



**April 2021**

Kia ora koutou,

Bay of Plenty Regional Council and the other agencies we work alongside continue to work hard progressing consents for Rotorua's lake structure owners and we would like to share the latest updates in this newsletter.

In this edition we cover:

- ***Replacement Consent project***
- ***Lake Rotoiti Cultural Mapping Report – Ngāti Mākino update***
- ***Public use of private jetties***
- ***Un-authorized works within the Lake Okareka***
- ***Check, clean, dry and certify***
- ***Private boat ramps***
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## **Replacement Consent project**

As mentioned in the last newsletter all streamlined application packs have been sent to consent holders and most have returned the necessary forms; an update on progress is shown in the graph below.

In addition to Lake Rotomā consent applications being processed we are now finalising the 1st batch of non-notified consent applications for Lakes Rotorua and Tarawera.

Please note that for Lake Rotorua we have not processed applications that included

existing previously unconsented lake structures and those with boat ramps (see below for more information on consent applications for boat ramps). The non-notified consent applications included in this batch will be processed next.

Once resource consent for the non-notified Lake Tarawera and Lake Rotorua structures is granted the LINZ lease's and/or RLC RTO's associated with those structures will be sent to the relevant agency for execution and a hard copy will then be sent from LINZ and/or RLC to the structure owner.

Regional Council has received two submissions on the limited notified applications for Lake Tarawera and they are discussing mitigation ideas with the submitters. If the affected parties can't agree on mitigation, they may go to a hearing to decide the applications.

Resource consent hearings provide an opportunity for the applicant and the submitters to present their case to a neutral independent hearing commissioner before a decision or recommendation is made.

Please note that for Lake Rotorua we have not processed applications that included existing previously unconsented lake structures and those with boat ramps (see below for more information on consent applications for boat ramps).

The non-notified consent applications included in this batch will be processed next.

## Lake Rotoiti Cultural Mapping Report – Ngāti Mākinu update

The Regional Council is in the process of finalising the data to send to Ngāti Mākinu to enable them to provide comments and feedback on lake structure applications within their rohe (territory or boundaries of iwi).



## Public use of private jetties

Members of the **public** have a right to access from public places any **private jetty** and use the jetty for recreational purposes. However this must not prevent use of the jetty by the owner.

For safety reasons owners must keep them maintained to a safe standard and notify Bay of Plenty Regional Council in writing (email [notify@boprc.govt.nz](mailto:notify@boprc.govt.nz)) prior to any maintenance taking place.

## Un-authorised works within the Lake Okareka

In October 2020, the Department of Conservation and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council investigated unauthorised works within the Lake Okareka Marginal Strip.

A digger had been driven onto the marginal strip, vegetation had been removed and rocks repositioned in the lakebed adjoining a Lake Okareka property.

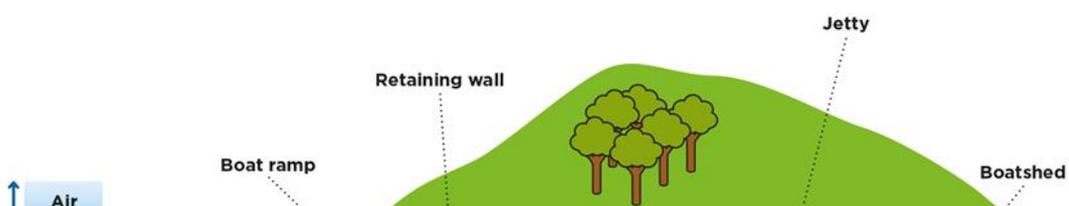
The adjoining landowner admitted responsibility for the actions of the contractors and was issued with two infringement notices. The adjoining landowner has agreed to replant the disturbed area with native vegetation.

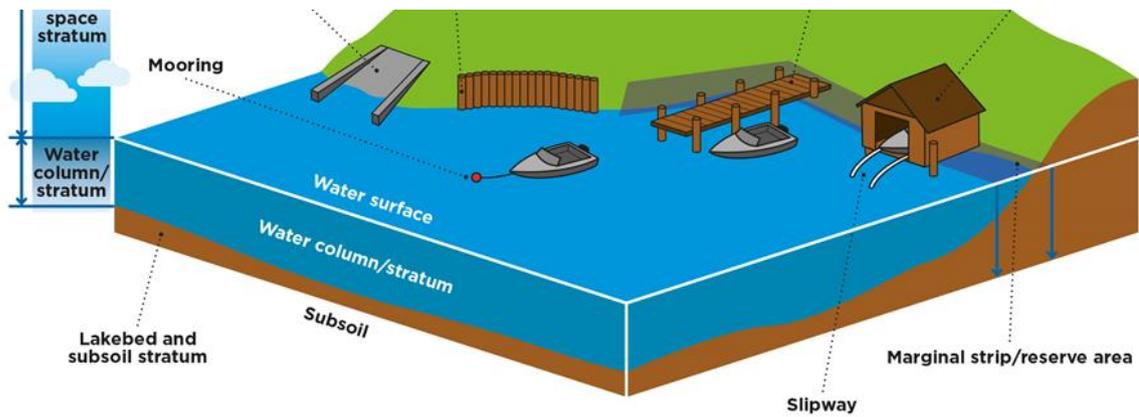
Marginal strips have a specific focus on protecting values associated with the adjoining waterbody and ensuring the public of New Zealand are still able to access waterbodies throughout New Zealand.

