

Richard Montgomerie

Qualifications

MSc (Ecology) - Otago University, 1998.
MfE RMA Making Good Decisions Certificate.

Professional Affiliations

- New Zealand Freshwater Sciences Society.
- New Zealand Royal Society.
- Resource Management Law Association.



Career Summary

Richard is the founder and director of Freshwater Solutions Ltd. As a freshwater scientist and environmental consultant Richard has worked throughout New Zealand and in Europe since 1998. He specialises in providing freshwater environmental services to address management issues including monitoring and assessing freshwater ecological effects associated with a wide range of activities such as discharges to water, land use change, water takes, damming and diverting water.

Richard has held senior roles at Kingett Mitchell Ltd, the Water Research Centre (UK) and Golder Associates including managing Kingett Mitchell's Christchurch office and Golder Associates Tauranga office.

Richard has managed a diverse range of freshwater environmental projects in many sectors throughout New Zealand and has an in-depth knowledge of the freshwater resources, water management issues, stakeholders, sectors and regulators in all our regions. Richard has project managed complex consenting and monitoring programmes and multi-disciplinary teams, provided strategic environmental advice and expert representation to many of New Zealand's largest and most successful public and private sector organisations on issues ranging from the effects of water takes, discharges and structures, spill remediation, cultural health assessments and water way restoration.

Employment Record

Director Freshwater Solutions Ltd 2009 - present

Founder and director of Freshwater Solutions Ltd - a specialist freshwater environmental consultancy. Responsibilities include business development, health and safety, managing project teams, delivery of multi disciplinary environmental assessment projects, budgeting and financial performance, client liaison, technical report writing, consultation processes, expert evidence preparation and presentation.

Senior Freshwater Scientist/Office Manager/Project Manager - Kingett Mitchell Ltd and Golder Associates 2002 - 2009

Responsible for project management, preparing budgets and invoices, client liaison, marketing and the preparation of proposals, technical report writing, consultation processes, expert evidence preparation and presentation. Responsible for establishing and managing the Golder Associates Christchurch office (2002 – 2006) and Tauranga office (2007 – 2009) including client and business development, Health and Safety, managing project teams, budgeting and financial performance.

Environmental Consultant/Project Manager – Water Research Centre (UK) 2000 – 2001

Responsible for project management including supervising staff, preparing budgets and invoices, client liaison, marketing and the preparation of proposals. Responsible for technical investigations and reporting for a range of public and private sector clients including the Environment Agency and European Commission and Water Companies.

Freshwater Ecologist/Environmental Consultant/Project Manager – Kingett Mitchell Ltd 1997 – 2000

Responsible for project management including supervising staff, preparing budgets and invoices, client liaison, marketing and the preparation of proposals, and technical reports. Responsible for the analysis and presentation of environmental data using spreadsheet, statistical and word processing software including preparation of expert evidence.

Selected Project Experience

Hydro-electricity Sector

Environmental Monitoring – Genesis Ltd. Freshwater Solutions is one of four freshwater ecology service providers to Genesis. Richard has project managed freshwater ecology and instream habitat surveys, assessing environmental flow requirements and undertaken biological monitoring for the Waikaretaheke HEPS and has also undertaken ecological baseline monitoring on the Tekapo HEPS.

Environmental Monitoring Plan – Mercury Energy Ltd. Project manager responsible for managing the preparation of an ecological monitoring plan for the lower Waikato River.

Environmental Monitoring and Consenting – Clearwater Hydro Ltd. Project manager responsible for managing a wide range of environmental monitoring and assessment of effects projects at the Matawai, Speedys Rd and Mangapehi HEPS including providing expert evidence at a hearing for the Speedys Rd HEPS.

Environmental Monitoring and Consenting - Trustpower Ltd. Project manager responsible for managing a wide range of environmental monitoring and assessment of effects projects throughout New Zealand.

Environmental Technical Advisor for Project Aqua – Environment Canterbury. Project manager responsible for managing a multi disciplinary team delivering technical advice on Meridian Energy's application for resource consents for Project Aqua.

Environmental Technical Advisor for North Bank Tunnel – Environment Canterbury. A member of a multi disciplinary team delivering technical advice on Meridian Energy's application for resource consents for the North Bank Tunnel proposal.

Environmental Technical Advisor for the Wairau River Hydro Scheme – Marlborough District Council. Project manager responsible for managing a multi disciplinary team delivering technical advice on TrustPower Ltd's application for resource consents for the development of a hydro electric scheme on the Wairau River.

