

Te Kahupapa Hai Tiaki i Te Mauri o Ngā Roto

East Rotoiti Rotomā Sewerage Scheme Update – March 2023

Tēnā rā kotou i ngā rā o Hineraumati. Kai te mihi tonu nei i roto i ngā tini āhuratanga o ngā wā. Ka whakaaro hoki ki a rātou i ērā o ngā rohe i Aotearoa nei kua pāngia kinotia e ngā āwhā i ngā marama kua hipa. Ka hoki mai ki a tātou, nau mai ki tēnei o ngā pānui.

Warm greetings to you all at the start of the winter months. Our thoughts are also with those who are still suffering in the wake of Gabrielle, it is hard to comprehend the devastation many whānau are experiencing. We're very thankful for the minimal effects felt here. Welcome to this RRSS update.

Rotorua Lakes Council update

From Gerhard Mostert, Engineers Representative

I would like to begin by acknowledging the overwhelming support for this project by the community of Rotoiti. This is appreciated and it is great to see a community recognising the importance of protecting the health of the waterways for use and enjoyment of generations to come.

We experienced Gabrielle and dewatering challenges but persevered and to date 231 properties have had Biolytix systems installed. A further 43 properties are scheduled for installation. We have been steadily chipping away on the commercial installations with Rotomā School and Rotoiti School completed and Moose Lodge scheduled.

Some good news from our dealings with Unison on the electricity brown outs experienced in Rotoiti with the power supply causing unnecessary alarm activations on the Biolytix systems. Current designs are being finalised to add an additional 2 transformers to the power grid. It was also decided to extend the project period to December 2023, to allow for a bit more time to finalise the remaining installations.

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

We are also excited to have launched our video of the scheme which provides the community with further information about what we are achieving.

Please view at: <https://youtu.be/2rknU5RFG5M>

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 engaged in cultural and technical aspects of the scheme during the Biolytix installations in the Rotoiti phase:

- Waitiahoaho Emery and Wairangi Whata in the oversight of the cultural and technical matters.
- Taira Wichmann and Kēpa Morgan in the provision of technical advice re the current installations of the Biolytix systems.
- Pini Tahana as the Cultural Site Monitor.
- The Iwi Wastewater Liaison Group in the monitoring of the resource consent conditions.

Cultural Health and Safety inductions continue to be conducted monthly for contractors and their staff working on or visiting, the RRSS.

Whenua Māori Project update

From Wairangi Whata, Whenua Māori Project Lead

The Whenua Māori Project is progressing steadily. The outcome of the Māori Land Courts Judicial Conference held in September 2022 has provided valuable guidance to address some of the complex issues associated with Māori land.

Marae agreements have been prioritised and Māori Roadways are also a key focus at this time.

To streamline the on-site consents approvals additional administrative actions associated with Māori Land are now embedded into the locality plans process.

Ongoing engagement with hapū entities and whānau continues.

Fulton Hogan update

From Daniel Snow, Project Manager

The system installs are continuing well throughout the Rotoiti community. With a good number of property agreements coming through we have been able to sustain a continuous programme with our install teams. Programme efficiency has been key for us where we have collectively tried to gain the approval and install delivery of neighbouring properties.

Without trying to sound like a broken record, continual wet weather leading up to late February has been an ongoing challenge through what were supposed to be our drier, hotter months. The main effect that the wet weather introduces for our operation is the inability to complete a high standard of reinstatement. At times we have had to walk away from saturated sites to return at a time that is more suitable. Ongoing communication with property owners and their understanding of the situation has led to a successful outcome.

We have continued further consultation with the commercial properties around the Rotoiti community to discuss the requirements of their non-residential system design. To date, we have successfully installed the systems at the Tamatea St public toilet blocks and both the Rotomā and Rotoiti primary schools. The local sports clubs are next to have their design finalised and systems installed during the winter months.

For those properties where systems have been installed for more than 12 months, Fulton Hogan will be starting its annual maintenance inspections to ensure everything is working as intended and limit any risk of unforeseen faults.

Regarding our install programme, we will continue to focus our efforts around the lakefront and high groundwater properties to try and benefit from these “drier months”. We appreciate your patience while we package surrounding properties together to ensure that our movements between sites is as efficient as possible.



Rotoiti School System Install



Onsite surface and security protections in place during the install



Partial reinstatement of the same property



Existing drain laying complications that required a full reconfiguration



Commencement of the system install at a property requiring the ground water to be lowered (dewatering)

Tight space for the hiab to access the agreed concrete treatment system location



Completing the connections of the electrical conduits and discharge pressure line.

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

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