

Resource Consent

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991

Consent No.	WGN260463	
Consent ID(s)	[41477] – Coastal Marine Area (s12) – To dispose of pile soil in the Coastal Marine Area (CMA)	
Applicant Name	CentrePort limited	
Applicant Address	PO Box 794, Wellington 6140	
Decision made under	Sections 104B, 105, 107 and 108 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA)	
Duration of consent	Granted: 07 August 2026	Expires: 07 August 2036
Consent Lapse	07 August 2036	
Purpose for which consent(s) is granted	To dispose of approximately 6,000m ³ of pile spoil, from the coring of approximately 122 pile casings from the construction of a new ferry terminal.	
Location	Coastal Marine Area at or about map references: NZTM 1750423.5429288 NZTM 1750810.5429113 NZTM 1750101.5428572 NZTM 1750474.5428398	
Legal description of land	Coastal Marine Area	
Conditions	See below	

Decision approved by:	Lyndon Dearlove	Acting Team Leader, Environmental Regulation	
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Consent Conditions WGN260463

[41477]: Coastal Permit to dispose of approximately 6,000m³ of pile spoil, from the coring of approximately 122 pile casings from the construction of a new ferry terminal.

Interpretation

Wherever used in the conditions below, the following terms shall have the prescribed meaning:

Manager means the Manager, Environmental Regulation, Wellington Regional Council.

Notification or notice means email of notification to notifications@gw.govt.nz. Please include the consent reference number WGN260463 and the name and phone number of a contact person responsible for the activity. For incident notification, please also phone the Environment Hotline on 0800 496 734.

SQE person means a person (or persons) who can provide sufficient evidence to demonstrate their suitability and competence in the relevant field of expertise for a particular task or action directed by a condition.

Warranted Officer means any person authorised under section 38 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

General conditions

1. The location, design, implementation and operation of the pile spoil deposition authorised by this consent must be in general accordance with the consent application and its associated plans and documents lodged with the Wellington Regional Council, including:

- Application Documents received on **24 June 2026**

If there is a contradiction or inconsistency between the application and further information provided, the most recent information will prevail. In addition, if there is a contradiction or inconsistency between information provided by the applicant and conditions of the consent, the conditions will prevail.

Note: Any change from the location, design, implementation and/or operation of the works may require a new resource consent, or a change of consent conditions pursuant to Section 127 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

2. The consent holder must ensure that a copy of this consent and all documents and plans referred to in this consent, on site at all times and presented to any Wellington Regional Council officer on request.
3. The Manager, Environmental Regulation, Wellington Regional Council, Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira (Te Rūnanga), and Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika (Port Nicholson Block Settlement) Trust must be given a minimum of **two working days (48 hours)** notice prior to the works commencing.

Notification must be emailed to;

- Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira Inc: resource.consent@ngatitoea.iwi.nz

- Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika (Port Nicholson Block Settlement) Trust:
tepanepane@portnicholson.org.nz

Disturbance and deposition

4. The consent holder must ensure that:
 - a) All machinery and equipment is thoroughly cleaned of contaminants and vegetation away from the coastal environment prior to use in the coastal environment
 - b) All machinery and equipment is regularly maintained in a manner to minimise the potential for leakage of contaminants
 - c) No contaminants (including oil, petrol, diesel, hydraulic fluid) shall be released into water from equipment being used for the works
 - d) No machinery or equipment is cleaned in the coastal environment
 - e) Any refuelling of machinery or equipment shall be undertaken in a manner that prevents any fuel spillage into the coastal marine area; and
 - f) The Manager, Environmental Regulation, Wellington Regional Council is immediately notified in the event of a fuel spill in the coastal marine area

Deposition conditions

5. No sediments or contaminants in excess of those authorised by this consent shall be deposited in the coastal marine area.
6. The consent holder shall take all practicable measures to minimise the sediment loading and increased turbidity of the coastal marine area from the deposition by;
 - a) Undertaking all works in accordance with the methodology supplied in application for this consent
 - b) Completing all works in the minimal amount of time practicable; and
 - c) Undertaking works in conditions which minimise the dispersal of the sediment extracted
7. All material deposited within the coastal marine area shall be restricted to sand, shingle, shell, or other natural material.
8. The consent holder shall monitor the plume during the deposition activity. If the plume exceeds 75m from the point of disposal the activity shall cease until the plume has dissipated.
9. The consent holder shall provide a summary of any deposition activity undertaken to the **Manager, Taranaki Whānui ki te Upoko o te Ika and Te Runanga o Toa Rangatira at the end of each month**, including any exceedances of the plume length and measures taken to address it.

Deposition location

10. The pile spoil material must be released within the area shown in Figure 2.1 of the Resource Consent Application (dated June 2026), and described by the following general positions in Table 1.

Table 1: Deposition location

	NZGD		NZTM	
	Latitude	Longitude	Easting	Northing
Deposition	41° 16.25'	174° 47.45'	1750423	5429288
	41° 16.31'	174° 48.02'	1750810	5429113
	41° 16.49'	174° 47.32'	1750101	5428572
	41° 16.54'	174° 47.48'	1750474	5428398

11. The exact location of disposal within this area must be marked on a GPS by the vessel operator, and provided to the Manager, Wellington Regional Council, upon the completion of works.

