ROTORUA LAKES COUNCIL
Te kaunihera o ngā roto o Rotorua

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Te Kahupapa Hai Tiaki i Te Mauri o Ngā Roto

East Rotoiti Rotomā Sewerage Scheme Update

August 2022

Tēnā kotou katoa,

Tēnā kotou katoa , ko tēnei anō te mihi i roto i ngā rā māeke, ngā rā ua hoki o Hinetakurua. Ko te tumanako ia e noho mahana ana, haumaru ana, ora ana kotou i ō kotou kāinga. Kia kamakama mai e Tamatekura. Kia tere mai ngā rā o te kōanga hai whakaora i a tātou, ā, kia whakakōkiritia tonutia ngā mahi a te RRSS! Kāti i kōnā, nau mai ki tēnei o ngā pānui.

A warm greeting amidst the cold and wet days of the winter months, we hope you are keeping warm, safe and well. Some sunshine would certainly be a bonus right now for our health, and for continued progress on the Scheme. Welcome to this update.

Rotorua Lakes Council update

From Gerhard Mostert, Engineers Representative

We wish to firstly thank the community of Rotoiti for their overwhelming support in this project, recognising the importance of protecting the health of the community and the waterways for use and enjoyment for generations to come.

The distribution of the Operations and Maintenance Manual and stickers started in July 2022 and we thank the community for its patience. Please feel free to request additional stickers or Manuals if required. A pdf version can be downloaded here http://www.rotorualakescouncil.nz/errssownersmanual.

Despite the ongoing challenges, progress is tracking well with 60 installations completed and 76 properties booked for installation. Our prioritisation of Biolytix system installs for the next few months will be on completing those that have been booked.

While installations are underway, staff are continuing to meet with land owners to obtain archaeological consents and finalise individual locality plans. Landowners can make arrangements for site visits to discuss the installation and location of Biolytix systems by emailing our new project team member Leo Morley from WSP at Leo.Awata-Morley@wsp.com.

The information booklet taking property owners through the pre-installation process and including key contacts is still available. This booklet and more information on the East Rotoiti Rotomā sewerage scheme can be found here: www.rotorualakescouncil.nz/rotoitirotomawaterways

Ngāti Pikiao Cultural Impacts Team update

From Waitiahoaho Emery, Cultural Impacts Manager

The team continues to be active in RRSS technical, cultural and administration matters.

Archaeological

- The three Cultural Site Monitors are monitoring the on-site system installations at Kōmuhumuhu – Gisborne Pt, also the remaining asset installs at Rotoehu of isolation valves and flushing points, air valves and odour filters.
- Ongoing support is being provided to Rotorua Lakes Council in the preparation of Heritage NZ authority applications for Kōmuhumuhu, Te Tuarae (Taurua Marae area), Matarēhua Pā (Waione and Moose Lodge area).

Cultural Health and Safety Inductions

Cultural Health and Safety Inductions are provided monthly to new service providers and individuals who undertake work or engage in activities for the RRSS.

The induction provides an overview of Ngāti Pikiao:

- local iwi and hapū and related whenua (land);
- cultural values and their relevance in technical wastewater solutions;
- areas of significance within the scope of the scheme;
- the accidental discovery process.

Whenua Māori Project update

From Wairangi Whata, Whenua Māori Project Lead

The Whenua Maori Project is progressing slowly but moving in a positive direction. Application has been made to the Māori Land Court for a Judicial Conference and receipt of our application has been notified. Rotorua Lakes Council is now awaiting guidance from the Māori Land Court on next steps.

The project team is currently investigating particular blocks with more complex issues to gain a better understanding of the current land status. Ongoing engagement with hapu entities and whanau continues, mainly to provide project updates and general discussion about the impacts of the scheme on land owners.

