

Operational Plan for Te Arawa Lakes Aquatic Weed Management

Resource consents

- **68367-AP** (Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Land Information New Zealand)
- **RM16-0520-AP** (Bay of Plenty Regional Council)

Te Arawa Lakes Treatment Areas

Aquatic weed control operations will be taking place intermittently between from the 26th of April 2022 and will continue until the 20th of May 2022 in Lake Rotorua, Lake Rotoiti, Lake Tarawera, Lake Okataina, Lake Rotomā and Lake Rerewhakaaitu using the herbicide Diquat Dibromide. A rāhui on the area of control prohibiting swimming, taking food, and collecting drinking water will be in place for 24 hours following control operations. Signage will be erected during this time to ensure all lake users are aware of this rāhui. See Appendix 1 for control sites.

Table 1. Treatment areas and proposed dates of control for each lake.

Lake	Treatment area (ha)	Treatment area as a percentage of lake area (%)	Application method	Proposed date range
Rerewhakaaitu	1.357	0.2	Boat	26 – 30 April 2022
Okataina	6.5896	0.6	Boat	9 – 13 May 2022
Rotorua	55	0.6	Boat	9 – 20 May 2022
Rotoiti	57.0483	1.6	Boat	9 – 20 May 2022
Rotoma	2.54	0.2	Boat	9 – 13 May 2022
Tarawera	4.0155	0.09	Boat	2 – 6 May 2022

Consent conditions

Water takes: Affected water takes will be notified prior to control works.

Areas of native nesting bird roosting or breeding: No native nesting birds roosting or breeding near sites at this time of year.

Sites of significance to tangata whenua: No known sites of cultural significance within control sites.

Notification: all practical steps will be taken to ensure that the community, including the Rotorua Lakes Council, the Medical Officer of Health, iwi with mana whenua, land owners and occupiers adjoining or adjacent to areas to be sprayed, and the general public are aware of control operations and subsequent rāhui and provided with contact information to discuss any queries or concerns. See Appendix 2 for Communications Plan



Appendix 1: Control sites for each lake

Rerewhakaaitu



Site name	Site Area (Hectares)	Application Method	Preferred Date Range
Homestead Arm	1.35	Boat	26 -30 April 2022