Incidents

12. In the event of an incident, including where there is a failure or malfunction of any mitigation measure, or any unauthorised discharge of contaminants, that has resulted in a discharge either directly or via land to the coastal marine area the consent holder must:
- a) Immediately notify the Manager of the incident;
 - b) Immediately notify Te Rūnanga at resource.consents@ngatitoa.iwi.nz
 - c) Immediately investigate the cause of the incident and implement changes required to prevent a reoccurrence;
 - d) Take photographs of the incident and surrounding area, including any sensitive areas in the vicinity;
 - e) Re-establish mitigation measures as soon as practicable in accordance with the CMP
 - f) Within **5 working days** of the incident, provide a written report to the Manager including the following information:
 - (i) Date and time of the incident;
 - (ii) Weather conditions prior to and during the incident;
 - (iii) Photographs required in accordance with (d)
 - (iv) Investigations undertaken;
 - (v) Cause of the incident;
 - (vi) Response actions taken;
 - (vii) Lessons learnt and actions taken to prevent a recurrence.

Kaitiaki Monitoring

13. The consent holder shall invite, with **5 working days'** notice, representatives from Taranaki Whānui ki te Upoko o te Ika and Te Runanga o Toa Rangatira to join the operators on the disposal vessel for the purpose of monitoring and continued engagement. A representative may

be present at any time, subject to the health and safety requirements of CentrePort and the dredge operator.

If no representatives from the iwi are able to attend, this condition will still be met.

Completion Report

14. Within one month of the completion of the activity, the Consent Holder shall provide a completion report to the **Manager**, Taranaki Whānui ki te Upoko o te Ika and Te Runanga o Toa Rangatira. The completion report shall include, but not be limited to:
- a) The volume of spoil deposited; and
 - b) Details of any corrective measures taken.

Complaints

15. The consent holder shall maintain a permanent record of any complaints received alleging adverse effects that has or could have resulted in a condition or conditions of this consent being contravened. This record shall include:
- a) The name and address of the complainant
 - b) The date and time that the complaint was received
 - c) Details of the alleged event
 - d) Weather and tidal conditions at the time of the complaint, and
 - e) Any measures taken to mitigate/remedy the cause of the complaint

This record shall be made available to the Manager, Environmental Regulation, Wellington Regional Council, on request.

General Notes

- a) Where conditions require the submission of information to the **Manager**, information may be emailed to notifications@gw.govt.nz. Please include the consent reference WGN260463 and the name and phone number of a contact person responsible for the information submitted.
- b) A resource management charge, set in accordance with section 36(2) of the Resource Management Act 1991, must be paid to the Wellington Regional Council for the carrying out of its functions in relation to the administration, monitoring, and supervision of resource consents and for the carrying out of its functions under section 35 (duty to gather information, monitor, and keep records) of the Act.
- c) The Wellington Regional Council is entitled to recover from the consent holder the costs of any review, calculated in accordance with and limited to the Council's scale of charges in force and applicable at that time pursuant to section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991.
- d) The granting of this resource consent does not provide you with the right to access private properties. Landowner entry requirements need to be gained and be in place before you may exercise this consent.

- e) Additional resource consents from your local city or district council may be required to undertake this proposal. We advise you to contact your local city or district council prior to commencing works.
- f) Section 332 of the Resource Management Act allows any Enforcement Officer to go onto the property at all reasonable times for the purpose of carrying out inspections to determine whether this consent is being complied with, or to take samples

Consent Review

Wellington Regional Council may review any or all conditions of this permit by giving notice of its intention to do so pursuant to section 128 of the Resource Management Act 1991, within three months of each anniversary of the commencement of this consent, for any of the following reasons:

- a) To review the adequacy of any plan and/or monitoring requirements, and if necessary, amend these requirements outlined in this consent
- b) To deal with any adverse effects on the environment that may arise from the exercise of this consent; and which are appropriate to deal with at a later stage
- c) To require the implementation of Best Practicable Options, in respect to new methodologies for the undertaking of the works to avoid, remedy or mitigate any significant adverse effect on the environment arising from the works
- d) To enable consistency with any relevant Regional Plans or any National Environmental Standards or Regulations.

The review of conditions shall allow for the deletion or amendment of conditions of this consent; and the addition of such new conditions as are shown to be necessary to avoid, remedy or mitigate any significant adverse effects on the environment.

Note: "Exercise of the consent" is deemed to be once the works authorised by this consent have commenced.

Consent duration

Pursuant to section 123 of the Resource Management Act 1991, consent WGN260463 [41477] shall expire on 07 August 2036.

Reasons for decision

1. Background and Proposal

CentrePort limited (the applicant) has applied to Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) for resource consent to dispose of pile spoil material associated with the coring of approximately 122 pile casings in the vicinity of the Interislander ferry precinct. The coring of pile casings and construction of piles in the CMA are for the construction of the new ferry terminal, which is being undertaken as a permitted activity under Rule R197 of the Natural Resources Plan and is not discussed further in this report. The coring of these piles is required to facilitate backfilling and ensure the piles are of adequate strength. The disposal of the spoil material is not included in the permitted activity rule and therefore requires consent.

1.1 Construction methodology

Pile casings will be driven into the seabed to the required depth and then cored out using a drill bucket, undertaken as a permitted activity. The excavated spoil will be recovered directly from the casing and placed into a skip positioned adjacent to the piling works. Once full, the skip will be transferred by crane to a 400 m³ split hopper barge (or similar) moored alongside the work area.

The barge will transport the spoil to the disposal site, located approximately 500 m east of Thorndon Container Wharf (TCW). Disposal will occur by controlled bottom opening of the split barge, allowing the material to be released directly into the water column at a precise location. It is anticipated that approximately 30 disposal trips will be required over the duration of the works. The deposition events will occur evenly across the disposal area.

Disposal events will be timed to account for suitable weather conditions and, due to the staged nature of piling activities, will avoid excessive sediment release over short timeframes. Visual monitoring of sediment plumes will be undertaken during disposal operations. If the plume exceeds expected or acceptable levels (i.e. 75 m in length), operations are suspended until the plume dissipates.

