

Finding a solution for Featherston's wastewater treatment

Te Mana o te Wai is a key value for this work

What you asked for

- Improved water quality
- Better environmental performance
- Catering for growth
- Using natural processes
- Resilience | Affordability

A balance between

- Community aspirations
- Iwi Māori values
- Council role as investor
- Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) requirements as consenting authority

Featherston's wastewater treatment plant has been operating under a historic resource consent since 2012. There's been a process to find a fit-for-purpose solution for a new consent.

2012 The resource consent for the discharge of treated wastewater to Donalds Creek from the Featherston Wastewater Treatment Plant expires

2012 Council lodges a new consent (water-based discharge), which is still on hold

2017 Council lodges a new resource consent seeking to transition from a water based discharge to a land based discharge. This application was publicly notified.

2020 Council withdraws 2017 consent and engages Wellington Water to identify a long-term consenting solution

January-April 2024

Water quality monitoring of Donalds Creek and Dissolved Air Flotation pilot trial to inform responses to GWRC s.92

End May 2024

Analyse monitoring and trial data, finalise s.92 response and submit to GWRC.

2 October 2024 Consent application publicly notified
2-31 October 2024 Public submission period

During February 2025 Applicant engagement with submitters
June/July 2025 Anticipated hearings

December 2020

Workshop long list into short list incorporating community, stakeholder and mana whenua iwi feedback.

June 2022

Affordable proposal identified

February 2021

Council considers shortlist options for affordability and environmental outcomes

January 2023

Council commitment to lodge a new consent application in 2023

May 2023

Council lodged a new consent application with GWRC

July 2023

GWRC requests further information (s.92 RMA)

July to October 2020

Wellington Water engages with community, stakeholders, and mana whenua iwi to identify local values and aspirations, and to develop a long list of options.