Fulton Hogan update

From Daniel Snow, Project Manager

Winter-Summer installations

The poor winter weather has definitely made its presence felt around the Rotoiti community and had a noticeable effect on our operations. Throughout June, 20 of the available 30 days recorded a measure of rainfall. Our plant and vehicle movements need to be kept to a minimum to ensure we don't affect the already saturated ground. To reduce the impact to lawn areas, we continue to utilise our ground protection mats and geofabric cloth. Feedback from residents is that there are some clear benefits by us using these. Grass reinstatement is near on unachievable through this period of the year. However, we are committed to returning to these affected properties through the spring period to complete the lawn reinstatement.

During and after installation - aggregate hardstand area constructed around trafficable system along with additional drainage requirements in front of garage.

Our focus has recently shifted to completing installs on those properties that have no groundwater challenge. These are predominantly properties away from the lakefront around the Gisborne Point/Kōmuhumuhu area and along State Highway 30. Provided the weather works with us, we are noticing a quicker turn-around for completing the system installs due to the underlying ground conditions being dry. Rotorua Lakes Council continues to increase our available scope of work for the coming summer season (October – April). Throughout this period, our main focus will be to return to low lying properties or closer to the lakefront.

Installation of alternative flow meters along the Rotoma-Rotoiti East sewerage reticulation scheme

Installation occurring along Tamatea St within the confines of a tight driveway

Our maintenance team continues to meet contractual obligations around call out responses. There have been some teething issues with some of the installs. However, a pattern has been established and the necessary resolutions are being established to reduce any further impact on your daily life. We appreciate your patience and assistance while we resolve these challenges.

Community appreciation letter:

Dear Daniel,

I want to thank you for the time your crew spent digging the new sewerage system in to my property at the end of May.

The back of the section was a sorry sight for some time but the guys treated all my plants with great respect and tidied up beautifully.

It is such a joy saying goodbye to the old septic tank which has been struggling on for many years. My great grandfather built our batch for us nigh on a hundred years ago and the tank was installed over sixty years ago. For the last few years when the house has been full of over fifteen members of our family over Christmas we have had to resort to a container in the corner for paper. I told your workmen that when it is up and running I will want to sit on the loo and flush it continually....just because I can!!!!

I am a committee member of the Lake Rotoiti Community Association and the Neighbourhood Support Co-ordinator for Gisborne Point. I am being asked when the instruction booklet for care of the new system will be ready. Some people are finding their alarm is going off and they really don't know what to do. If it is a way off before we will have the booklet maybe you could send me some information that I could send out to the database I have for Gisborne Point residents.

Once again many thanks for a job well done.

Sincerely,
S Coney

Rotoehu reticulation update

From Daniel Snow, Fulton Hogan Project Manager

The directional drilling of the sewerage pressure main pipe work is now completed for the Rotoehu reticulation scheme. This operation resulted in 5025m of high density polyethylene pipe being laid. All pressure testing completed along the alignments have passed with no concerns. Our focus now is to complete all the remaining asset installs which include isolation valves and flushing points, air valves and odour filters that allow the pressure main to breathe. We intend to have these works completed by the end of August.

The constant wet weather encountered during the winter months has made it challenging to meet our initial programme. With the addition of widespread illness affecting our staff and their families, it has been tough to achieve our typical productivity. The wet weather also limits our ability to complete the welding requirements of the pipeline. We use electrofusion fittings to complete the jointing of the pipeline and its adjoining assets and these can typically only be completed in dry conditions.

Preliminary reinstatement around a newly installed fibre communications

Electrofusion coupler welded in place to join the directional drilled

Various unforeseen challenges have been encountered to date, including the discovery of an underground spring near the Waitangi Soda Springs and a varying alignment of the Chorus telecommunication network. We appreciate your patience during periods when your telecommunication may have been affected. We now have a repair method confirmed for the spring in the road near the Soda Springs and this was addressed before the end of July.

Kai te mihi tonu ki a kotou i te āhuatanga o ngā mahi e whakatutukihia ana i ngā kōkiritanga o te RRSS. Kia noho haumaru tonu mai, kia noho ora tonu mai kotou.

Acknowledgements to iwi and the community for their continued support in progressing the works of the RRSS. Keep safe and keep well.