1.2 Location and Site Description

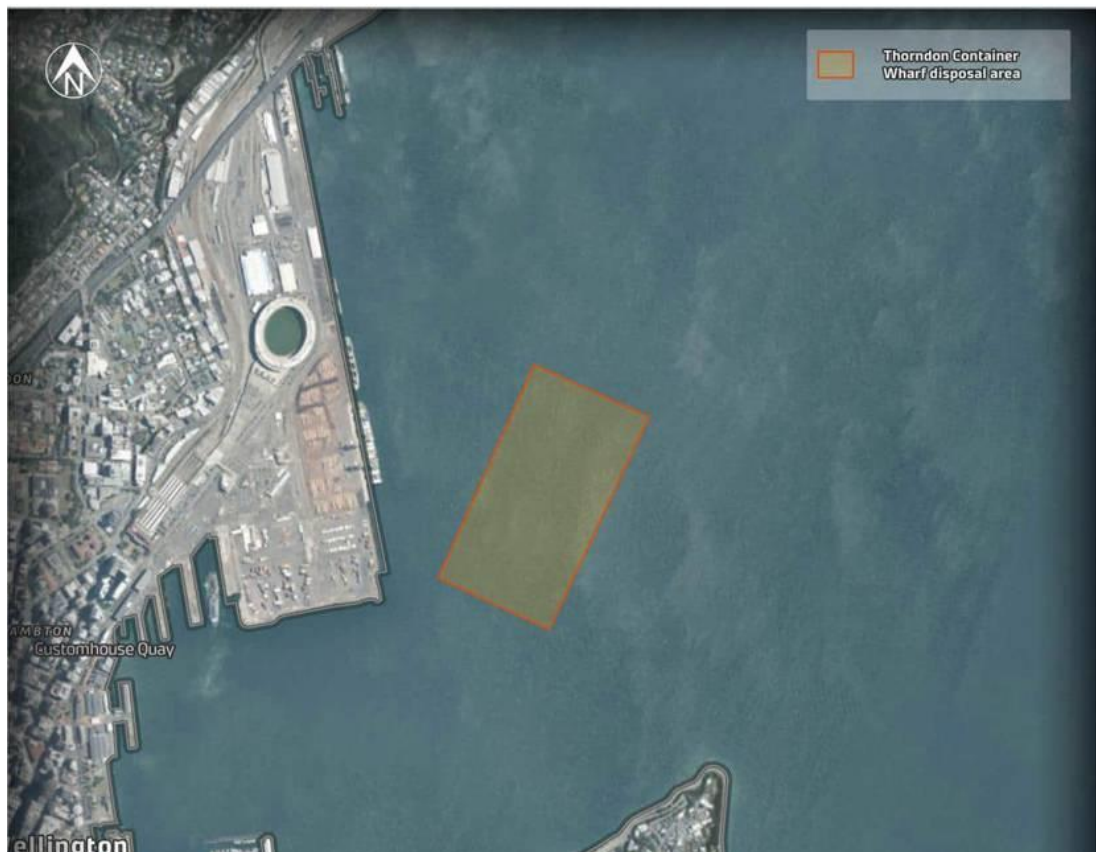


Figure 1. Figure 1: Disposal location in Wellington Harbour adjacent to Thorndon Container Wharf
(Sourced from application documents)

Wellington Harbour (Te Whanganui ā Tara / Port Nicholson) is a large, semi-enclosed natural harbour forming a sheltered coastal environment with significant ecological, cultural, and economic values.

The harbour fringes function as a highly modified working port environment, supporting nationally significant infrastructure including ferry services, container operations, and associated marine activities, particularly along the northern and western harbour margins. The receiving environment in the vicinity of Kaiwharawhara and Thorndon Container Wharf (TCW) is characterised by existing reclaimed land, wharves, dredged navigation channels, and regular vessel movements.

At the same time, the harbour holds strong cultural and historical significance for mana whenua, including Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika and Ngāti Toa Rangatira, and remains an important public and natural resource within the wider Wellington region. The proposed pile spoil deposition location is approximately 500 m off TCW. The depth at this location is approximately –17.0 Metres Chart Datum (mCD) and has been used in the past by CentrePort to deposit dredged material. The area subject to this application is shown on Figure 1 above.

2. Reasons for resource consent / activity status

2.1 Natural Resources Plan

The Natural Resources Plan (NRP) was made operative on 28 July 2023, and those provisions are relevant to this activity. Proposed Plan Change 1 of the Natural Resources Plan (NRP-PC1) was publicly notified by the Council on 30 October 2023. All rules in the NRP-PC1 have immediate legal effect under section 86B(3) of the RMA. As the application was lodged after 30 October 2023, the NRP-PC1 is relevant to determining the resource consents required, activity status, the notification decision and the substantive assessment of the proposal under section 104 of the RMA.

5.6 Coastal management	
5.6.18 All other destruction, damage, or disturbance or deposition	
R234 Destruction, damage, disturbance or deposition outside Schedule C, Schedule E4, Schedule F4, Schedule F5 or Schedule J sites	Discretionary The deposition of material (that is not captured by Rule R228) in the CMA is captured by Rules R234 and R235 of the NRP. The applicable rule for the activity is determined by the nature of the receiving environment. As the receiving environment at the location of the deposition site is not within Schedules C, E4, F4, F5 or J, the activity is a Discretionary Activity under Rule R234.

