

41234**Outline the protective measures that guide water extraction and discharge practices**

Kaupae Level	3
Whiwhinga Credit	6
Whāinga Purpose	This skill standard is for people working or intending to work in water services. People with this skill standard can outline the protective measures and obligations that guide water extraction and discharge to protect the health of wai (water). This skill standard aligns with the: • New Zealand Certificate in Drinking Water Treatment Operations (Level 4) with optional strands in Pre-Treatment, Clarification, Coagulation and Flocculation, Non-Chlorine Disinfection, Fluoridation, and Filtration [Ref: 5672] • New Zealand Certificate in Wastewater Treatment Operations (Level 4) with optional strands in Activated Sludge, Effluent Disinfection, Fixed Growth Reactor, Separation, Sludge Treatment, and Ponds [Ref: 5673] • New Zealand Certificate in Trade Waste (Consenting and Enforcement) (Level 4) [Ref: 5666]. This skill standard may also contribute to other water services industry credentials.

Hua o te ako me Paearu aromatawai | Learning outcomes and assessment criteria

Hua o te ako Learning outcomes	Paearu aromatawai Assessment criteria
1. Outline how water extraction and discharges affect the health and protection of wai.	a. Identify the hierarchy of obligations in national policy related to health and protection of wai.
	b. Explain the role of national policy in guiding water services operators in relation to the health and protection of wai.
	c. Describe a te ao Māori worldview, of the impacts of water extraction and discharges on water quality and quantity.

Hua o te ako Learning outcomes	Paearu aromatawai Assessment criteria
2. Identify protective measures and responsibilities for natural or managed water bodies used for extraction of drinking water supply and for receiving treated wastewater discharge.	a. Identify protective measures and responsibilities that maintain and protect water bodies used for extraction of drinking water supply.
	b. Identify protective measures and responsibilities that maintain and protect water bodies used for receiving treated wastewater discharge.
	c. Explain monitoring measures used to maintain and protect water bodies.
	d. Describe how protective measures help Māori communities maintain their cultural, spiritual, and environmental practices connected to these water bodies.
	e. Describe local mechanisms for mana whenua involvement in establishing measures.
	f. Outline the operator's responsibilities for responding to environmental emergencies and escalation when unsafe water bodies are detected.

Pārongo aromatawai me te taumata paearu | Assessment information and grade criteria

Assessment specifications:

N/A

Definitions

Te Mana o te Wai is a concept focused on restoring and preserving the balance between water (wai), the wider environment (taiao), and community (tāngata), now and in the future. It is defined in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2000.

Wastewater network means the infrastructure and processes that are used to provide a wastewater service and owned by, or operated by, for, or on behalf of, a water service provider.

Water services refer to industries responsible for working on or around water supplies, networks, plants, and systems.

Wastewater services refer to the collection, treatment, storage, transmission, or discharge of treated wastewater.

Ngā momo whiwhinga | Grades available

Achieved

Ihirangi waitohu | Indicative content

- Wai and a te ao Māori world view – Water in te ao Māori, Whakapapa o te wai, Te mauri o te wai me te iwi, Mana whenua.
- Importance of kaitiakitanga today, tomorrow and for future and sustainability as it relates to extraction and discharges.
- Te Mana o te Wai vision, principles, hierarchy of obligations, and role under regulatory regimes.
- Application of Te Mana o te Wai in your rohe.
- Other frameworks to determine water quality.
- Te hauora o te taiao – protecting the environment (sustaining water body sources).
- Te hauora o te wai – protecting waterbodies (monitoring and resource consents).
- Te Hauora o te Tangata – Protecting the health of people (through the Water Services Plans and Drinking Water Safety Plan for the supply) and Wastewater Risk Management Plans.
- Role of operators in environmental emergency response and escalation.
- Cultural overlay on water services operations (Māori models of sustainable practices, preserving water sources and water protection, microbiology mahinga kai, sites of significance).
- Fluctuations and seasonal demand (e.g. weather events, seasonal influx of people, trade waste volume).
- Local mechanisms for mana whenua involvement.

Rauemi | Resources

Legislation, regulations and/or industry standards relevant to this skill standard include, but are not limited to:

- Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 - [Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 No 30 \(as at 05 April 2025\), Public Act Contents – New Zealand Legislation](#).
- Local Government (Water Services) Act 2024 - [Local Government \(Water Services Preliminary Arrangements\) Act 2024 No 31 \(as at 27 August 2025\), Public Act Part 1 Preliminary provisions – New Zealand Legislation](#).
- National Wastewater Environmental Performance Standards - [Discussion-document-National-wastewater-environmental-performance-standards-FINAL.pdf](#).
- Notification of Water Services (Environmental Performance Measures Record-Keeping Requirements for Drinking Water and Wastewater Network Operators) Notice 2025 - <https://gazette.govt.nz/notice/id/2025-sl3583>.
- Resource Management Act 1991 – [Resource Management Act 1991 | New Zealand Legislation](#).
- Te Mana o te Wai – National Freshwater Management Policy - [Te Mana o te Wai implementation | Ministry for the Environment](#).
- Water Services Act 2021 - [Acts and Bills | Ministry for the Environment](#).
- Wastewater Standards - [Wastewater standards | The Water Services Authority - Taumata Arowai](#).

Pārongo Whakaū Kouna | Quality assurance information

Ngā rōpū whakatau-paerewa Standard Setting Body	Energy and Infrastructure Industry Skills Board
Whakaritenga Rārangi Paetae Aromatawai DASS classification	Engineering and Technology > Water Industry > Water - Generic
Ko te tohutoro ki ngā Whakaritenga i te Whakamanatanga me te Whakaōritenga CMR	0120

Hātepe Process	Putanga Version	Rā whakaputa Review Date	Rā whakamutunga mō te aromatawai Last date for assessment
Rēhitatanga Registration	1	28 May 2026	N/A
Kōrero whakakapinga Replacement information	N/A.		
Rā arotake Planned review date	31 December 2032		

Please contact Energy and Infrastructure Industry Skills Board at qualifications@energyinfra-skills.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this skill standard.