring charges

Fixed compliance monitoring charges are based on the premise that consent holders use resources in a responsible manner and according to the conditions of their consent. The charge covers only routine monitoring.

Where the actual and reasonable costs incurred by us in carrying out compliance monitoring exceed any fixed compliance monitoring charge identified for your resource consent by \$67.50 or more, these costs may be recovered by way of a **fixed non-compliance charge** or a **variable additional charge**. Any variable additional charge is levied under section 36(5) of the RMA. Section 36(7) provides for any additional charge to be open to objection and appeal.

Variable additional compliance monitoring charges apply in situations where:

- Resource users need to undertake further work to meet conditions of their resource consent and there is consequently additional monitoring work required by GWRC
- Further inspections, assessment and reporting are required from GWRC for the activity than originally anticipated.
- Non-compliance with consent conditions has been observed following an incident notification
- Additional site visits are requested by the consent holder.

Fixed non-compliance charges can be applied on top of standard fixed compliance charges for the following:

Table 4.3: Fixed non-compliance charges

Non-compliance fixed charge	Excl. GST
Advisory notice (issued to remedy any non-compliance)	\$270.00
Late submission of management plan and/or monitoring information	\$135.00

Note: Fixed non-compliance charges may be adjusted if there is a change to the charge out rate following any annual review as identified in section 1 of the Policy.

The above fixed non-compliance charges may be waived at the discretion of GWRC.

If any consent does not comply with the conditions, and inspections are less than one per year, your compliance charge may be altered at the next charging round to provide for additional inspections until such time that good compliance is observed.

Where we carry out an inspection as a result of an **incident notification** (for example, a complaint about water pollution or odour release), the consent holder is only charged if the consent is breached and/or non-compliance is observed.

Where we carry out an inspection to determine compliance with **an enforcement order or abatement notice** for a consented activity, we will charge the consent holder actual and reasonable costs for any follow up visit to confirm that the required action has been taken and full compliance with the notice and your resource consent is achieved.

We levy any charges on an actual and reasonable basis.

4.5 The state of the environment monitoring charge

Summary: GWRC charges consent holders for the cost of state of the environment monitoring where that monitoring benefits consent holders.

The charge you pay is related to the effects of your activity on the environment.

Consent holders pay for only a part of the cost of this monitoring. The regional community pays for the rest as it also benefits from the information gained.

4.5.1 What we do for your money

State of the environment (SOE) monitoring is the gathering of information about a resource (water, land, and air) so that it can be managed on a sustainable basis. GWRC is tasked under section 35 of the RMA to monitor the state of the environment in the Wellington region in order to effectively carry out our functions. The information is used, amongst other purposes, to

determine the nature and state of a resource, to enable us to grant resource consents with confidence, and to check whether the management tools for resources in regional plans are working properly.

GWRC carries out SOE monitoring in many of the air sheds, catchments and groundwater zones of the region. We operate a network of hydrological recording stations which measure such variables as rainfall, river flow, and water depth in aquifers. We also routinely test the quality of water in our rivers, aquifers, and the sea. In addition, we monitor ambient air quality.

State of the environment monitoring and investigations focus on a resource in a more general way than the monitoring of an individual consent (eg, a catchment or area basis). We measure a range of environmental variables to identify a resource's availability and quality, and the uses to which it is being put. In relation to rivers for example, we monitor changes in water quality and quantity to ensure that our rivers remain available for a wide range of private and community uses, both now and in the future.

We carry out a wide range of monitoring and investigations and produce publicly available information on:

- The quantity and quality of surface water
- The quantity and quality of groundwater
- Coastal water quality
- Air quality.

GWRC seeks to optimise and co-ordinate its SOE monitoring programme in a cost effective manner in order to avoid duplicating monitoring that may be undertaken by consent holders.

You can find out about the resource you are using by accessing this information: it may be useful in operating your business. Please contact our Environmental Science team on 0800 496 734 for more information.

4.5.2 The basis of the state of the environment charge

The basis of the SOE monitoring charge is the cost to GWRC of undertaking this monitoring. However, we only charge consent holders for a portion of our monitoring that benefits consent holders. The cost is shared with the regional community (ie, ratepayers), as they also need this type of monitoring and benefit from the knowledge acquired through the programme. We do not charge consent holders for monitoring undertaken for flood warning, river management, or regional planning purposes.

The benefits of state of the environment monitoring for consent holders are:

- Protection of the resource through its management on a sustainable basis
- Early warning of changes in resources
- Reduced costs for future consent applications

- Better information to aid business planning.

However, as indicated above, SOE monitoring is carried out for a variety of reasons, of which meeting the needs of consent holders is but one. It is appropriate to only charge consent holders for their share of this monitoring.

GWRC's SOE monitoring programme is undertaken by our Environmental Science Department. GWRC's Revenue and Financing Policy requires that between 10%-20% of programme cost for the Environmental Science Department is recovered from resource users (ie, consent holders). The 2019 Policy recovered approximately 12.5% of the Environmental Science programme. This Policy aims to recover 14.4%. **This will be phased in over three years.**

GWRC considers that the SOE monitoring charges established by this Policy meet the requirements for setting SOE monitoring charges in section 36AAA of the RMA. As part of these requirements, GWRC also examines the monitoring programme to determine whether consent holders benefit from it to a greater extent than other members of the regional community. GWRC is of the view that consent holders do enjoy a benefit which non-consent holders do not, that is, a legal right to access the resource for their economic benefit.

4.5.3 Application of the state of the environment charge

A SOE monitoring charge applies to most consent types. This includes:

- Land use consents where there are ongoing environmental effects relating to our environmental science programme
- Water permits to take surface water or groundwater
- Discharge permits to discharge contaminants to land
- Discharge permits to discharge contaminants to fresh water
- Discharge permits to discharge contaminants to air
- Coastal permits to discharge contaminants to coastal water
- Coastal permits where there are ongoing environmental effects relating to our environmental science programme.

A scale of fixed SOE monitoring charges are applied to consents. These charges vary due to the following factors:

- The nature and scale of activity, eg, the size of a water take or type of discharge
- The level of stress a particular catchment or groundwater zone is under, eg, the level of allocation from a groundwater zone.

The scale of fixed charges applied to consents are more specifically identified in Part 2B of this Policy.

4.5.4 Waiver or reduction in state of the environment monitoring charges

GWRC may waive or reduce the SOE monitoring charge in the following instances:

1. Where an activity has multiple consents (relating to the same consent type), the SOE monitoring charge may be reduced
2. Where through the operation of the formula for setting the charge in the Schedules to this Policy, the resulting amount does not satisfy the principles of reasonableness and fairness in sections 2.2 and 2.3 of this Policy.

4.5.5 Additional state of the environment monitoring charges

GWRC may apply an additional SOE monitoring charge. This will occur in instances where due to the nature and scale of the activity, the formulas set in the Schedules to this Policy are not adequate to recover the reasonable costs related to our SOE monitoring programme. Any additional charges will need to satisfy the principles of reasonableness and fairness in sections 2.2 and 2.3 of this Policy. Any additional charge is levied under section 36(5) of the RMA. Section 36(7) provides for any additional charge to be open to objection and appeal.

4.6 Other matters relating to consent monitoring charges

4.6.1 Consent termination

Where a resource consent expires or is surrendered during the course of the year, and the activity to which it relates ceases, then the customer service, compliance, and state of the environment charges apply only to that period of the year (based on complete months) for which the consent was operative. We may not accept a surrender of consent unless any outstanding fees and charges have been paid in full.