The activity is located within Te Whanganui-a-Tara which is a site identified in the NRP as being scheduled for the following reasons:

- Schedule B – Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa (entirety of Te Whanganui-a-Tara)
- Schedule D – Statutory acknowledgement area (entirety of Te Whanui a-Tara) – Ngāti Toa Rangatira and Taranaki Whānui
- Schedule F2 – Indigenous bird habitat (entirety of Te Whanganui-a Tara)
- Hutt Aquifer Protection Zone
- The Commercial Port Area (Seaview and Thorndon Container Wharves)
- Navigation Protection Area.

2.2 Overall Activity Status

Overall, the activity must be assessed as a Discretionary activity under the operative NRP.

3. Consultation

3.1 Iwi authorities

A summary of the proposal and access to the application documents were provided to the following iwi authorities via the Te Wāhi portal:

3.1.1 Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust (PNBST)

PNBST provided comments on the application.

3.1.2 Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira

Ngāti Toa Rangatira provided comments on the application.

An assessment of the effects on mana whenua values (PNBST and Ngāti Toa Rangatira) is provided in Section 4 of this report.

3.2 Applicant group(s) under the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 (MACA)

In accordance with section 62 of the MACA the applicant has confirmed that they have notified and sought the views of the relevant applicant group(s).

4. Environmental Effects

The applicant provided an Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE) with the application.

The application was assessed on behalf of Greater Wellington by the following technical experts:

- Megan Melidonis, Senior Environmental Scientist, Wellington Regional Council.

Dr Melidonis was satisfied that disposal of mixed drill spoil from the full drilling depth of 40 metres, combined with the water mixing, would be sufficient to mitigate disposal impacts. Dr Melidonis also agreed with the 75-metre visual plume monitoring methodology. Rather than testing this on a per-load basis, sediment samples will be taken at the disposal site following completion of the piling works.

Dr Meladonis reviewed the applicants comments on draft conditions and advised that a monitoring condition is not required provided the applicant ensures that the spoil will not exceed guidelines.

Based on the assessment of Dr Melidonis, I concur with all of the matters discussed in the AEE and adopt the AEE in accordance with section 42A(1B)(a) of the RMA.

4.1 Effects on mana whenua values

Port Nicholson Block Settlement (Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika)

Schedule D1: Statutory Acknowledgements from the Port Nicholson Block (Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika) Claims Settlement Act 2009.

Wellington Harbour is a Statutory Acknowledgement Area under Schedule D1 of the NRP and Port Nicholson Block (Taranaki Whānui ki te Upoko o te Ika) Claims Settlement Act 2009. As the proposed activity is within the harbour, Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika were provided a copy of this application.

Taranaki Whānui reviewed the application noting consultation has taken place. Despite this, Taranaki Whānui expect that engagement will also take place with Te Ātiawa ki te Upoko o te Ika a Māui Pōtiki Trust to gather their views with regard to the projects impacts on the coastal marine area. Taranaki Whānui would also expect that management plans be produced for species potentially impacted by these works, such as kororā and that mana whenua are provided with updates on the project as it progresses.

A response was sent to Taranaki Whānui stating that we will include consent conditions that require the applicant to assess the level of contamination in the spoil material, reiteration that the applicant has sought the views of all MACA applicants. Information was also provided that our Senior Coastal Scientist, has reviewed the application and is happy with the level of effects from an ecological point of view. Based on the feedback from Taranaki Whānui, and the recommended consent conditions, I consider the effects on mana whenua values can be appropriately managed.

Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira (Te Rūnanga)

Te Rūnanga is the mandated iwi authority for Ngāti Toa Rangatira (Ngāti Toa). Schedule D2: Statutory Acknowledgements from the Ngāti Toa Rangatira Claims Settlement Act 2014 Wellington.

Harbour is a Statutory Acknowledgement Area under Schedule D2 of the NRP and the Ngāti Toa Rangatira Claims Settlement Act 2014. The foreshore and seabed of the harbour is also subject to the application of Te Rūnanga for Customary Marine Title and Protected Coastal Rights under the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011. As the proposed activity is within the harbour, Ngāti Toa Rangatira were provided a copy of this application. Schedule C3 identifies sites of significance to Ngāti Toa Rangatira. Te Tangihanga-a-Kupe is identified as having the following significant values to Ngāti Toa Rangatira; - Mahinga kai, wāhi tapu, Te Ara a Kupe, wāhi maumahara, wāhi tūpuna, tohu moana.

Te Rūnanga advised that while the conclusions of the application that environmental effects are expected to be no more than minor, we remain mindful of the cumulative effects of ongoing activities within the harbour environment. As kaitiaki, Ngā Toa has an ongoing interest in ensuring activities are undertaken in a manner that avoids unnecessary impacts on water quality, ecological values, and the mauri of Te Whanganui-a-Tara.

Te Rūnanga recommended the following provisions be included in WGN260463:

- Notification to Te Rūnanga prior to commencement of spoil disposal activities.
- Provision of the final Deposition Management Plan and any significant amendments to Te Rūnanga.

- Opportunities for Te Rūnanga representatives to undertake cultural monitoring site visits during the disposal programme.
- Provision of environmental monitoring results, including sediment plume monitoring, upon request.
- Notification to Te Rūnanga of any environmental incidents, spills, consent breaches, or significant non-compliance events associated with the activity.
- Provision of a completion report summarising disposal activities, monitoring outcomes and any corrective actions undertaken.

Subject to appropriate management measures, ongoing engagement with mana whenua, and the inclusion of suitable consent conditions, Te Rūnanga considers that the adverse effects associated with the proposed spoil disposal activity are likely to be no more than minor. Based on the feedback from Te Rūnanga, and the recommended consent conditions, I consider the effects on mana whenua values can be appropriately managed.