A small number of private structures and activities have been given authorisation and the Department is grateful to these structure owners for working collaboratively with them on this. Other items and activities have been removed.

The Department continues to work with adjoining landowners to restore the public's freedom of access in areas where private landowners have encroached onto marginal strips. Any enquiries should be forwarded to [rotorua@doc.govt.nz](mailto:rotorua@doc.govt.nz).

**You need to ensure you obtain the required approvals before undertaking works in and around the lakes. Please check first.**





## Check, clean, dry and certify

Following the introduction of the new Bay of Plenty Regional Pest Management plan, new biosecurity rules now apply to anyone using **selected** boat ramps around the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes area. If you use a boat ramp with a checkpoint you need to certify that your vessel (boat, jetski) and trailer are free from freshwater pest fish and plants.

Checkpoints with self-certification forms have been set up at **selected high use** boat ramps around the lakes and will be expanded to further boat ramps in coming months. Before heading out on the water you must complete the form, sign it and display it on the dashboard of the car towing the trailer.

Over the summer biosecurity staff from Te Arawa Lakes Trust have been visiting boat ramps to help lake users understand the rules and check that they are complying with them.

Cory O'Neill, Biosecurity Officer with Te Arawa Lakes Trust demonstrates how to thoroughly check a boat and trailer for pest weeds and fish.





**AUKATIA TE HORA  
STOP THE SPREAD**

**NEW BIOSECURITY RULES NOW APPLY TO ANYONE USING THE PUBLIC BOAT RAMPS AROUND THE ROTORUA TE ARAWA LAKES AREA.**

If you use a boat ramp you need to certify that your vessel (boat, jetski) and trailer are free from freshwater pest fish and plants.

Checkpoints with self-certification forms have been set up at various boat ramps. Before heading out on the water you must complete the form, sign it and display it on the dashboard of the car towing the trailer.

For more information go to:  
[www.boprc.govt.nz/check-clean-dry](http://www.boprc.govt.nz/check-clean-dry)

TE ARAWA LAKES TRUST

BAY OF PLENTY REGIONAL COUNCIL  
TEI HOKAIA

## Private boat ramps

As you will be aware Te Arawa Lakes Trust has been partnering with the Regional Council Biosecurity team to control and eradicate aquatic weed across our lakes and also Catfish in, and around, Lake Rotorua and Lake Rotoiti. They are particularly focused on reducing the risk of spread of catfish and aquatic weeds to the other lakes.

Unwanted pest fish and aquatic pests have a detrimental effect on our taonga freshwater species such as kourā, koaro and morihana. One of the key levers identified to reduce the risk of spread of catfish and other biosecurity risks was to limit access points to the lakes.

Earlier this year TALT formally advised BOPRC Consents Team that because of this biosecurity risk the cultural assessments for all existing private boat ramps in the cultural mapping reports would now be assessed as having more than minor adverse effects.

BOPRC and TALT have discussed the best way to mitigate this effect for private boat ramps. The management of this biosecurity risk sits with Councils Biosecurity Team and TALT as owners of the Rotorua Lakebeds. Resource Consents for private boat ramps will therefore include the following advice note to address this risk:

*Under the Bay of Plenty Regional Pest Management Plan (developed under the Biosecurity Act 1993), boat trailers must be removed from the water immediately after launching or retrieving a vessel, no ballast water may be transported between waterbodies and all vessels entering any water body in the Bay of Plenty must be free from pest fish and pest aquatic plants (including plant fragments). Please contact a BOPRC Biosecurity Officer for more information about how to comply with the plan.*

TALT and Regional Councils Biosecurity Team are in the early stages of implementing the new biosecurity rules to anyone using public boat ramps but they will be targeting private boat ramps in the future. This could include improved community and boat ramp owner

awareness about catfish through pamphlets or signage at private boat ramps as well as catfish monitoring around private boat ramps. The plan is to work with private boat ramp owners to create awareness and ensure the new biosecurity rules are adhered to.

TALTs desire is to continue the awesome work the biosecurity teams at TALT and BOPRC have undertaken thus far, by keeping the remaining Rotorua/Te Arawa Lakes free from the threat that catfish and aquatic weeds pose.

Please note the cultural mapping reports for Lakes Tarawera and Ōkāreka have already been updated to include this change in assessment and to add in lake structures and assessments that were not initially included. These will be uploaded to the lake structure website page <https://www.boprc.govt.nz/environment/resource-consents/consent-forms-and-maps/lake-structure-consents> along with the other updated cultural mapping reports when these are received from TALT.

**For more information on lake structures and the replacement consent process please visit [www.boprc.govt.nz/lakestructure](http://www.boprc.govt.nz/lakestructure)**

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