4.6.2 Consent expiry and replacement

Where a resource consent expires during the course of the year, but the activity to which the consent relates continues until the consent is replaced, then the consent monitoring charges outlined in this Policy apply.

4.6.3 Consent transfer

Where a resource consent is transferred during the course of the year (eg, when a property with a consent is sold to a new owner), it is the responsibility of the original owner to advise us of the change. *Any apportionment of fees after the charge has been made remains the responsibility of the respective owners.* We may not accept a transfer of consent unless any outstanding fees and charges have been paid in full.

4.6.4 Partial remission of consent monitoring charges for minor activities with community service or good

GWRC recognises that there are some minor activities undertaken by not-for-profit organisations relating to community services that incur consent monitoring charges which can significantly impact the ability for the consent holder to provide this community service or good. If a consent holder can demonstrate that their minor activity is for a community good or service, and it is primarily operated through sourcing public funding (eg, charitable grants or donations), they can apply for a remission of up to 50% of their consent monitoring charge. GWRC at its discretion will consider each request on a case by case basis.

5. Permitted activity monitoring charges

5.1 Introduction

This section of the Policy sets the charges which GWRC levies in relation to permitted activities. Under section s36(1)(ae) and s36(1)(cc) two types of permitted activities can be charged:

1. Deemed permitted activity under section 87BB of the RMA
2. Any specified permitted activities in a National Environmental Standard (NES).

At the time of writing this Policy, the following NES have specified permitted activities where charges can apply:

National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry
National Environmental Standard for Freshwater.

5.2 The permitted activity monitoring charge

The charge-out rate for permitted activity monitoring is **\$135⁴ per hour** (excl. GST). All permitted activity monitoring charges are **variable charges**. All variable charges are based on actual and reasonable costs incurred for monitoring the permitted activity.

Where GWRC uses an external consultant, the actual and reasonable costs of consultant services are passed on to the person/organisation undertaking the activity. A **customer service charge** and **state of the environment monitoring charge** do not apply to any permitted activity monitoring.

5.2.1 Deemed permitted activities

Most deemed permitted activities will not be monitored and therefore monitoring charges will not apply except under special circumstances.

5.2.2 NES for Plantation Forestry

Under Part 3 of the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry) Regulations 2017, the only activities where permitted monitoring charges are applicable are earthworks (regulation 24), river crossings (regulation 37), forestry quarrying (regulation 51), and harvesting (regulation 63(2)).

5.2.3 NES for Freshwater

Under Part 4 of the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Regulations 2020, the costs of monitoring the permitted activities identified in the NES may be charged to the person/organisation undertaking the activity.

⁴ The charge out rate for permitted activity monitoring may alter following annual reviews as identified in section 1 of the Policy.

6. Building Act charges

6.1 Introduction

Prior to 2004 territorial local authorities (ie, City and District Councils) were responsible for dams. The Building Act 2004 (BA) altered the regime by which territorial authority handled matters pertaining to dams. The BA referred matters pertaining to dams to Regional Councils.

In July 2008 GWRC transferred various Building Act 2004 functions relating to dams to Waikato Regional Council (WRC). The Building Consent Authority (BCA) functions transferred relate to the assessment, processing, inspection and granting of building consents, and certificates of compliance.

Section 243 of the BA allows GWRC to retain some functions such as the processing and issuing of a project information memorandum, certificates of acceptance, building warrant of fitness' and the dam safety requirements. The BA allows GWRC to impose fees or charges for performing these functions.

6.2 Schedule of charges

The fees and charges for various activities for administering the Building Act are outlined in Table 6.1 below:

Table 6.1: Building Act 2004 fees and charges (all figures exclude GST)

Function	Deposit	Hourly charge
Project Information Memorandum (PIM)	Large Dam (above \$100,000 value) \$1,000 Medium Dam (\$20,000 to \$100,000 Value) \$750 Small Dam (\$0 to \$20,000 value) \$500	\$135 per hour
Building consent application (lodged directly with WRC)	Large Dam (above \$100,000 value) \$4,000 Medium Dam (\$20,000 to \$100,000 Value) \$2,000 Small Dam (\$0 to \$20,000 value) \$1000	\$170 per hour (WRC Resource use group managers) \$140 (WRC BA officer)
Lodge Building Warrant of Fitness	\$130	\$135 per hour
Amendment to compliance schedule	\$1,000	\$135 per hour for officer time Actual and reasonable costs for expert advice

Function	Deposit	Hourly charge
Building warrant of fitness audit		\$135 per hour
Certificate of Acceptance	Large Dam (above \$100,000 value) \$4,000 Medium Dam (\$20,000 to \$100,000 value) \$2,000 Small Dam (\$0 to \$20,000 value) \$500	\$135 per hour for officer time Actual and reasonable costs for expert advice
Lodge dam potential impact category	\$130	\$135 per hour
Lodge dam safety assurance programme	\$130	\$135 per hour
Lodge annual dam safety compliance certificate	\$130	\$135 per hour
Policy implementation – Dangerous Dams, Earthquake-prone dams, Flood-prone dams		\$135 per hour Actual and reasonable costs for expert advice

Key notes:

1. The charges associated with building consent applications are those that are directly applied by Waikato Regional Council (WRC) as these functions have been transferred to WRC. It is therefore advised to contact WRC (www.waikatoregion.govt.nz) to check building consent application charges and charge-out rates.
2. Charge out rates may alter following annual reviews as identified in section 1 of the Policy.
3. Building consents incur BRANZ and Department of Building and Housing levies. The levies are payable to Waikato Regional Council.

The costs for processing various applications under the BA vary greatly due to the scale, complexity, and specialist design features associated with each project. Hence the charges listed in Table 6.1 are considered deposits only and in most circumstances additional charges will apply at the charge out rates specified.

7. The provision of information

7.1 Information provided under the Resource Management Act 1991

GWRC may charge for the provision of information in relation to resource consents and regional plans and policies (see RMA sections 36(1)(e) and (f)).

We recognise that we have a significant advisory and information role. Our aim is to assist you to have access to the information you need to make effective use of your resource consent. To this end, we provide a reasonable amount of information free of charge, as listed below. If more time is spent, or more photocopying required than is allowed for here, the provision of information may be subject to the following charges.

Any charge for information is made in accordance with the following:

1. **Staff time** spent in making information available, or in providing technical advice is charged after the first half hour (except in relation to applications for resource consents) at the following rates:

Hourly charge out rate	Excl. GST
Resource management services from our Environmental Regulation (Technical Support) staff	\$115.00
Resource management services from our Environmental Regulation (Consents & Compliance) staff	\$135.00
Technical or science expert services from our Environmental Science staff	\$150.00

Note: Charge out rates may alter following annual reviews as identified in section 1 of the Policy.

2. **Photocopying** charges are 20 cents per A4 page after the first 10 pages
3. **All other disbursements** are charged at cost. We may pass on charges to the person requesting the information where the information held by us is subject to agreements with commercial data suppliers who may require us to levy charges.

7.2 Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

Information provided in response to requests under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA) may be charged for under section 13(1A) of the Act. We follow the Ministry of Justice Guidelines for charging, therefore GWRC's costs for responding to information requests will be charged in the following way (GST inclusive):

The first hour of time spent searching, abstracting, collating, copying, transcribing and supervising access should be free

\$38 may be charged for each subsequent half hour (or part of this time), irrespective of the seniority of the staff member (unless specialists are required)

20c per A4 sized page may be charged after the first 20 pages

The actual costs may be recovered for the

- Provision of documents on devices
- Retrieval of information off-site
- Reproduction of film, video or audio recording
- Provision of maps, plans or other documents large than foolscap size.