5. Notification Decision

This application was processed on a non-notified basis as the effects of the activity are considered to be less than minor under s95D of the RMA. Further information on the notification decision and potentially affected persons is provided in Notification Decision Report.

For this application it is considered that there are no affected persons under s95E.

6. Statutory Assessment

6.1 Part 2

Part 2 outlines the purposes and principles of the RMA. Section 5 defines its purpose as the promotion of the sustainable management of natural and physical resources. Sections 6, 7 and 8 of Part 2 define the matters a consent authority shall consider when achieving this purpose.

I am satisfied that the granting of the application is consistent with the purpose and principles in Part 2 of the RMA.

6.2 Matters to be considered

Sections 104-108AA of the RMA provide a statutory framework in which to consider resource consent applications. All relevant matters to be considered for this application are summarised below.

6.2.1 Section 104(1)(a) Actual and Potential Effects

See Section 4 of this report.

6.2.2 Section 104(1)(b) Relevant Statutory Provisions

The key objectives and policies of the national and regional planning instruments are identified and assessed below.

6.2.2.1 New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (amended 2025)

The New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (NZCPS) states objectives and policies to achieve the purpose of the RMA in relation to the coastal environment of New Zealand. The relevant objectives and policies of the NZCPS are listed below.

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (amended 2025)	
Objectives	
3: To take account of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, recognise the role of tangata whenua as kaitiaki and provide for tangata whenua involvement in management of the coastal environment by:	Complies Consistent - CentrePort has engaged with Mana Whenua, the relevant MACA applicant groups (Ngāti Toa Rangatira and Te Atiawa ki Te Upoko o Te Ika a Maui Trust) have also been informed of this application. A Te Wāhi Snapshot has been sent to Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust, and Ngāti Toa Rangatira. MACA applicant groups, Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust, and Ngāti Toa Rangatira were provided opportunities to provide feedback on the proposal.
6: To enable people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural wellbeing and their health and safety, through subdivision, use, and development, recognising that:	Complies Consistent - The proposed disposal activity is functionally linked to construction of nationally significant ferry infrastructure necessary for the introduction of new rail-enabled Interislander ferries planned to be operational by 2029. The ferry terminal upgrades support safe, reliable, and affordable Cook Strait ferry services that are nationally significant for passenger movement, freight logistics, and tourism. NZCPS Objective 6 also specifically does not preclude development of the CMA, provided it is in appropriate places and forms. The disposal location is situated within an established offshore disposal area approximately 500 m east of Thorndon Container Wharf that has previously received dredged material and is therefore an appropriate place for the activity to be carried out.

Policies	
2: The Treaty of Waitangi, tangata whenua and Māori	Complies
	Consistent - CentrePort has engaged with Mana Whenua, the relevant MACA applicant groups (Ngāti Toa Rangatira and Te Atiawa ki Te Upoko o Te Ika a Maui Trust) have also been informed of this application. A Te Wāhi Snapshot has been sent to Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust, and Ngāti Toa Rangatira. MACA applicant groups, Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust, and Ngāti Toa Rangatira were provided opportunities to provide feedback on the proposal.
6: Activities in the coastal environment	Complies
	Consistent - The proposed disposal activity is functionally linked to construction of nationally significant ferry infrastructure necessary for the introduction of new rail-enabled Interislander ferries planned to be operational by 2029. The ferry terminal upgrades support safe, reliable, and affordable Cook Strait ferry services that are nationally significant for passenger movement, freight logistics, and tourism.
9: Ports	Complies
	Consistent - The proposal aligns with policy 9 as it enables the timely delivery of upgraded ferry terminal infrastructure necessary for new rail-enabled Interislander ferries, supporting nationally significant Cook Strait ferry services for passenger movement, freight logistics, and tourism.
10: Reclamation and de-reclamation	Complies
	Consistent - The proposal aligns with policy 10 as it enables the timely delivery of upgraded ferry terminal infrastructure necessary for new rail-enabled Interislander ferries, supporting nationally significant Cook Strait ferry services for passenger movement, freight logistics, and tourism. There is also a functional and operational need for the proposal.

11: Indigenous biological diversity (biodiversity)	Complies Consistent - The disposal area supports indigenous biodiversity values relevant to Policy 11, triggering the avoidance obligation under Policy 11(a) and the avoid significant / avoid, remedy or mitigate obligation under Policy 11(b). The EclA concludes that adverse effects on these values are negligible to very low/low in magnitude, given the limited spatial footprint of the ~33 ha disposal zone and short operational duration. On this basis, the proposal is considered consistent with Policy 11 in that adverse effects on Policy 11(a) taxa are avoided, and any residual effects on Policy 11(b) values are no more than minor and have been appropriately avoided, remedied, or mitigated.
22: Sedimentation	Complies Consistent - The disposal of 6,000 m³ of pile spoil will generate temporary sediment plumes during the controlled bottom opening of the split barge. Disposal events will be timed for suitable weather conditions and staged to avoid excessive sediment release over short timeframes. While the activity will result in sediment discharge, it will not result in a significant increase in sedimentation given the temporary nature, staged disposal approach, and rapid dilution expected at depth. The proposal will not result in a significant increase in sedimentation, and appropriate monitoring and management measures are in place.
23: Discharge of contaminants	Complies Consistent - The proposal is consistent with Policy 23 as it has particular regard to the required matters and adopts the best practicable option to avoid, remedy, or mitigate adverse effects from the discharge of contaminants. The disposal of pile spoil constitutes a discharge of sediment and associated contaminants to the coastal marine

	area. The disposal site is located within a highly modified commercial port environment approximately 500 m east of TCW. The area has previously received dredged material. The receiving environment has reduced sensitivity due to existing modification and historical disposal activities. Pile spoil generated through coring to depths of up to approximately 30 m results in mixing of shallow, more contaminated sediments with larger volumes of underlying natural material, creating significant dilution such that average contaminant concentrations are compliant with sediment quality guideline values and suitable for unconfined offshore disposal. The low contaminant bioavailability demonstrated through elutriate testing, compliance with sediment quality guideline values, and rapid dilution expected in the receiving environment mean significant adverse effects on ecosystems and habitats will be avoided. Furthermore, adaptive management measures will be implemented if plume behaviour exceeds expected or acceptable levels, ensuring adverse effects on the life-supporting capacity of water within the mixing zone are minimised.
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6.2.2.2 Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region 2013 (including Change 1)