Assessment of Effects Clyde and Roxburgh Dams – Contact Energy. Freshwater biologist/project manager responsible for the assessment of the environmental effects associated with the operation of the Clyde and Roxburgh Dams.

Assessment of Effects Waihinoa Aquaduct – Tongariro Power Scheme – Genesis Energy. Freshwater biologist responsible for the assessment of the environmental effects associated with the operation of the Waihinoa Aquaduct.

Assessment of Effects Mini Hydro – Perivale Farms Ltd. Freshwater biologist responsible for the assessment of the environmental effects associated with the construction and operation of a mini hydro on the South Islands Westcoast.

Expert Evidence

Clearwater Hydro Ltd. Speedys Rd HEPS expert evidence on instream ecological effects associated with a proposed change to flow regime.

Motleon Ltd. Expert freshwater quality and ecology evidence for a landuse plan change hearing for a parcel of land Papakura, Auckland.

Puke Coal Ltd. Expert freshwater quality and ecology evidence at Council and Environment Court hearings for the consenting of a landfill operation west of Huntly.

Ryman Health Ltd. Expert freshwater quality and ecology evidence at Council hearings for resource consent applications for developing retirement villages in Hamilton and Auckland.

Dines Ltd. Expert freshwater quality and ecology evidence for a landuse plan change hearing for a parcel of land at Pokeno.

Horowhenua District Council. Expert freshwater quality and ecology evidence for a proposed change to a municipal water take from the Ohau River.

Nova Energy Ltd. Expert freshwater quality and ecology evidence for a proposed electricity power plant in the Waikato.

Southland Regional Water Plan – Southland Regional Council Hearing. Preparation and presentation of expert evidence assessing the effects proposed plan rules on Meridian Energy Ltd.

Opuha Dam Collapse – District Court Hearing. Preparation and presentation of expert evidence assessing the effects of the Opuha Dam collapse on the ecology of the Opuha and Opihi Rivers.

Ferrier Woolscour’s – Environment Canterbury Hearing. Preparation and presentation of expert evidence assessing the effects of treated wastewater discharges on the ecology of the Waihi River.

Fonterra Edendale – Southland Regional Council Hearing 1999. Preparation and presentation of expert evidence assessing the effects of treated wastewater discharges to the Maituna River.

Fonterra Edendale – Southland Regional Council Hearing 2004. Preparation and presentation of expert evidence assessing the effects of treated wastewater discharges to the Maituna River.

Fonterra Longburn – Horizons Regional Council Hearing. Preparation and presentation of expert evidence assessing the effects of treated wastewater discharges to the Manawatu River.

Alliance Group Ltd – Southland Regional Council Hearing. Preparation and presentation of expert evidence assessing the effects of treated wastewater discharges to the Maituna River and the Makarewa River.

Masterfood’s Ltd - Horizons Regional Council Hearing. Preparation and presentation of expert evidence assessing the effects of treated wastewater discharges.

Central and Local Government

Kopeopeo Canal Remediation – Bay of Plenty Regional Council. Project manager responsible for removing and monitoring of fish prior to and following remediation of the dioxin contaminated Kopeopeo Canal in Whakatane.

Lower Kaituna Flood Scheme Discharges – Bay of Plenty Regional Council. Project manager responsible for monitoring the effects of discharges from drains within the Kaituna Flood Protection scheme to the lower Kaituna River.

Lake Okareka Lowering – Bay of Plenty Regional Council. Monitoring the effects of discharges from drains within the Kaituna Flood Protection scheme to the lower Kaituna River.

Catchment Management Effects – Department of Conservation. Assessment of the effects of a wide range of flood protection works carried out by Councils and options for avoiding or mitigating effects

New Plymouth City Fish Passage Assessment – New Plymouth District Council. Project manager responsible for preparing and implementing a fish monitoring plan for monitoring the success of installing fish passes at barriers throughout the city.

Stormwater Pond AEE – Tauranga City Council. Project manager responsible for preparing an assessment of the ecological effects of constructing 3 stormwater ponds in the Nanako stream catchment.

Environmental Values of the Waitaki River catchment – MfE. Project manager responsible for preparing a description of the environmental values of the Waitaki River catchment.

Ecological Impact of Bare Mare Mine Tailings Dam Spill – Hungarian Government. Senior scientist responsible for investigating the environmental, social and economic costs associated with the Baia Mare Tailings Dam mine collapse in Hungary.

