

Environmental Sampling Programmes Overview

Overview:

This document; as well as section 15 of the Catchment Data Operations Manual; outlines and explains all facets of the Horizons Regional Council Discrete Water Quality Sampling Programmes. Horizons Water Quality Monitoring programmes are integral to the organisations mandate to manage water quality in the region. The monitoring programmes for water quality are closely aligned with Horizons integrated catchment management framework. These programmes are fundamental to Horizons knowledge of the health of waterways and the suitability of the water resource for a range of uses. The information collected is communicated in a range of ways including, Horizons website for contact recreation, Horizons Water Quality Matters website for a range of SoE and Discharge sites and via technical reporting e.g. science reports for the proposed One Plan.

Section 35(2) (a) of the Resource Management Act requires local authorities to monitor the state of environment to the extent that is appropriate to enable the local authority to effectively carry out its functions under the Resource Management Act. This means following the guidelines listed under Section 3 of the Resource Management Act referring to each class of water quality.

Core Programs:

Compliance Contact Recreation Didymo Estuaries and Lakes Groundwater Point Source Discharge State of Environment Turbidity and Sediment

Operational Standards:

It is expected that the catchment data teams will collect point samples at required monitoring spots adhering to the quality assurance measures outlined in AS/NZS ISO 5667 specifically the sections listed below

Part 2: Guidance on sampling techniques

Part 3: Guidance on preservation and handling of water samples

Part 6: Guidance on sampling of rivers and streams

Part 9: Guidance on sampling from marine waters

Part 10: Guidance on sampling of waste waters

Part 11: Guidance on sampling of groundwater's

Part 12: Guidance on sampling of bottom sediments

Part 15: Guidance on handling of sludge and sediment samples

Part 18: Guidance on sampling of groundwater's at contaminated sites