

E. coli monitoring

Shotover & Kawarau Rivers

Shotover WWTP E. coli results								
Parameter		E. coli						
Unit		MPN/100mL						
Location		At discharge from WWTP	RS04 B Shotover River upstream of discharge to provide baseline water quality	RS15 Treated wastewater discharged into Shotover River	RS16 Shotover River immediately downstream from discharge channel	RS06 B Shotover River 50m downstream of discharge	RS11 Kawarau River upstream of confluence	RS10 Kawarau River downstream of confluence
Date	11 Mar 2025					40.5	17.3	16.1
	31 Mar 2025	<10						
	01 Apr 2025			435.2	648.8	46.4		
	03 Apr 2025	<10		32.3	120.1		36.4	
	04 Apr 2025					410.6		
	07 Apr 2025		19.9	28.5	45.7	36.8	50.4	
	08 Apr 2025	<10						517.2
	10 Apr 2025		20.1	17.1	16	18.7	57.3	39.9

Monitoring data shows a temporary increase in E. coli in Shotover River at key testing points immediately below the discharge channel (RS16), and 50 metres downstream (RS06B), which has started to decline in follow up samples.

This is likely because E. coli concentrations in discharge running through the old channel have improved following the initial flush, however, elevated levels can be associated with wildlife sources in the catchment – especially after rainfall events that generate run-off.

Why we test for E. coli

E. coli is a type of bacteria commonly found in the intestines of warm-blooded animals, including people. They're a useful indicator of whether bacteria, viruses, or protozoa (single-celled parasites, like cryptosporidium and giardia) that can make people sick are present in soil and freshwater.

Looking for more data?

You'll find historical data on Shotover Wastewater Treatment Plant and the latest testing results for the facility's discharge consent at www.qldc.govt.nz/shotover-wwtp-water-quality