Water Framework Directive River Basin Management Handbook – European Union. Senior scientist/project manager responsible for preparation of a river basin management handbook required under the Water Framework Directive.

Technical Assessment for various Resource Consent Applications – Various Regional Councils. Senior scientist/project manager responsible for providing technical assessment of freshwater related resource consent applications.

Catchment Management Activities – Environment Waikato. Freshwater Scientist responsible for preparing a description of the ecological values and assessing the effects of catchment management activities within the central and lower Waikato and Waipa River catchments.

Technical Advisor State Highway 20 – Waterview Connection – Auckland Regional Council. Technical advisor to ARC on freshwater aquatic issues associated with the State Highway 20 – Waterview Connection.

Stormwater

Auckland City Stormwater Discharges – Various Land Development Companies. Project manager responsible for assessing the effects of stormwater discharges for numerous land development projects throughout Auckland, Waikato and Bay of Plenty.

Hingaia Stream Catchment ICMP – Papakura District Council. Project manager responsible for managing the multi disciplinary environmental assessment and preparation of the draft Integrated Catchment Management Plan.

South West Christchurch ICMP – Christchurch City Council. Responsible for the assessment of aquatic ecological values and effects associated with the proposed Integrated Catchment Plan for South West Christchurch.

Auckland Stormwater Effects Assessment – Auckland City Council, Metrowater, Northshore City Council, Waitakere City Council. Responsible for the assessment of aquatic ecological values and effects associated with stormwater discharges throughout Auckland.

Industrial Stormwater Discharges – Fonterra Group Ltd, Alliance Group Ltd. Responsible for the assessment of aquatic ecological values and effects associated with stormwater discharges from various processing sites.

CSC Application – Western Bay of Plenty District Council. Responsible for the assessment of aquatic ecological values and effects associated with stormwater discharges from various townships in Western Bay of Plenty.

Industrial Stormwater Discharge – Envirowaste Ltd. Responsible for the assessment of aquatic ecological values and effects associated with stormwater discharges from Bonny Glen Landfill in Manawatu.

Mining Sector

Environmental Monitoring – Bathurst Resources Ltd. Project manager responsible for managing the environmental monitoring programme for a coal mine in Southland.

Environmental Monitoring – Pike River Coal Ltd. Project manager responsible for managing the multi disciplinary environmental monitoring programme and investigation of the environmental effects associated with the construction and operation of a coal rejects disposal facility in a highly sensitive environment.

Environmental Monitoring - Newmont Waihi Gold. Project manager responsible for managing comprehensive water, sediment and biological monitoring programmes and special investigations into environmental management issues.

Environmental Monitoring - Oceana Gold Ltd. Project manager responsible for managing comprehensive water, sediment and biological monitoring programme.

Environmental Monitoring – Couer Gold Ltd. Project manager responsible for monitoring the freshwater effects associated with the Golden Cross Mine – Waihi.

Environmental Monitoring - Winstone’s Aggregates Ltd. Project manager responsible for implementing and reporting on a study of the effects of sand extraction from the lower Waikato River.

Environmental Assessment – Various Hardrock Quarrying Companies. Project manager responsible for assessing the effects of various quarrying operations in the Auckland and Waikato Regions.

Environmental Assessment – Francis Mining Company. Project manager responsible for assessing the effects the ecological values of Hut Creek, Westcoast, South Island.

Environmental Assessment – Roa Mining Company. Project manager responsible for monitoring the effects of a coal mine discharge on Papanoa Creek, Westcoast, South Island.

Primary Industry Sector

Environmental Monitoring and Consenting - Inghams Ltd. Project manager responsible for assessing the effects of discharges to the Waitoa River for re-consenting and managing water quality and biological monitoring following granting of consent.

Environmental Consenting – Crusader Meats Ltd. Project manager responsible for assessing the effects of wastewater discharge to land on the Waimiha Stream.

Environmental Consenting – Open Country Dairy Ltd. Project manager responsible for assessing the effects of discharges to the Waitoa River for re-consenting of wastewater discharge to land and to water.

Environmental Monitoring – Wallace Group Ltd. Project manager managing water quality and biological monitoring of a treated wastewater discharge to the Waitoa River.

Environmental Monitoring – Norske Skog Ltd. Project manager managing water quality and biological monitoring of a treated wastewater discharge to the Tarawera River.

Environmental Monitoring – Miraka Dairy Ltd. Project manager managing water quality and biological monitoring of a treated wastewater discharge to land.

