

Te Kahupapa Hai Tiaki i Te Mauri o Ngā Roto

East Rotoiti Rotomā Sewerage Scheme Update – December 2023

Tēnā rā kotou i ngā rā o Hineraumati. Kai te mihi atu rā ki a koutou i te whakatata mai o ngā hararei, o te kirihimete me te tau 2024. Nau mai ki te pānui nei.

Warm greetings in the summer season, and as the holidays, Christmas and 2024 draw near. Welcome to this RRSS update.

Rotorua Lakes Council update

From Gerhard Mostert, Engineers Representative

Scheme status:

We've reached a point where some 80% of all on-property installations are in place for Rotoma and East Rotoiti. The treatment plant is working in line with resource consent conditions. It's a long and challenging project around sensitive environmental and cultural areas with very demanding resource consent conditions that need to be met but when complete, the benefits of reticulation will be enjoyed by future generations as well as today's community.

The scheme is estimated to cost around \$56 mil in total with nearly 65% of these costs contributed by other parties and the local community's cost share will be the remainder 35%. The Council will consider in its Long Term Plan the setting of a targeted rate for that 35% of costs.

The final stages of the scheme are slower than we expected with work continuing with some 100 whenua Māori property owners to obtain the legal agreements required to install facilities and pipelines. Work is still in progress with marae committees and Iwi to reach agreement on the final design of marae installations. The last two years' weather events and resulting high lake levels have constrained installations progress with high numbers of properties requiring dewatering and/or alternative ground systems to address high ground water levels.

Rotoiti on-site systems (Biolytix) installations are progressing. 29 installations are programmed, seven to obtain Building consents, 12 handed over to BoPRC for regulatory assessment and another 290 units have been installed as of 21 November 2023. Fulton Hogan will be taking a well-deserved break from the 23rd December 2023 and will be returning on the 8th January 2024.

The Land ownership issues continue to provide some complex challenges, and the team are continuing to work through these which will require us to extend the project estimated completion date to June 2024.

Landowners can make arrangements for site visits to discuss the installation and location of Biolytix systems by emailing Gerhardus.Mostert@rotorualc.nz.

We thank the Rotoiti community for the support and recognising the importance of protecting the health of the community, and the waterways for future generations.

In case you missed it: Here's a video of the scheme, providing further information about what we're achieving - view at: <https://youtu.be/2rknU5RFG5M>

The information booklet for property owners which includes key contacts is available here:

www.rotorualakescouncil.nz/rotoitirotomawaterways

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Ngāti Pikiao Cultural Impacts Team update

From Waitiahoaho Emery, Cultural Impacts Manager

- The team continues to be engaged in cultural and technical aspects of the Scheme during the Biolytix installations in the Rotoiti phase:
 - Wairangi Whata and Waitiahoaho Emery in the oversight of the cultural and technical matters.
 - Pini Tahana in cultural site monitoring.
 - Taira Wichman and Kēpa Morgan in the marae design and installation
 - The Iwi Wastewater Liaison Group in the monitoring of the resource consent conditions.
- Cultural Health and Safety inductions are ongoing, being conducted monthly for new contractors and their staff working on or visiting the Wastewater Treatment Plant, of areas of the RRSS reticulation network.
- The marae system design for our seven marae located within the scope of the Scheme is underway. To inform the design, in September the Council installed trial systems at Te Waiiti Marae to capture wastewater data during the Ngāti Pikiao Ahurei – a marae-based super-event that was attended by over 2,000 people. The Council has also installed digital monitors on marae water meters to record water usage. Additionally, historical booking data has been provided by several marae noting attendance, type of event, numbers of attendees, and overnight stays during a particular time period. The collation of data from these three sources will help inform our engineers and Council in the decision making around an appropriate design for all of our marae.

Whenua Māori Project update

From Wairangi Whata, Whenua Māori Project Lead

The Whenua Māori Project has been steadily progressing over the last few months. The current strategies to navigate through the complexities of Māori Land has recently increased the momentum to finalise legal agreements and associated documents for Māori land properties and General land properties affected by Māori land. Consequently, we will start seeing more Biolytix installations occurring over the coming months.

We thank you the whānau and the wider community for your patience.

Fulton Hogan update

From Daniel Snow, Project Manager

The end of another long year is insight, and our teams are looking forward to a few weeks of rest. It's great to see a recent increase of property agreements being processed for a Building Consent application. These are positive signs that ensure our install teams are kept busy when we return in mid-January.

Of late we have encountered some truly challenging properties which have required some 'out of the box' solutions. Some requiring extensive crane work to deliver dewatering pumps, trench shields and treatment systems to the intended install area. The main driver of these alternative solutions has been to ensure that the impact on the property is kept to a minimum.

If any operational issues are encountered over the holiday period, property owners are reminded to please ensure they follow the afterhours call out process that is outlined within the Operational & Maintenance Manual provided. This will ensure that a prompt response is arranged for reviewing and resolving your systems issue.

From the Fulton Hogan project team, we would like to thank all property owners that we have met and interacted with throughout 2023. It has been an exciting time for our team to deliver these installs along with knowing the wider benefits that this scheme brings to the community and environment.



Kai te mihi tonu ki a kotou i te āhuetanga o ngā mahi e whakatutukihia ana i ngā kōkiritanga o te RRSS. Kia harikoa te kirihimete, ngā manaakitanga anō hoki o te tau e heke mai nei – noho haumarū mai rā, noho ora tonu mai rā kotou.

Acknowledgements to iwi and the community for the continued support in the progressing of the RRSS works. Have a happy Christmas, and may 2024 bring many blessings. Keep safe and keep well.
