

# HELP STOP

# Freshwater gold clam

The freshwater gold clam (*Corbicula fluminea*) is a small shellfish that reproduces rapidly. It can clog water pipes and may overrun native species. First found in the Waikato River in May 2023, it is an unwanted organism under the Biosecurity Act.

**To stop gold clam from spreading to the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes we need you and any visitors that you have coming this summer - particularly from the Waikato - to do their bit and follow the rules.**



## What are the rules?

Biosecurity rules are in place to stop the spread of the clam through a mechanism under the Biosecurity Act called a Controlled Area Notice (CAN).

Two CANs are in force – one for the Waikato River and another for the Rotorua Te Arawa lakes, with additional rules for Lake Ōkātaina.

## All Waikato River users

A CAN with specific rules for Waikato river users applies to the Waikato River from the Whakamaru Dam to the river mouth at Port Waikato this includes Lake Karapiro. This will be in place until further notice.

## Waikato CAN requirements

- River users that have been in the controlled stretch of the river must follow Check-Clean-Dry requirements for any craft, gear (such as fishing and other equipment used to gather kai) and equipment (including water skis, wakeboards, and inflatable pool toys).
- All wake boats that have been in the controlled stretch of the river must not be used in any other waterways, including parts of the river outside the controlled area. Wake boats are any craft with an internal tank or bladder that cannot be completely drained.

## For Rotorua Te Arawa lakes

Any boat that has been in the Waikato River in the last 30 days must be cleaned at a designated wash station before entering the water. This is in addition to the Check-Clean-Dry-Certify rules on the back of this flyer.

## For Lake Ōkātaina

**All boats** must be cleaned at the designated wash station in Rotorua before entering the lake. This is in addition to the Check-Clean-Dry-Certify requirements.

## Wash station



You can find the wash station at:

**The Wash Place, 338 Te Ngae Road, Rotorua**

At the wash station, boaties will need to:

- Wash down their boat and trailer, and drain any remaining water
- Scan the QR code shown on the signs and complete the online form to prove they've completed the wash-down.

The Wash Place is a commercial facility and there will be a cost for washing your boat and trailer. You can pay with cards or coins.

The station is open 24/7 and instructions about how to complete the wash are provided.

To find out more on the latest rules and gold clam status go to

**[www.biosecurity.govt.nz/clam](http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/clam)**

# AUKATIA TE HORA STOP THE SPREAD

✓ CHECK

✓ CLEAN

✓ DRY

CERTIFY

All boat ramp users must follow the Check-Clean-Dry-Certify procedures to prevent the spread of the freshwater gold clam and other invasive freshwater species.

## Check

- Remove anything visible including clams, weed or mud. Drain all lake or river water.

## Clean

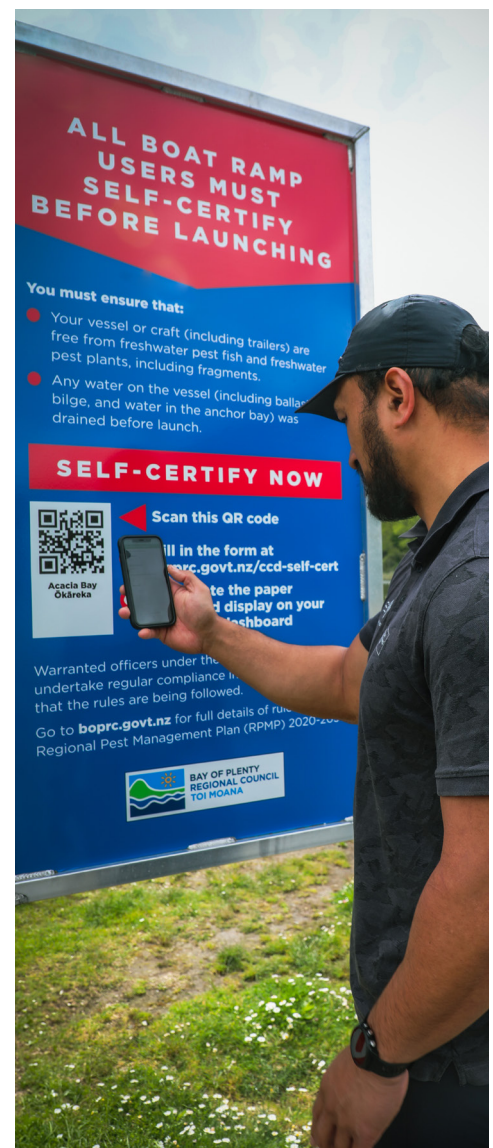
- Wash down your gear and craft with tap-water onto grass, beside the river or lake where the gear was used, or at home – not into a stormwater drain system. This will flush off clams that can be too small to be seen.
- For gear made of absorbent materials (e.g. clothing, wetsuit, waders, booties), which stay wet longer, treat with one of the following: (1) soak in hot tapwater (55°C) for at least 5 minutes, or (2) soak in 10 percent (1 in 10) household bleach and water mix for an hour, or (3) freeze until solid.
- Treat residual water that occurs when on-board bladders or tanks have been pumped. Any wake boat that has been in the controlled area of the Waikato River cannot be used in Bay of Plenty waterways.

## Dry

- Allow gear to dry to touch, inside and out, then leave it to dry for at least 48 hours (2 days) before using again.
- Dry areas inside the watercraft where water has pooled, for example with an old towel, and then leave the craft to dry for at least 48 hours (2 days). The hull of a watercraft will dry when towed.

## Certify

- Complete a self-certification form before launching. The self-certification form must either be submitted electronically or displayed in the vehicle and left at the boat ramp where the boat was launched.
- Self-certification stations are located at boat ramps, with paper forms available to fill out manually or QR codes to complete the process online.
- Electronic submissions can be completed here: [boprc.govt.nz/ccd-self-cert](https://boprc.govt.nz/ccd-self-cert)



CERTIFY

PROTECT THE LAKES  
AND RIVERS YOU LOVE