8. Environmental incident inspection charges

8.1 Circumstances in which a charge may apply

Where a person (or persons) or organisation carries out an activity in a manner which does not comply with the provisions of RMA sections 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 315, 323, 327, or 329, GWRC will charge that person or organisation for the cost of any inspection it undertakes in relation to that activity. This cost may include:

1. Time spent by GWRC officers identifying and confirming that the activity is taking place or has taken place
2. Time spent by GWRC officers identifying and confirming the person or organisation responsible for causing or allowing the activity to take place or to have taken place
3. Time spent by GWRC officers alerting and informing the person or organisation responsible of their responsibilities in relation to the activity, including any suggestions or advice relating to how any adverse effects might be managed
4. Staff travel time
5. Costs of disbursements (such as laboratory analysis costs, expert or professional services, clean-up costs and materials).

GWRC will only charge for time spent which exceeds 30 minutes. Travel time will be included in the calculation of this time.

An minimum standard charge of \$270 (2 hours staff time) will apply to all environmental incidents inspected which covers travel time, inspection time, identifying parties, initiating follow up action and advice eg, issuing advisory notice, advice letter, or warning letter.

Additional charges will only be made to allow GWRC to recover its actual and reasonable costs from the perpetrator.

8.2 Charges applicable to consented activities

Where an incident occurs on a site that holds a resource consent and a breach of consent conditions is confirmed, then section 8.1 does not apply. Any actual and reasonable costs incurred in investigation the incident will be recovered as additional compliance monitoring charges in accordance with section 4.4.6 of this Policy.

8.3 Authority to charge

These charges are made under section 150 of the LGA.

8.4 Charge-out rate

The following charge out rates apply:

Hourly charge out rate	Excl. GST
Officers time as per 8.1	\$135.00
Technical or science expertise used to determine a breach of the RMA	\$150.00

Note: Charge out rates may alter following annual reviews as identified in section 1 of the Policy.

8.5 When due

Payment of invoices for environmental incident inspection charges is due within 28 days.

8.6 Relationship of charges to infringement offences

Where we use the infringement offences legislation for environmental incidents, no charge will be made for preparation of documents relating to the issue of the infringement notice.

8.7 Relationship of charges to enforcement orders and abatement notices

GWRC may also seek reimbursement for any actual and reasonable costs it incurs in inspecting an activity to determine compliance with an enforcement order or abatement notice under sections 315 and 323 of the RMA.

A minimum standard charge of \$270 will apply for any follow up visit to confirm full compliance with any abatement notice (or enforcement order) has been achieved. This charge covers travel time, inspection time, and the provision of follow up advice.

Any additional charges for a follow up visit to confirm compliance will only be made to allow GWRC to recover its actual and reasonable costs.

8.8 Relationship of charges to the Maritime Transport Act 1994

These charges do not apply to marine oil pollution incidents. These are provided for under the Maritime Transport Act 1994.

9. Payment of charges

9.1 Date charges become operative

This Policy applies from 1 July 2021 and will continue in effect until amended or replaced under section 36(3) of the RMA. The Policy covers the period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2024.

9.2 When charges are due or invoiced

9.2.1 Application charges

Initial fixed application fees must be paid in full before GWRC will begin processing resource consent applications.

Additional charges for processing resource consents are invoiced on completion of processing of your consent, or when the amount owing exceeds \$2,000. This means that for notified consents particularly, we will invoice at regular intervals during the processing of your consent.

9.2.2 Consent monitoring charges

Consent monitoring charges are invoiced in accordance with our Strategic Compliance Monitoring Programme timetable. Various compliance activities are invoiced during the months identified below:

Month	Activity	
July	Air discharges	Earthworks
	Forestry	Reclamation/offset mitigation
October	Wineries	Water takes
January	Agricultural effluent	Municipal wastewater
	Onsite wastewater	Municipal water supplies & races
	Swing moorings & boatsheds	Coastal works & structures
	Bridges & culverts	River works
April	Landfills	Industrial discharges & contaminated sites
	Urban stormwater	Quarries & cleanfills

9.3 Remission of charges

We may remit any charge referred to in this Policy, in part or in full, on a case by case basis, and solely at our discretion (see section 36AAB(1) of the RMA).

9.4 Credit

Credit is not generally available for application charges or consent monitoring charges in this Policy. We will consider staged payments in exceptional

circumstances. In some circumstances, we may require full payment of the estimated cost of processing an application prior to initiating work.

9.5 Debtors and unpaid charges

Under this Policy debtors and unpaid charges are treated like any other outstanding amount owed to GWRC. An outstanding debt will be pursued according to GWRC's procedures which are summarised below:

Reminders are sent by GWRC Finance staff between 1–3 months after the charge has been processed and sent to you

If charges are not paid within three months of being invoiced to you, a final reminder letter is issued by Finance staff. This letter gives a final deadline to pay any unpaid charges.

If charges remain unpaid and unresolved after the final deadline, GWRC will place the account in the hands of a collection agency and reserves the right to recover actual and reasonable costs for recovering the unpaid charges. This is through the combination of a minimum fixed charge of \$230 (excl. GST) and any additional actual and reasonable costs for staff time charged at \$115/hour (excl. GST)

9.6 Charges required to be paid

All **application charges** for resource consents or for Plan or Policy Statement changes shall be paid according to the provisions of sections 3 and 9 of this Policy.

All **consent monitoring charges** for customer services, compliance monitoring, and state of the environment monitoring shall be paid according to the provisions of sections 4 and 9 of this Policy and the relevant sections in Part 2 of the Policy.

All **permitted activity charges** for shall be paid according to the provisions of sections 5 and 9 of this Policy and the relevant sections in Part 2 of the Policy.

All **Building Act charges** shall be paid according to the provisions of sections 6 and 8 of this Policy.

All **provision of information charges** shall be paid according to the provisions of sections 7 and 9 of this Policy.

All **environmental incidents charges** not related to resource consents shall be paid according to the provisions of sections 8 and 9 of this Policy.

Part 2: Compliance and SOE monitoring charges

A. Compliance monitoring charges

The compliance monitoring charges for each activity are presented in Table A. This table outlines the various compliance activities, the fixed and variable charges for each activity, and a summary of the compliance monitoring programme.

All fixed charges are invoiced annually, at a time based on our Strategic Compliance monitoring programme (see part 1 section 9.2.2 of this Policy). Depending on your compliance assessment, the category of your charge may change from year to year.

Most variable charges are invoiced annually, at a time based on our Strategic Compliance monitoring programme (see part 1 section 9.2.2 of this Policy). They are based on actual and reasonable amount of time spent monitoring your consent since your last invoice. There are some instances where more regular invoicing of your variable charges may apply. This is normally for large projects where significant monitoring occurs on a regular basis.

The compliance monitoring programme is made up of one or all of the following three components:

- **Inspections** – site inspections (by arrangement or unannounced) to the property or location where the consent activity takes place; and/or
- **Auditing** – a desktop audit of monitoring information submitted by a consent holder; and/or
- **Reporting** – GWRC staff report back to consent holders on their compliance rating for their consent.

Not all three components are necessarily required for undertaking compliance monitoring on a consent. Your consent may be inspected and/or audited. For some activities we don't intend to report back to you unless you are not complying with your consent conditions.