Environmental Monitoring and Consenting - Alliance Group Ltd. Project manager responsible for managing comprehensive water and biological monitoring programmes and re-consenting at sites throughout New Zealand.

Environmental Monitoring - AFFCO Ltd. Project manager responsible for managing monitoring the effects of a treated wastewater discharge to the Waikato River from AFFCO - Horitu.

Environmental Monitoring and Consenting - Fonterra Group Ltd. Project manager responsible for managing a wide range of environmental monitoring and assessment of effects projects at sites throughout New Zealand.

Environmental Monitoring - Carters Ltd. Project manager responsible for managing monitoring of water quality effects associated with a wood processing plant in Wairoa.

Matauranga Maori Assessments - Fonterra Group Ltd. Project manager responsible for working with iwi to deliver Matauranga Maori assessments of streams using the Cultural Health Index.

Farm Water Take and Discharge Assessments - Various. Project manager responsible for assessing the water quality effects of water takes for irrigation and wastewater discharges to land associated with dairy farm expansions and conversions throughout Southland.

Water Supply and Wastewater

Assessment of Effects Central Plains Water Enhancement Scheme – URS. Project manager/freshwater biologist responsible for assessing the freshwater environmental effects associated with the scheme.

Assessment of Effects Canterbury Water Management Strategy – Wairau River – URS. Project manager/freshwater biologist responsible for assessing the freshwater environmental effects associated with a range of water supply options for irrigation and hydro electric generation.

Assessment of Effects Canterbury Water Management Strategy – Ashley River – AECOM. Project manager/freshwater biologist responsible for assessing the freshwater environmental effects associated with a range of water supply options for irrigation and hydro electric generation.

Assessment of Effects Water Dam and Take – Motiti Avocados Ltd. Project manager/freshwater biologist responsible for assessing the freshwater environmental effects associated with the damming and taking of water.

Mangatangi Stream Riparian Enhancement – Watercare Service. Freshwater biologist responsible for preparing a riparian restoration plan.

Water Supply Take – Kapiti Coast District Council. Freshwater biologist responsible for monitoring the ecological effects of a municipal water supply take.

Assessment of Effects of a Wastewater Discharge to a Wetland – Auckland City Council. Freshwater biologist responsible for assessing the freshwater environmental effects associated with the discharge of wastewater to the Owhanake Wetland – Waiheke Island

Assessment of Effects of a Wastewater Discharge to a Stream – Kapiti Coast District Council. Freshwater biologist responsible for monitoring the effects of a municipal wastewater discharge to freshwater.

Assessment of Effects of a Wastewater Discharges to Waterways – Western Bay of Plenty District Councils. Freshwater biologist responsible for assessing the effects of a municipal wastewater discharge to freshwater at various locations throughout the Bay of Plenty.

Land Development and Waterway Restoration

Assessment of Effects Pokeno Residential and Industrial Development – DFH Ltd. Project manager/freshwater biologist responsible for assessing the freshwater environmental effects and mitigation associated with the development.

Assessment of Effects Flatbush Residential Development – Hugh Green Ltd. Project manager/freshwater biologist responsible for assessing the freshwater environmental effects and mitigation associated with the development.

Assessment of Effects Bethlehem Residential Development – Harrison Grierson Ltd. Project manager/freshwater biologist responsible for assessing the freshwater environmental values within the proposed development footprint.

Assessment of Effects Various Residential Developments – Christchurch. Project manager/freshwater biologist responsible for assessing the freshwater environmental values, effects and mitigation associated with a range of developments in Christchurch.

Assessment of Effects Various Residential Developments – Auckland and Waikato. Project manager/freshwater biologist responsible for assessing the freshwater environmental values, effects and mitigation associated with over 30 developments in Auckland, Waikato and Bay of Plenty including preparing restoration plans for streams and wetlands.

Assessment of Effects Various Developments – Various Contractors. Project manager/freshwater biologist responsible for monitoring effects and implementing stream habitat restoration and fish relocation plans throughout Auckland, Waikato and Bay of Plenty.

Assessment of Effects Various Retirement Village Developments – Auckland and Waikato. Project manager/freshwater biologist responsible for assessing the freshwater environmental values, effects and mitigation associated retirement villages in Auckland and Waikato.

Contact Details

Phone: 07 577 1700

Mobile: 021 806 933

Email: rmontgomerie@freshwatersolutions.co.nz