# Performance of new stormwater system at Fonterra Tirau

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## Introduction

- Fonterra's approach to stormwater design
  - Sustainability objectives
  - Risk based hierarchy
- Tirau site
  - 80 years of dairy production
  - Combined stormwater and cooling water discharge
  - Tirau township stormwater joins site discharge



# The problem

- Stormwater non compliances
  - Existing, aging stormwater system
  - Limited discharge control
  - Limited monitoring
  - Tirau township stormwater
- Resource consent renewal
  - New limits operational 1 August 2017

# The solution

- New stormwater treatment system
  - Quality treatment provided
    - First flush tank
    - Swales
  - Quality monitoring and control
    - Sensors
    - Shut off valves







# First Flush Tank

- High strength (soluble) collection & management
- Centralised spill management
- 10mm first flush
  - 350m<sup>3</sup> total; 305m<sup>3</sup> live and 45m<sup>3</sup> dead storage
- Pumping
  - Wastewater treatment plant
  - Manual pumping to swale



#### Swale Treatment

- Suspended solids treatment
- Two 65m long, 7m wide wetland swales
- Planted in native oioi
- Bunded for calamity spill containment
- Liner provided under





# **Previous Performance**

- pH, temperature and conductivity monitoring and weekly BOD grab sample
- Five non-compliances over last year
- Averages compliant with consent limits
- No isolation possible if non-complaint flows detected High risk

# **Current Performance**

- pH, temperature, conductivity and turbidity monitoring and weekly BOD grab sample
- No non-compliances
- Turbidity and suspended solids improvement from swale
- First flush tank reducing TP, TN and COD

#### Stormwater Final Discharge pH



— First Flush Tank Level — Final discharge flow



#### Swale Treatment



#### Swale Treatment

Contaminant	Swale inlet	Swale outlet
Total suspended solids (gm <sup>-3</sup> )	12	< 3
Total nitrogen (gm <sup>-3</sup> )	0.42	1.12
Total phosphorus (gm <sup>-3</sup> )	0.08	0.086
COD (g O <sub>2</sub> m <sup>-3</sup> )	12	12



#### Discussion

- Cooling Water in system
- Weed growth in swale
- Volumes to wastewater treatment plant
- Town stormwater risk

# Conclusion

- No non-complaint discharges
- Swale reducing suspended solids and turbidity
- First flush tank leading to reduction in TP, TN and COD
- Process flows within system
- First flush criteria should be reviewed regularly