Table A: Compliance monitoring charges (all figures exclude GST)

Compliance activity	Charges	Compliance categories	Compliance monitoring programme	Related SOE charges
Agricultural effluent	<u>Variable charges</u> for non-complying and non-standard agricultural discharges	DL1 (variable charge)	Inspections and annual compliance report assessed on case by case basis	Discharge to land
	<u>Fixed charges</u> for categories below			
	\$337.50 Standard agricultural discharge	DL2 (ag discharge)	Annual inspection and compliance report completed	
	\$67.50 Low risk agricultural discharge	DL5 (ag discharge)	Where no inspection is required for a low risk activity (assessed each year) a small charge applied for reviewing compliance requirements	
Air discharges	<u>Variable charges</u> based on actual and reasonable costs	DA1 (variable charge)	Inspections determined on an annual basis. Compliance report provided following inspection(s)	Discharge to air
Boatsheds	<u>Variable charges</u> for non-standard boatsheds based on actual and reasonable costs	CP1 (variable charge)	Inspections and annual compliance report assessed on case by case basis	N/A
	<u>Fixed charges</u> for categories below			
	\$270 Cost per inspection for consents requiring inspection	CP2 (one inspection)	Inspections determined on an annual basis. Compliance report provided following inspection(s)	
Bores	<u>Variable charges</u> for non-standard bores based on actual and reasonable costs	LU1 (variable charge)	Most consents not inspected and therefore no annual charges	N/A
	<u>Fixed charges</u> for categories below			
	\$67.50 All standard bores	N/A	Applies to most consents – fee included in consent processing charges	N/A
Coastal works, structures, and activities	<u>Variable charges</u> for non-standard consents based on actual and reasonable costs	CP1 (variable charge)	Inspections and annual compliance report assessed on case by case basis	Coastal
	<u>Fixed charges</u> for categories below			
	\$67.50 Standard coastal works, structures, and activities	N/A	Applies to most consents – fee included in consent processing charges	
	\$270 Cost per inspection for consents requiring inspection	CP2 (one inspection) CP3 (two inspections) CP4 (three inspections)	Compliance report provided following inspection(s)	Coastal
Forestry	<u>Variable charges</u> based on actual and reasonable costs	DW1 (variable charge) DL1 (variable charge)	Inspections determined on a case by case basis. Annual compliance report completed	Discharge to water Discharge to land

		LU1 (variable charge)		Land use
Compliance activity	Charges	Compliance categories	Compliance monitoring programme	Related SOE charges
Industrial, onsite wastewater, contaminated sites and winery discharges	<u>Variable charges</u> for non-standard discharges based on actual and reasonable costs	DW1 (variable charge) DL1 (variable charge)	Inspections and annual compliance report assessed on case by case basis	Discharge to water Discharge to land
	<u>Fixed charges</u> for categories below			
	\$337.50 High risk discharges	DL3 (high risk discharge)	Annual inspection and compliance report completed	
	\$135 Low risk discharges	DL4 (low risk discharge)	Inspection once every three years and compliance report completed	
Landfills	<u>Variable charges</u> based on actual and reasonable costs	DW1 (variable charge) DL1 (variable charge) DA1 (variable charge)	Inspections determined on a case by case basis Annual compliance report provided	Discharge to water Discharge to land Discharge to air
Municipal water supplies & races, municipal wastewater, and urban stormwater	<u>Variable charges</u> based on actual and reasonable costs	WS1 (variable charge) WG1 (variable charge) DW1 (variable charge) DL1 (variable charge)	Inspection only on as needs basis Audited frequently Annual compliance report completed	Surface water takes Groundwater takes Discharge to water Discharge to land Coastal discharges
Quarries & cleanfills	<u>Variable charges</u> for non-standard quarries & cleanfills based on actual and reasonable costs	DW1 (variable charge) DL1 (variable charge)	Inspections and annual compliance report assessed on case by case basis	Discharge to water Discharge to land
	<u>Fixed charges</u> for categories below	LU1 (variable charge)		
	\$270 Standard quarry or cleanfill	LU2 (one inspection)	Annual inspection and compliance report completed	
Reclamation/offset mitigation	<u>Variable charges</u> based on actual and reasonable costs	LU1 (variable charge)	Inspections and annual compliance report assessed on case by case basis	Land use
River works, bridges & culverts	<u>Variable charges</u> for non-standard consents based on actual and reasonable costs	LU1 (variable charge)	Most consents not inspected and therefore no annual charges	Land use
	<u>Fixed charges</u> for categories below			
	\$67.50 Standard river works	N/A	Applies to most consents – fee included in consent processing charges	N/A
	\$270 Cost per inspection for consents requiring inspection	LU2 (one inspection) LU3 (two inspections) LU4 (three inspections)	Compliance report provided following inspection(s)	Land use

Compliance activity	Charges	Compliance categories	Compliance monitoring programme	Related SOE charges
RoNS projects and earthworks	<u>Variable charges</u> based on actual and reasonable costs	DW1 (variable charge) DL1 (variable charge) LU1 (variable charge)	Weekly inspections for RoNs projects and large earthworks Less frequency for small earthworks No annual compliance report completed	Discharge to water Discharge to land
Swing moorings	<u>Variable charges</u> for non-standard swing moorings based on actual and reasonable costs	CP1 (variable charge)	Inspections and annual compliance report assessed on case by case basis	N/A
	<u>Fixed charges</u> for categories below			
	\$33.75 Swing moorings – fully complying	CP5 (moorings complying)	No annual compliance report completed	
	\$202.50 Swing moorings – non-complying	CP6 (moorings non-complying)	No annual compliance report completed	
Water takes	<u>Variable charges</u> for non-standard water takes based on actual and reasonable costs	WT1 (variable charge)	Inspections, water use data audit, and annual compliance report assessed on case by case basis	Surface water takes Groundwater takes
	<u>Fixed charges</u> for categories below			
	\$45 Water meter verification	WT2 (fixed charge)	Average annual cost for checking verification of water meter	
	\$67.50 Telemetered take	The fixed charge is the total of the applicable categories for each water take consent eg, a consent where verification is required, is telemetered, and has a low flow restriction would have a fixed charge of \$180	Average annual cost for checking compliance with submission of telemetered water take data	
	\$135 Non-telemetered take		Average annual cost for checking with submission of non-telemetered water take data	
	\$67.50 Low flow restriction		Average annual cost for checking compliance with restrictions at times of low flow	
\$0 Unmetered takes	WT3	No inspection, audit, or compliance report completed		
Non-complying takes – actual and reasonable charges in addition to fixed WT2	WT4 (variable)			

B. State of the Environment (SOE) monitoring charges

The fixed SOE monitoring charges for each consent type are presented in section B.1 – B.6.

Further detail on the cost of the SOE monitoring programme is provided in Appendix A.

All **land use consents, water permits to dam/divert water, and coastal permits (excluding discharges)** with ongoing effects on the environment will receive an annual SOE monitoring charge as outlined in Table B.1. (Note: This does not apply to one-off construction related activities.)