The Regional Policy Statement was made operative on 24 April 2013. Proposed RPS Plan Change 1 was notified on the 19 August 2022 with the submission period closing on 14 Oct 2022. Following decisions on Change 1, the freshwater provisions (denoted by FW) of the RPS Change 1 are now deemed operative. Section 4.2 of the RPS sets out the policies that are to be considered when processing a resource consent. The key provisions are listed below.

Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington region	
Chapter 4.2 Regulatory policies – matters to be considered	
Policy 35 Preserving the natural character of the coastal environment – consideration	Complies Consistent - Effects on aquatic flora and fauna are anticipated to be no more than minor due to the temporary nature of disturbance, the highly modified receiving environment, and low contaminant bioavailability demonstrated through elutriate testing. The disposal location is an established site that has previously received approximately 230,000 m³ of dredged material in early 2026, with short-term localised effects expected to recover rapidly.
Policy 36: Managing effects on natural character in the coastal environment – consideration	Complies Consistent - The disposal site is located within a highly modified commercial port environment approximately with very low natural character due to existing reclamation, wharves, dredged channels, and regular vessel movements. The disposal of 6,000 m³ of pile spoil will result in minimal and localised seabed accumulation at depth, with effects on natural character anticipated to be negligible.
Chapter 5 Monitoring the Regional Policy Statement and progress towards anticipated environmental results	
Coastal environment	
Objective 3	Complies Consistent - The disposal site is located within a highly modified commercial port environment approximately with very low natural character due to existing reclamation, wharves, dredged channels, and regular vessel movements. The disposal of 6,000 m³ of pile spoil will result in minimal and localised seabed accumulation at depth, with effects on natural character anticipated to be negligible.

Objective 4The natural character of the coastal environment is protected from the adverse effects of inappropriate subdivision, use and development	Complies Consistent - The disposal site is located within a highly modified commercial port environment approximately with very low natural character due to existing reclamation, wharves, dredged channels, and regular vessel movements. The disposal of 6,000 m³ of pile spoil will result in minimal and localised seabed accumulation at depth, with effects on natural character anticipated to be negligible.
Objective 5Areas of the coastal environment where natural character has been degraded are restored and rehabilitated.	Complies Consistent - The disposal site is located within a highly modified commercial port environment approximately with very low natural character due to existing reclamation, wharves, dredged channels, and regular vessel movements. The disposal of 6,000 m³ of pile spoil will result in minimal and localised seabed accumulation at depth, with effects on natural character anticipated to be negligible.
Resource management with tangata whenua	Complies Objectives 23, 24, 25, 26, 28 - Consistent - Te Whanganui ā Tara holds significant cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional values for mana whenua, particularly Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika and Ngāti Toa Rangatira, both of whom hold statutory acknowledgements over the harbour. CentrePort has sought comment from both iwi regarding the proposal, and based on consultation undertaken and proposed mitigation measures, the activity is consistent with recognising and providing for mana whenua values.

I consider that, with the application of the conditions of consent, the proposed activity is consistent with the RPS.

6.2.2.3 Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region 2023

The following are the key objectives and policies of the NRP that relate to this activity.

Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region	
3.2 Beneficial use and development	
Objective O9 The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of Regionally Significant Infrastructure, renewable energy generation activities and the utilisation of mineral resources are recognised.	Complies
	Consistent - The use of an established offshore disposal site and marine-based transport aligns with best-practice port construction methodologies and supports efficient use of marine infrastructure. Overall, the proposed disposal activity delivers operational, environmental, and logistical benefits while enabling construction of regionally and nationally significant transport infrastructure.
Objective O10 Regionally Significant Infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities that meets the needs of present and future generations are enabled in appropriate places and ways.	Complies
	Consistent - The use of an established offshore disposal site and marine-based transport aligns with best-practice port construction methodologies and supports efficient use of marine infrastructure. Overall, the proposed disposal activity delivers operational, environmental, and logistical benefits while enabling construction of regionally and nationally significant transport infrastructure.
Objective O11 Significant mineral resources and the ongoing operation, maintenance and upgrade of Regionally Significant Infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities are protected from incompatible use and development occurring under, over, or adjacent to the infrastructure or activity.	Complies
	Consistent - The use of an established offshore disposal site and marine-based transport aligns with best-practice port construction methodologies and supports efficient use of marine infrastructure. Overall, the proposed disposal activity delivers operational, environmental, and logistical benefits while enabling construction of regionally and nationally significant transport infrastructure.
3.3 Māori relationships	
Objective O12 The relationships of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga are recognised and provided for, including:	Complies
	Consistent - CentrePort has engaged with Mana Whenua, the relevant MACA applicant groups (Ngāti Toa Rangatira and Te Atiawa ki Te Upoko o Te Ika a Maui Trust) have also been informed of this application. A Te Wāhi Snapshot has