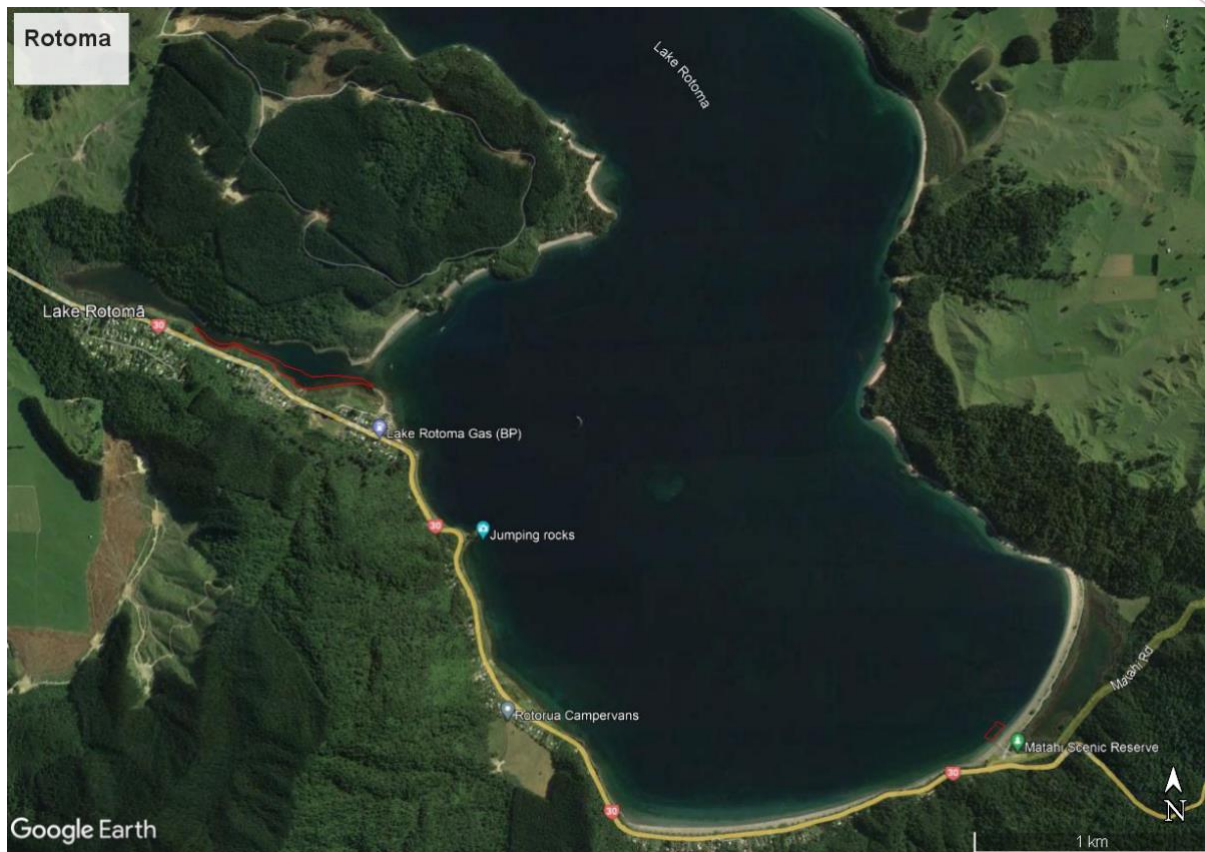
Tarawera



Site name	Site Area (Hectares)	Application Method	Preferred Date Range
Boat Shed Bay	1822	yes	2 - 6 May 2022
Kotukutuku Bay/The Landing	1059	yes	2 - 6 May 2022
Stoney Point	5154	yes	2 - 6 May 2022
Stoney Point Uwhi Site	7023	yes	2 - 6 May 2022
Otumutu Lagoon/Humphries Bay	1,2147	Yes	2 - 6 May 2022
Te Rata Bay/Hot Water Beach	2273	Yes	2 - 6 May 2022
Te Karamea Bay	2092	Yes	2 - 6 May 2022
Wairua Stream Mouth	5261	Yes	2 - 6 May 2022
Rapatu Bay	4146	Yes	2 - 6 May 2022



Rotoma



Site name	Site Area (Hectares)	Application Method	Preferred Date Range for spray
Matahi Spit	3	Yes	9-13 May 2022
Whangaroa Inlet	2.24	Yes	9-13 May 2022



Okataina



Site name	Site Area (Hectares)	Application Method	Preferred Date Range for spray
Log Pool Bay	8685	Yes	9-13 May 2022
Oruroa bay and Point Beach	4.14	Yes	9-13 May 2022
Turanganui/Boat Ramp	1966	Yes	9-13 May 2022
South West Corner	5311	Yes	9-13 May 2022
Haumingi Bay	3551	Yes	9-13 May 2022
Ngahaua Bay	4882	Yes	9-13 May 2022



Rotoiti



Okawa Bay

Okawa Bay 1	2.6	Yes	9 May 2022
Okawa Bay 2	1.4	Yes	23 May 2022
Okawa Bay 3	1.4	Yes	6 June 2022

Site name	Site Area (Hectares)	Application Method	Preferred Date Range for spray
Gisborne Point	17.1	Yes	9-20 May 2022
Te Ruato Bay	1.526	Yes	9-20 May 2022
Hauparu Bay	1.574	Yes	9-20 May 2022
Okahuturoa/Cherry Bay	3.631	Yes	9-20 May 2022
Te Weta Bay	.62	Yes	9-20 May 2022
Te Ti Bay	3.2345	Yes	9-20 May 2022
Otaramarae	3.3132	Yes	9-20 May 2022
Okere Inlet	7.58	Yes	9-20 May 2022
Kakaho Bay	1.65	Yes	9-20 May 2022
Hot Springs	1	Yes	9-20 May 2022
Whangamoia Drive	1	Yes	9-20 May 2022
Tapuaekura bay	1.536	Yes	9-20 May 2022
Te Waiiti Point	5.9942	Yes	9-20 May 2022
Tokerau Bay	6.306	Yes	9-20 May 2022
Teal Bay	7.033	Yes	9-20 May 2022
Wairau Bay	8.855	Yes	9-20 May 2022