Special SOE monitoring charges apply to the activities shown in Table B.1. These charges are made as the nature and scale of these activities are not fairly reflected in the fixed charges specified in section B.1 – B.6:

Table B.1: SOE monitoring charges for land use consents and other specified activities

Consent type	Activity	Annual SOE charge from 1 July 2021	Annual SOE charge from 1 July 2022	Annual SOE charge from 1 July 2023
Land use	Any activity with ongoing effects on the environment	\$115	\$125	\$140
Consent holder	Activity	Annual SOE charge from 1 July 2021	Annual SOE charge from 1 July 2022	Annual SOE charge from 1 July 2023
GWRC, Flood Protection	River works maintenance for all schemes in the region	\$45,000	\$50,000	\$56,000
Wellington Water Ltd	Water take from the Hutt Aquifer	\$63,000	\$67,000	\$72,000
NZTA, Transmission Gully	All works associated with the construction of Transmission Gully	\$65,000	\$68,000	\$75,000
NZTA, Peka Peka to Ōtaki	All works associated with the construction of Peka Peka to Ōtaki	\$22,000	\$23,000	\$25,000

B.1 Surface water takes

The SOE monitoring charge for this consent type is levied on all surface water and groundwater take consents ('Category A' and 'Category B' where there is a stream depletion effect managed by a minimum flow). The charge is dependent on:

- The level of stress (based on a low, medium, or high level of allocation) created by water takes in a primary surface water management zone when assessing allocation under the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (PNRP)
- The size of water take based on the maximum instantaneous rate of take in litres/second (for surface water takes from catchments) or average instantaneous rate of take in litres/second from total weekly allocation (for groundwater takes from 'Category A and B' groundwater management zones).

Category 1 – LOW level of allocation (<50% of PNRP allocation limit)				
<u>Surface water management zones in PNRP</u>				
Kāpiti Streams	Wairarapa coast	All other catchments not specifically identified in Cat. 2 or 3		
Ōtaki	Waitohu			
Te Awarua o Porirua	Wellington City catchments			
<u>Connected 'Category A and B' groundwater management zones in PNRP</u>				
Ōtaki	Te Horo	Waitohu		
Raumati	Waikanae			
<i>Rate of take</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2021</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2022</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2023</i>	<i>Charge category</i>
0–9.99 litres/sec	\$95	\$105	\$120	2.3.1.1
10–19.99 litres/sec	\$155	\$175	\$200	2.3.2.1
20–29.99 litres/sec	\$320	\$350	\$400	2.3.3.1
30–39.99 litres/sec	\$490	\$530	\$600	2.3.4.1
40–59.99 litres/sec	\$650	\$710	\$800	2.3.5.1
60–99.99 litres/sec	\$1,200	\$1,350	\$1,550	2.3.6.1
100–299.99 litres/sec	\$1,950	\$2,150	\$2,400	2.3.7.1
300 + litres/sec	\$3,200	\$3,500	\$4,000	2.3.8.1

Category 2 – MEDIUM level of allocation (50%-80% of PNRP allocation limit)		
<u>Surface water management zones in PNRP</u>		
Mangaone	Ruamahānga (upper)	Waiohine
Tauherenikau		
<u>Connected 'Category A and B' groundwater management zones</u>		
Ōnoke	Te Horo	Upper Ruamahānga
Tauherenikau	Te Ore Ore	Waiohine

<i>Rate of take</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2021</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2022</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2023</i>	<i>Charge category</i>
0–9.99 litres/sec	\$155	\$175	\$200	2.3.1.2
10–19.99 litres/sec	\$320	\$350	\$400	2.3.2.2
20–29.99 litres/sec	\$650	\$710	\$800	2.3.3.2
30–39.99 litres/sec	\$980	\$1,050	\$1,200	2.3.4.2
40–59.99 litres/sec	\$1,200	\$1,350	\$1,550	2.3.5.2
60–99.99 litres/sec	\$1,950	\$2,150	\$2,400	2.3.6.2
100–299.99 litres/sec	\$2,400	\$2,600	\$3,000	2.3.7.2
300 + litres/sec	\$4,800	\$5,300	\$6,000	2.3.8.2

Category 3 – HIGH level of allocation (>80% of PNRP allocation limit)				
<u>Surface water management zones in PNRP</u>				
Booths	Orongorongo		Waikanae	
Huangaaru	Otakura		Wainuiomata	(upper & lower)
Hutt (upper & lower)	Papawai			
Kopuaranga	Parkvale		Waingawa	
Lake Wairarapa	Ruamahānga (lower)		Waipoua	
Mangatarere	Ruamahānga (middle)		Whangaehu	
	Ruamahānga (other)			
<u>Connected 'Category A and B' groundwater management zones in PNRP</u>				
Dry River	Parkvale		Tauherenikau	
Huangaaru	Mangatarere		Upper Hutt	
Lake	Middle Ruamahanga		Upper Ruamahānga	
Lower Hutt	Moiki		Waikanae	
Lower Ruamahānga	Ōnoke		Waingawa	
	Taratahi		Waiohine	
<i>Rate of take</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2021</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2022</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2023</i>	<i>Charge category</i>
0–9.99 litres/sec	\$320	\$350	\$400	2.3.1.3
10–19.99 litres/sec	\$800	\$850	\$1,000	2.3.2.3
20–29.99 litres/sec	\$1,150	\$1,250	\$1,400	2.3.3.3
30–39.99 litres/sec	\$1,600	\$1,750	\$2,000	2.3.4.3
40–59.99 litres/sec	\$2,050	\$2,250	\$2,600	2.3.5.3
60–99.99 litres/sec	\$3,200	\$3,500	\$4,000	2.3.6.3
100–299.99 litres/sec	\$4,800	\$5,300	\$6,000	2.3.7.3
300 + litres/sec	\$13,000	\$14,000	\$16,500	2.3.8.3

Surface water takes from catchments – size of take based on maximum instantaneous rate in litres/second.

Groundwater takes from connected 'Category A and B' groundwater management zones – size of take based on average instantaneous rate in litres/second from total weekly allocation.

Reduction for water storage or frost protection

For surface water takes where consent holders take water from supplementary allocation for water storage or for frost protection purposes, the applicable SOE monitoring charge may be reduced at the discretion of GWRC. This is because these activities often abstract large volumes of water for only short periods during the year, often at times where water resources are less stressed (ie, at higher river/stream flows or during spring months when river/stream flows are on average greater).

Reduction for telemetered water takes

Any water take supplying telemetered water use data that meets National Environmental Monitoring Standards and is provided by an accredited service provider, will have a **10% discount** applied to the applicable SOE monitoring charge.

B.2 Groundwater takes

The SOE monitoring charge for this consent type is levied on all groundwater take consents (excluding 'Category A and B' groundwater takes assessed under B.1). The charge is dependent on:

- The level of stress (based on a low, medium, or high level of allocation) created by water takes in a groundwater management zone when assessing allocation under the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (PNRP)
- The size of groundwater take which is based on the annual volume of water taken (in m³).

Category 1 – LOW level of allocation (<50% of PNRP allocation limit)				
<u>Groundwater management zones in PNRP</u>				
Taratahi	Upper Ruamahānga		All other groundwater zones not specifically identified	
Te Horo	Waitohu			
Upper Hutt				
<i>Rate of take</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2021</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2022</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2023</i>	<i>Charge category</i>
0–99,999 m ³ /year	\$75	\$80	\$85	3.3.1.1
100,000–199,999 m ³ /year	\$150	\$160	\$170	3.3.2.1
200,000–299,999 m ³ /year	\$220	\$230	\$250	3.3.3.1
300,000–399,999 m ³ /year	\$300	\$320	\$345	3.3.4.1
400,000–599,999 m ³ /year	\$730	\$770	\$840	3.3.5.1
600,000–999,999 m ³ /year	\$970	\$1,020	\$1,100	3.3.6.1
1,000,000 + m ³ /year	\$1,450	\$1,520	\$1,650	3.3.7.1