	been sent to Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust, and Ngāti Toa Rangatira. MACA applicant groups, Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust, and Ngāti Toa Rangatira were provided opportunities to provide feedback on the proposal.
Objective O13 Kaitiakitanga is recognised and mana whenua actively participate in planning and decision-making in relation to the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources.	Complies Consistent - CentrePort has engaged with Mana Whenua, the relevant MACA applicant groups (Ngāti Toa Rangatira and Te Atiawa ki Te Upoko o Te Ika a Maui Trust) have also been informed of this application. A Te Wāhi Snapshot has been sent to Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust, and Ngāti Toa Rangatira. MACA applicant groups, Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust, and Ngāti Toa Rangatira were provided opportunities to provide feedback on the proposal.
3.4 Natural character, form and function	
Objective O14 The natural character of the coastal marine area, natural wetlands, and rivers, lakes and their margins is preserved and protected from inappropriate use and development.	Complies Consistent - The disposal site is located within a highly modified commercial port environment approximately with very low natural character due to existing reclamation, wharves, dredged channels, and regular vessel movements. The disposal of 6,000 m³ of pile spoil will result in minimal and localised seabed accumulation at depth, with effects on natural character anticipated to be negligible.
3.8 Sites with significant values	
Objective O25 Outstanding water bodies identified in Schedule A (outstanding water bodies) and their significant values are protected and restored. Where the significant values relate to biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai, restoration is to a healthy functioning state including as defined by Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 and 3.8.	Complies Consistent - Te Whanganui ā Tara holds significant cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional values for mana whenua, particularly Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika and Ngāti Toa Rangatira, both of whom hold statutory acknowledgements over the harbour. CentrePort has sought comment from both iwi regarding the proposal and based on consultation undertaken and proposed mitigation measures.

Objective O26 Outstanding natural features and landscapes and their values are protected from inappropriate use and development.	Complies Consistent - Te Whanganui ā Tara holds significant cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional values for mana whenua, particularly Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika and Ngāti Toa Rangatira, both of whom hold statutory acknowledgements over the harbour. CentrePort has sought comment from both iwi regarding the proposal and based on consultation undertaken and proposed mitigation measures.
Objective O28 Ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values are protected from the adverse effects of use and development, and where appropriate restored to a healthy functioning state including as defined by Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 and 3.8.	Complies Consistent - : Te Whanganui ā Tara holds significant cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional values for mana whenua, particularly Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika and Ngāti Toa Rangatira, both of whom hold statutory acknowledgements over the harbour. CentrePort has sought comment from both iwi regarding the proposal and based on consultation undertaken and proposed mitigation measures.
4.3 Māori relationships	
Policy P18 Mauri	Complies Consistent - Sediment testing demonstrates that contaminants of concern (except low level copper and zinc) were not present at concentrations exceeding marine water quality guideline values, with mercury not detected despite marginal exceedances in solid material. CentrePort proposes visual plume monitoring, adaptive management measures, and staged disposal to ensure water quality impacts remain temporary and localised.
Policy P19 Mana whenua relationships with Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa	Complies Consistent - Te Whanganui ā Tara holds significant cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional values for mana whenua, particularly Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika and Ngāti Toa Rangatira, both of whom hold statutory acknowledgements over the harbour. CentrePort has sought comment from both iwi regarding the

	proposal, and based on consultation undertaken and proposed mitigation measures, the activity is consistent with recognising and providing for mana whenua values.
Policy P20 Māori values	Complies
	Consistent - Te Whanganui ā Tara holds significant cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional values for mana whenua, particularly Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika and Ngāti Toa Rangatira, both of whom hold statutory acknowledgements over the harbour. CentrePort has sought comment from both iwi regarding the proposal, and based on consultation undertaken and proposed mitigation measures, the activity is consistent with recognising and providing for mana whenua values.
Policy P21 Exercise of kaitiakitanga	Complies
	Consistent - Te Whanganui ā Tara holds significant cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional values for mana whenua, particularly Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika and Ngāti Toa Rangatira, both of whom hold statutory acknowledgements over the harbour. CentrePort has sought comment from both iwi regarding the proposal, and based on consultation undertaken and proposed mitigation measures, the activity is consistent with recognising and providing for mana whenua values
Policy P22 Statutory acknowledgements Wellington Regional Council will:	Complies
	Consistent - Te Whanganui ā Tara holds significant cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional values for mana whenua, particularly Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika and Ngāti Toa Rangatira, both of whom hold statutory acknowledgements over the harbour. CentrePort has sought comment from both iwi regarding the proposal, and based on consultation undertaken and proposed mitigation measures, the activity is consistent with recognising and providing for mana whenua values.

4.7 Sites with significant values	
4.7.1 Outstanding water bodies	
Policy P37 Adverse effects on outstanding water bodies	Complies Consistent - Effects on aquatic flora and fauna are anticipated to be no more than minor due to the temporary nature of disturbance, the highly modified receiving environment, and low contaminant bioavailability demonstrated through elutriate testing. The disposal location is an established site that has previously received approximately 230,000 m³ of dredged material in early 2026, with short-term localised effects expected to recover rapidly
4.7.2 Managing adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity within the coastal environment	
Policy P38 Indigenous biodiversity values within the coastal environment	Complies Consistent - Effects on aquatic flora and fauna are anticipated to be no more than minor due to the temporary nature of disturbance, the highly modified receiving environment, and low contaminant bioavailability demonstrated through elutriate testing. The disposal location is an established site that has previously received approximately 230,000 m³ of dredged material in early 2026, with short-term localised effects expected to recover rapidly.
4.7.4 Sites with significant mana whenua values	Complies Consistent - Te Whanganui ā Tara holds significant cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional values for mana whenua, particularly Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika and Ngāti Toa Rangatira, both of whom hold statutory acknowledgements over the harbour. CentrePort has sought comment from both iwi regarding the proposal, and based on consultation undertaken and proposed mitigation measures, the activity is consistent with recognising and providing for mana whenua values.