Te Akau Bay	4.15	Yes	9-20 May 2022
Manupirua Bay	1134	Yes	9-20 May 2022

Rotorua



Site name	Site Area (Hectares)	Application Method	Preferred Date Range for spray
Kawaha Point	55	yes	9-20 May 2022

Appendix 2: Communications Plan

This communications plan is written in accordance with Resource Consent 68367-AP granted by Bay of Plenty Regional Council for the purpose of controlling aquatic weeds with Diquat Dibromide across Te Arawa Lakes.

Communication objectives

- Engage with stakeholders and audiences to notify them of aquatic weed control works and use this as an opportunity to empower lake users with information about aquatic pests and aquatic weed management.
- Provide a clear pathway for lake users to enquire about operations. Follow up on enquiries and supply sufficient information to ease any concerns.
- Ensure relevant audiences are informed of aquatic spraying operations including location and timing of proposed spraying and withholding period or rāhui for taking of water, swimming, and taking of fish for consumption.

Stakeholders and target audiences

- Target audiences are broken down into four categories:
 - **Mana whenua:** iwi and hapū who hold mana whenua status over spraying areas and/or have wāhi tapu or māhinga kai within spraying areas.
 - **Adjacent landowners:** public and private landowners adjacent to spraying areas.
 - **Consent holders:** parties with economic or resource interests in spraying areas.
 - **Community groups:** community associations, schools and any other local parties which have an interest in the spraying area.
- Stakeholders:
 - Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC)
 - Land Information New Zealand (LINZ)
 - Te Arawa Lakes Trust (TALT)
 - Rotorua Lakes Council (RLC)
 - Department of Conservation (DOC)
 - Fish and Game (F&G)
 - National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA)
 - AquaAg
 - Medical Officer of Health (enquiries@toiteora.govt.nz). To be informed of proposed spray works and of any poisoning events and/or environmental contamination.

Key messages

- Aquatic weed spraying will be occurring in _ area on _ date.
- A 24-hour withholding period or rāhui applies for swimming, taking of water and taking of fish for consumption.
- Aquatic pest plants are a particular problem in Te Arawa rohe due to their invasive nature and their effects on the lake ecosystem including our native species.
- Spraying aquatic pest plants with the herbicide Diquat is a safe and effective way of suppressing these aquatic pest plants based on current research and has no adverse effects on native species or humans.



- Consent has been granted by BOPRC to discharge the herbicide diquat into waterbodies for the purposes of controlling aquatic weeds.
- Any questions or comments concerning these matters can be directed to Te Arawa Lakes Trust.

Approach

Engagement will occur at three levels:

1. **Notify target audiences** via **letter, email** and/or **phone call** detailing the location and timing of proposed spraying, date of rāhui for taking of water, swimming, and taking of fish for consumption, and contact details for TALT. All target audiences identified above will be notified at this level.
2. Distribute written and video **media release** about upcoming aquatic weed spraying, the nature of diquat and aquatic pest plants through newspaper, radio, stakeholder websites and social media.
3. **Signage** will be erected at each lake detailing the location and timing of proposed spraying, date of rāhui for taking of water, swimming, and taking of fish for consumption, and contact details for TALT.

Channels of engagement

Channel	Details of engagement	Timing
Written and video media release	Informative written and video media release distributed via social media and stakeholder websites.	2-3 weeks prior to control operations
Email/letter/phone call	All target audience groups to receive notification through this channel.	1-2 weeks prior to control operations
Websites	Copy of Operations Plan and information about the nature of Diquat provided on stakeholder websites.	2 weeks prior to control operations
Newspaper and radio	Announcements made through local media platforms.	1 week prior to control operations
Social media	Posts made on stakeholder social media pages.	3 days prior to control operations
Signage	Signage erected at each spray site.	2 days prior to control operations

Contact details

Any queries should be directed to Te Arawa Lakes Trust via email aquaticweed@tearawa.iwi.nz or phone [0220283969](tel:0220283969). Further updates in relation to the work and treatment progress can be found on www.tearawa.iwi.nz and www.lin.govt.nz.