Category 2 – MEDIUM level of allocation (50% – 80% of PNRP allocation limit)				
<u>Groundwater management zones in PNRP</u>				
Ruamahānga (other)	Waingawa			
<i>Rate of take</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2021</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2022</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2023</i>	<i>Charge category</i>
0–99,999 m ³ /year	\$150	\$160	\$170	3.3.1.2
100,000–199,999 m ³ /year	\$220	\$230	\$250	3.3.2.2
200,000–299,999 m ³ /year	\$300	\$320	\$345	3.3.3.2
300,000–399,999 m ³ /year	\$490	\$510	\$550	3.3.4.2
400,000–599,999 m ³ /year	\$970	\$1,020	\$1,100	3.3.5.2
600,000–999,999 m ³ /year	\$1,200	\$1,270	\$1,400	3.3.6.2
1,000,000 + m ³ /year	\$2,400	\$2,550	\$2,800	3.3.7.2

Category 3 – HIGH level of allocation (>80% of PNRP allocation limit)				
<u>Groundwater management zones in PNRP</u>				
Dry River	Lower Ruamahānga	Parkvale (confined/ & unconfined)		
Fernill Tiffen	Mangatarere	Raumati		
Huangaaru	Martinborough	Tauherenikau		
Lake	Ōnoke	Te Ore Ore		
Lower Hutt		Waikanae		
<i>Rate of take</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2021</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2022</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2023</i>	<i>Charge category</i>
0–99,999 m ³ /year	\$290	\$310	\$335	3.3.1.3
100,000–199,999 m ³ /year	\$370	\$390	\$420	3.3.2.3
200,000–299,999 m ³ /year	\$490	\$510	\$550	3.3.3.3
300,000–399,999 m ³ /year	\$730	\$770	\$840	3.3.4.3
400,000–599,999 m ³ /year	\$1,200	\$1,270	\$1,400	3.3.5.3
600,000–999,999 m ³ /year	\$3,650	\$3,850	\$4,200	3.3.6.3
1,000,000 + m ³ /year	\$6,000	\$6,350	\$7,000	3.3.7.3

Groundwater takes from Category A and B (where there is a stream depletion effect managed by a minimum flow) groundwater management zones are covered in section B.1 of this Policy.

Reduction for telemetered water takes

Any water take supplying telemetered water use data that meets National Environmental Monitoring Standards and is provided by an accredited service provider, will have a **10% discount** applied to the applicable SOE monitoring charge.

B.3 Discharges to water

The SOE monitoring charge for this consent type is levied on all discharge to water consents, as all discharges are considered to cause additional stress on waterways, whereby the consent holder should pay for a proportion of SOE monitoring costs.

The SOE monitoring charge is dependent on the type of discharge to water and the level of contaminants (both quality and quantity) discharged into the receiving environment. The level of contaminants discharged is split into three categories – high, medium, and low.

<i>Nature of contaminants discharged – HIGH</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2021</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2022</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2023</i>	<i>Charge category</i>
Human wastewater	\$10,000	\$10,700	\$12,000	4.3.1.1
Animal wastewater	\$5,000	\$5,400	\$6,000	4.3.2.1
Earthworks discharge	\$3,100	\$3,350	\$3,750	4.3.3.1
Other stormwater discharges	\$2,500	\$2,700	\$3,000	4.3.4.1
Landfill leachate discharges	\$1,850	\$2000	\$2,250	4.3.5.1
Intermittent discharges	\$1,850	\$2000	\$2,250	4.3.6.1
Other wastewater	\$1,850	\$2000	\$2,250	4.3.7.1

<i>Nature of contaminants discharged – MEDIUM</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2021</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2022</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2023</i>	<i>Charge category</i>
Human wastewater	\$5,000	\$5,400	\$6,000	4.3.1.2
Animal wastewater	\$2,500	\$2,700	\$3,000	4.3.2.2
Earthworks discharges	\$1,850	\$2000	\$2,250	4.3.3.2
Other stormwater discharges	\$1,450	\$1,600	\$1,800	4.3.4.2
Landfill leachate discharges	\$1,200	\$1,300	\$1,500	4.3.5.2
Intermittent discharges	\$1,200	\$1,300	\$1,500	4.3.6.2
Other wastewater	\$1,200	\$1,300	\$1,500	4.3.7.2

<i>Nature of contaminants discharged – LOW</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2021</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2022</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2023</i>	<i>Charge category</i>
Human wastewater	\$2,500	\$2,700	\$3,000	4.3.1.3
Animal wastewater	\$1,450	\$1,600	\$1,800	4.3.2.3
Earthworks discharges	\$1,200	\$1,300	\$1,500	4.3.3.3
Other stormwater discharges	\$500	\$540	\$600	4.3.4.3
Landfill leachate discharges	\$500	\$540	\$600	4.3.5.3
Intermittent discharges	\$380	\$410	\$450	4.3.6.3
Other wastewater	\$380	\$410	\$450	4.3.7.3

SOE monitoring charges for **stormwater discharges from bulk earthworks** are only applicable if works are undertaken during the year in which consent monitoring charges apply.

Where there are two or more discharge to water consents relating to the same activity, only one SOE monitoring charge applies.

B.4 Discharges to land

The SOE monitoring charge for this consent type is levied on all discharge to land consents. The charge is dependent on:

- The quality of groundwater in the area where your discharge to land activity occurs, and
- The nature of contaminants discharged to land.

The tables below lists three categories of areas in the region in terms of the level of groundwater quality based on GWRC's SOE report, *Groundwater quality in the Wellington region (March 2012)* as follows:

- **Category 1 area:** Any land area not identified as a category 2 or 3 groundwater management zone
- **Category 2 area:** Any groundwater management zone (as defined in the Regional Freshwater Plan) where any bore(s) have been identified as having 'fair' water quality
- **Category 3 area:** Any groundwater management zone (as defined in the Regional Freshwater Plan) where any bore(s) have been identified as having 'poor' water quality.

Category 1 – All other areas not identified in category 2 or 3 below.				
<i>Nature of contaminants discharged</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2021</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2022</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2023</i>	<i>Charge category</i>
Human wastewater (municipal)	\$1,200	\$1,220	\$1,250	5.3.1.1
Human wastewater (domestic / small communal)	\$180	\$185	\$190	5.3.2.1
Animal wastewater	\$480	\$490	\$500	5.3.3.1
Landfill leachate discharges	\$480	\$490	\$500	5.3.4.1
Earthworks discharges	\$900	\$915	\$940	5.3.5.1
Other discharges	\$180	\$185	\$190	5.3.6.1

Category 2 – FAIR water quality		
<u>Groundwater management zones in RFP</u>		
Carterton	Ōtaki	Waikanae
Hodders	South Featherston	Wainuiomata
Mangaroa	Tawaha	Waitohu
Mangatarere	Upper Hutt	West Taratahi
Matarawa	Upper Ōpaki	Woodside
Moroa	Upper Plain	

<i>Nature of contaminants discharged</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2021</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2022</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2023</i>	<i>Charge category</i>
Human wastewater (municipal)	\$1,800	\$1,840	\$1,900	5.3.1.2
Human wastewater (domestic / small communal)	\$240	\$245	\$250	5.3.2.2
Animal wastewater	\$600	\$615	\$630	5.3.3.2
Landfill leachate discharges	\$600	\$615	\$630	5.3.4.2
Earthworks discharges	\$900	\$915	\$940	5.3.5.2
Other discharges	\$240	\$245	\$250	5.3.6.2

Category 3 – POOR water quality				
<u>Groundwater management zones in RFP</u>				
Coastal	Lower Hutt			Martinborough Western Terraces
East Taratahi	Lower Valley			
Hautere	Martinborough Eastern Terraces			Te Ore Ore
<i>Nature of contaminants discharged</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2021</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2022</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2023</i>	<i>Charge category</i>
Human wastewater (municipal)	\$2,400	\$2,440	\$2,500	5.3.1.3
Human wastewater (domestic / small communal)	\$300	\$310	\$320	5.3.2.3
Animal wastewater	\$720	\$735	\$760	5.3.3.3
Landfill leachate discharges	\$720	\$735	\$760	5.3.4.3
Earthworks discharges	\$900	\$915	\$940	5.3.5.3
Other discharges	\$300	\$310	\$320	5.3.6.3

SOE monitoring charges for **stormwater discharges from bulk earthworks** are only applicable in the following instances:

1. Works are undertaken during the year in which consent monitoring charges apply
2. There is no discharge to water consent associated with the same activity. In this instance the discharge to water consent for the same activity will receive the SOE monitoring charge.