Policy P48 Managing adverse effects on sites with significant mana whenua values	Complies Consistent - Te Whanganui ā Tara holds significant cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional values for mana whenua, particularly Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika and Ngāti Toa Rangatira, both of whom hold statutory acknowledgements over the harbour. CentrePort has sought comment from both iwi regarding the proposal, and based on consultation undertaken and proposed mitigation measures, the activity is consistent with recognising and providing for mana whenua values.
4.11 Coastal management	
4.11.1 Primary coastal policies	
Policy P139 Functional need and efficient use	Complies Consistent - The proposed disposal activity is functionally linked to construction of nationally significant ferry infrastructure necessary for the introduction of new rail-enabled Interislander ferries planned to be operational by 2029. The ferry terminal upgrades support safe, reliable, and affordable Cook Strait ferry services that are nationally significant for passenger movement, freight logistics, and tourism. Enabling the efficient disposal of pile spoil will support the timely delivery of upgraded ferry terminal infrastructure, allowing CentrePort to continue its contribution to the Wellington and central New Zealand economy.
Policy P142 Safe passage	Complies Consistent - The proposed disposal of pile spoil is expected to have negligible effects on navigation and marine traffic within Wellington Harbour. The volume of material to be deposited is relatively small in the context of the receiving environment, and the spoil will be released at depth within an established offshore disposal area, resulting in minimal and localised seabed accumulation when assessed cumulatively with the consented dredge material deposition (noting that

	deposition events will be spread across the disposal area). The disposal activities will be short-term and intermittent and will not result in any tangible changes to navigable depths provided the material is deposited even across the disposal area.
Policy P143 Hutt Valley aquifer zone in Wellington Harbour (Port Nicholson)	Complies Consistent - The Hutt Aquifer protection zone is located beneath the pile spoil disposal area. The disposal site was most recently used in 2025, with dredge spoil from berthing pockets adjacent to TCW being deposited and subsequently overlain with clean capping material from Seaview Wharf and the Falcon Shoals (Wellington Harbour entrance). In 2026, sediment sampling was undertaken at the disposal site to characterise the contamination in surface sediments post-dredging and deposition.
4.11.3 Other activities in the coastal marine area	
Policy P150 Deposition in a site with significant values	Complies Consistent - The spoil disposal activity is a component of the overall ferry terminal upgrade project and is therefore necessary for the efficient development and upgrade of regionally significant infrastructure.
Policy P151 Dumping in a site with significant values	Complies Consistent - The spoil disposal activity is a component of the overall ferry terminal upgrade project and is required to enable efficient upgrading of regionally significant infrastructure.
Policy P158 Underwater noise	Complies Consistent - Underwater noise from the spoil disposal will be similar to regular vessel operations.

I consider that, with the inclusion of the conditions of consent, the proposed activity is consistent with the Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region (including Change 1) and the Natural Resources Plan (including PC 1).

6.2.3 *Section 104(2EA) Compliance history*

The applicant has no history of any previous or current abatement notices, enforcement orders, infringement notices, or convictions under this Act.

6.2.4 *Section 105(1) Matters relevant to Discharge Permits*

I have had regard to the matters in s105(1)(a) – (c) of the RMA when considering this application, including:

- the nature of the discharge and sensitivity of the receiving environment
- the applicant's reasons for proposed choice
- possible alternative methods of discharge.

6.2.5 *Section 107 Restriction on Grant of Certain Discharge Permits*

The proposed discharge is not expected to result in any of the effects listed in s107(1) of the RMA after reasonable mixing. In the event that any of the effects listed in s107(1) do arise, the discharge will be temporary and so will meet the requirements of section 107(2).

7. **Decision**

Pursuant to section 104B resource consent is granted to CentrePort limited with conditions.

The reasons for this decision are:

1. The proposed activity is consistent with the purpose and principles of the Resource Management Act 1991.
2. The proposed activity is consistent with the relevant objectives and policies of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement, Regional Policy Statement (including proposed Change 1) and the Natural Resources Plan
3. The actual or potential adverse effects of the proposed activity on the environment are likely to be no more than minor.
4. The proposal incorporates appropriate mitigation measures to manage the adverse effects of the proposal
5. Conditions of the consent(s) require that the adverse effects of the activity on the environment are appropriately avoided, remedied or mitigated.

All the conditions of consent meet s108 and s108AA of the RMA. I have assessed the conditions against the criteria in s108AA and consider that they:

- have been agreed to by the applicant, and so meet s108AA(1)(a)
- are directly connected to an adverse effect of the activity on the environment, a regional rule or an NES, and so meet s108AA(1)(b)

- relate to an administrative matter of the resource consent, and so meet s108AA(1)(c)

7.1 Duration of Consent

Under section 123 of RMA, I consider that a consent duration of ten years is appropriate to allow for delays in construction.

Decision recommended by:	Slade Rees	Resource Advisor, Environmental Regulation	
Decision peer reviewed by:	Annie Graham	Resource Advisor, Environmental Regulation	
Decision approved by:	Lyndon Dearlove	Acting Team Leader, Environmental Regulation	

Processing Timeframes

Application lodged:	24/06/26	Application officially received:	24/06/26
Applicant to be notified of decision by:	13/08/26	Applicant notified of decision on:	07/08/26
Time taken to process application:	16 working days		