Where there are two or more discharge to land consents relating to the same activity, only one SOE monitoring charge applies. For example a municipal wastewater discharge may have one consent to discharge contaminants from the base of oxidation ponds, and another consent to discharge contaminants to land via irrigation. In such circumstances only one SOE monitoring charge will be applied.

Where there is an associated discharge to water consent for exactly the same activity, no SOE monitoring charge applies. The SOE monitoring charge is applied to the discharge to water consent.

B.5 Discharges to air

The SOE monitoring charge for this consent type is levied on all discharge to air consents. Air discharges are assigned one of the four categories as shown in the table below.

<i>Nature of contaminants discharged</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2021</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2022</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2023</i>	<i>Charge category</i>
Cleanfill, refuse transfer stations, and composting discharges in non-sensitive receiving environments; small community wastewater discharges; abrasive blasting; natural gas fired boiler/generator discharges	\$85	\$100	\$120	6.2.1
Cleanfill, refuse transfer stations, and composting discharges in sensitive receiving environments; medium/large community wastewater discharges; small scale industrial discharges; landfill discharges with minor environmental effects; crematoria discharges; odour discharges in non-sensitive receiving environments	\$250	\$290	\$360	6.2.2
Medium scale industrial discharges; all other landfill discharges; odour discharges in sensitive receiving environments	\$1,200	\$1,400	\$1,750	6.2.3
Large scale industrial discharges; significant odour discharges	\$3,300	\$3,900	\$4,800	6.2.4

Where there are two or more discharge to air consents relating to the same activity, only one SOE monitoring charge applies.

In instances where a discharge to air activity does not fit in any of the types of discharge listed above, GWRC will exercise its discretion as to which SOE category applies based on the nature and scale of contaminants discharged.

B.6 Coastal discharges

The SOE monitoring charge for this consent type is levied on all consents that discharge contaminants to coastal water. All discharges are considered to cause additional stress on coastal waters, whereby the consent holder should pay for a proportion of SOE monitoring and investigations.

The SOE monitoring charge is dependent on the type of discharge to water and the level of contaminants (both quality and quantity) discharged into the receiving environment. The level of contaminants discharged is split into three categories – high, medium, and low.

<i>Nature of contaminants discharged – HIGH</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2021</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2022</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2023</i>	<i>Charge category</i>
Human wastewater	\$10,000	\$10,700	\$12,000	7.1.1.1
Stormwater discharges	\$2,500	\$2,700	\$3,000	7.1.2.1
Intermittent discharges	\$1,850	\$2,000	\$2,250	7.1.3.1
Other wastewater	\$1,850	\$2,000	\$2,250	7.1.4.1
Earthworks discharges	\$3,100	\$3,350	\$3,750	7.1.5.1

<i>Nature of contaminants discharged – MEDIUM</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2021</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2022</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2023</i>	<i>Charge category</i>
Human wastewater	\$5,000	\$5,400	\$6,000	7.1.1.2
Stormwater discharges	\$1,450	\$1,600	\$1,800	7.1.2.2
Intermittent discharges	\$1,200	\$1,300	\$1,500	7.1.3.2
Other wastewater	\$1,200	\$1,300	\$1,500	7.1.4.2
Earthworks discharges	\$1,850	\$2,000	\$2,250	7.1.5.2

<i>Nature of contaminants discharged – LOW</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2021</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2022</i>	<i>Fixed charge 1 July 2023</i>	<i>Charge category</i>
Human wastewater	\$2,500	\$2,700	\$3,000	7.1.1.3
Stormwater discharges	\$500	\$540	\$600	7.1.2.3
Intermittent discharges	\$380	\$410	\$450	7.1.3.3
Other wastewater	\$380	\$410	\$450	7.1.4.3
Earthworks discharges	\$1,200	\$1,300	\$1,500	7.1.5.3

SOE monitoring charges for **stormwater discharges from bulk earthworks** are only applicable if works are undertaken during the year in which consent monitoring charges apply.

Where there are two or more discharge to water consents relating to the same activity, only one SOE monitoring charge applies.

Appendix 1 – SOE monitoring charges

Table A: Environmental Science Department – Project codes and costs based on 15% cost recovery

Project	Project Code	Total operating expenses	% Consent holder activity	Consent holder operating expenses
Administration, Staff Costs, and Data Management/Databases				
Administration & Staff Costs	336/1/1	\$4,602,311	15	\$690,347
Data Management/Databases	336/3/5	\$177,050	15	\$26,558
Sub Total				\$716,905
Other				
Science & Research	336/1/3	\$59,334	0	\$0
Science Research Strategy	336/1/6	\$80,223	0	\$0
Science Information Management	336/3/14	\$92,791	0	\$0
Citizen Science	336/11/5	\$15,732	0	\$0
Matauranga Maori	335/6/4/6	\$190,093	5	\$9,505
Special Projects***	336/4/8	\$60,069	15	\$9,010
Whaitua implementation monitoring	336/4/4/23	\$141,899	15	\$21,285
State of the Environment	336/4/3/1	\$46,453	5	\$2,323
Sub Total				\$42,123
Air and Climate				
Air Quality Monitoring	336/3/9	\$135,403	5	\$6,770
Climate	336/4/5/10	\$54,536	0	\$0
Ambient Air Quality	336/4/5/2	\$112,873	5	\$5,644
Sub Total				\$12,414
Aquatic Ecosystems & Quality				
River Water Quality & Ecology	336/4/4/1	\$436,678	30	\$131,003
Ambient Coastal Monitoring & Investigations	336/4/4/3	\$241,840	30	\$72,552
Targeted Surface Water Quality Investigation	336/4/4/6	\$99,580	30	\$29,874
Recreational Water Quality	336/4/4/7	\$171,375	15	\$25,706
Lake Monitoring & Investigations	336/4/4/13	\$89,787	30	\$26,936
Didymo	336/4/4/14	\$15,370	0	\$0
Porirua Harbour turbidity monitoring	336/4/4/18	\$20,300	30	\$6,090
Porirua Harbour Strategy	336/4/4/17	\$53,208	15	\$7,981
Sub Total				\$300,901
Hydrology				
Surface Water Hydrological Monitoring	336/3/4	\$723,246	30	\$216,974
Groundwater Level Monitoring	336/3/6	\$214,900	30	\$64,470
Instream Flow Assessment	336/4/4/8	\$69,947	100	\$69,947
Groundwater Hydrology	336/4/1/1	\$172,155	30	\$51,647
Surface Water Hydrology	336/4/4/9	\$184,930	30	\$55,479
Telemetry of Surface Water Takes	336/4/4/15	\$7,437	100	\$7,437
Sub Total				\$465,953

Terrestrial Ecosystems & Quality				
Land Monitoring	336/4/6/1	\$73,988	30	\$22,196
Contaminated Sites	336/4/7/1	\$91,682	30	\$27,504
Groundwater Quality Monitoring	336/3/7	\$176,123	30	\$52,837
Ambient Groundwater Quality	336/4/1/7	\$83,902	5	\$4,195
Research and Survey	336/10/1/2	\$129,384	5	\$6,469
Terrestrial SoE Monitoring	336/10/1/3	\$151,187	5	\$7,559
Performance Monitoring	336/10/1/4	\$130,691	5	\$6,535
SMap	336/11/1	\$80,000	15	\$12,000
Wetlands Tier 1 and 2	336/11/2	\$175,223	15	\$26,283
Tier 2 Monitoring	336/11/3	\$79,369	15	\$11,905
Wairarapa Moana biodiversity monitoring	336/10/3/2	\$40,998	30	\$12,300
Wainuiomata Mainland Island	336/10/3/3	\$16,780	0	\$0
Sub Total				\$189,784
Services				
All services	Various	\$1,731,936	0	\$0.00
Sub Total				\$0.00
		Total operating expenses	Consent holder operating expenses	
Total cost		\$11,235,833	\$1,728,080	

Notes to Table A

0% – No costs could be assigned from the work undertaken to consent holder activity.

5% – Some benefit from the programme could be assigned to consent holder activity but predominantly of benefit to the public (typically would include terrestrial and aquatic monitoring that may be of natural state).

15% – Programme has medium benefit to the consent holder.

30% – The benefit that a standard SOE programme is considered to have for a consent holder, this recognises that ~30% of sites and work occasioned by Council in monitoring is a result of consent holder activity.

100% – The programme is occasioned by consent holder activity. An example is telemetering water takes whereby the work is undertaken purely to assist water take consent holders.

Consent holder activity – Included where work is known to be generated as a result of that activity.

The above assessment recovers 15.4% of total Environment Science costs. The Policy aims to recover up to 15% or \$1.69 million. The charges identified Part 2B of the Policy have been determined to ensure that based on current consent numbers (at the time of writing the Policy) that the amount recovered does not exceed the agreed recovery rate

Table B: Costs assigned to consent types

Project	Schedule 1 Land use consents		Schedule 2 Surface water takes		Schedule 3 Groundwater takes	
	%	Cost	%	Cost	%	Cost
Administration, Staff Costs, and Data Management/Databases	5%	\$35,845	35%	\$250,916	20%	\$143,381
Other						
Special Projects & Mataurangi Maori	5%	\$923	35%	\$6480	20%	\$3703
State of the Environment	10%	\$232	25%	\$581	25%	\$581
Whaitua implementation monitoring	5%	\$1064	35%	\$7450	20%	\$4257
Air and Climate	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0
Aquatic Ecosystems & Quality						
River Water Quality & Ecology, Lake Monitoring & Investigations, Targeted Surface Water Quality Investigation, Recreational Water Quality	10%	\$21,560	25%	\$53,899	5%	\$10,780
Porirua Harbour strategy & turbidity monitoring, Coastal Monitoring & Investigations	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0
Hydrology						
Surface Water Hydrological Monitoring, Surface Water Hydrology	5%	\$13,623	70%	\$190,717	10%	\$27,245
Groundwater Level Monitoring, Groundwater Hydrology	0%	\$0	20%	\$23,223	60%	\$69,670
Telemetry of Water Takes	0%	\$0	70%	\$5,206	30%	\$2,231
Instream Flow Assessment	0%	\$0	70%	\$48,963	10%	\$6,995
Terrestrial Ecosystems & Quality						
Land Monitoring, Research & Survey, Terrestrial SOE Monitoring	0%	\$0	10%	\$3,622	10%	\$3,622
Groundwater Quality Monitoring, Ambient Groundwater Quality	0%	\$0	20%	\$11,406	20%	\$11,406
Contaminated Sites	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0
SMap	0%	\$0	15%	\$1,800	15%	\$1,800
Wetlands (Tier 1 & 2) Monitoring	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	30%	\$11,456
Performance Monitoring	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0
Wairarapa Moana biodiversity monitoring	0%	\$0	20%	\$2,460	0%	\$0
	Total costs Schedule 1 Land use consents \$73,250		Total costs Schedule 2 Surface water takes \$606,724		Total costs Schedule 3 Groundwater takes \$297,128	

Project	Schedule 4		Schedule 5		Schedule 6	
	Discharges to water		Discharges to land		Discharges to air	
	%	Cost	%	Cost	%	Cost
Administration, Staff Costs, and Data Management/Databases	15%	\$107,536	5%	\$107,536	10%	\$71,690
Other						
Special Projects & Maturangi Maori	15%	\$2777	15%	\$2777	10%	\$1852
State of the Environment	10%	\$232	20%	\$465	10%	\$232
Whaitua implementation monitoring	20%	\$4257	20%	\$4257	0%	\$0
Air and Climate	0%	\$0.00	0%	\$0.00	100%	\$12,414
Aquatic Ecosystems & Quality						
River Water Quality & Ecology, Lake Monitoring & Investigations, Targeted Surface Water Quality Investigation, Recreational Water Quality	40%	\$86,239	20%	\$43,120	0%	\$0
Porirua Harbour Strategy & Coastal Monitoring & Investigations	80%	\$68,242	20%	\$17,061	0%	\$0
Hydrology						
Surface Water Hydrological Monitoring, Surface Water Hydrology	10%	\$27,245	5%	\$13,623	0%	\$0
Groundwater Level Monitoring, Groundwater Hydrology	10%	\$11,612	10%	\$11,612	0%	\$0
Telemetry of Water Takes	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0
Instream Flow Assessment	20%	\$13,989	0%	\$0	0%	\$0
Terrestrial Ecosystems & Quality						
Land Monitoring, Research & Survey, Terrestrial SOE Monitoring	10%	\$3,622	70%	\$25,357	0%	\$0
Groundwater Quality Monitoring, Ambient Groundwater Quality	10%	\$5,703	50%	\$28,516	0%	\$0
Contaminated Sites	10%	\$2,750	90%	\$24,754	0%	\$0
SMap	0%	\$0	70%	\$8,400	0%	\$0
Wetlands (Tier 1 & 2) Monitoring	0%	\$0	70%	\$26,732	0%	\$0
Performance Monitoring	0%	\$0	100%	\$6,535	0%	\$0
Wairarapa Moana biodiversity monitoring	70%	\$8,610	10%	\$1,230	0%	\$0
	Total costs Schedule 4 Discharges to water \$342,816		Total costs Schedule 5 Discharges to land \$321,973		Total costs Schedule 6 Discharges to air \$86,188	

Table C: Phasing in of SOE monitoring charges

The 2019 Policy recovered approximately 12.5% of the Environmental Science Department budget. This Policy targeted cost recovery based on 15%. Following deliberations of the proposed Policy in May 2021, the following adjustments were made:

1. SOE monitoring charges would be phased in over three years.
2. Telemetered water takes would be eligible for a 10% discount in their SOE monitoring charge

This resulted in the following adjustments to total cost recovery:

Total SOE cost recovery	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
	\$1.4 million (12.5%)	\$1.46 million (13%)	\$1.62 million (14.4%)

Note : The above includes a reduction of \$60K - \$70K in Years 2 and 3 for a 10% reduction for telemetered water takes

All SOE monitoring charges determined in Part B of this Policy have been set based on the above cost recovery proportions based on consents held at the time of writing this Policy.