

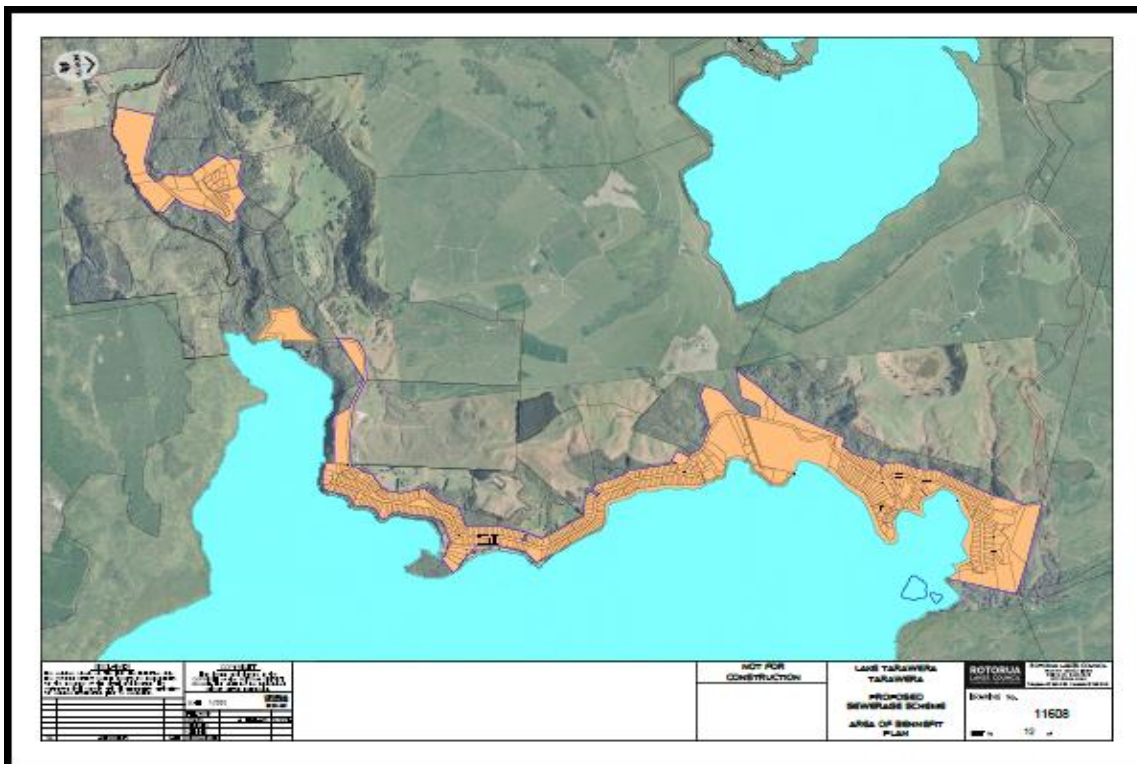
# Tarawera Sewerage Scheme

Update: January 2017



## Proposed service areas for reticulation

Tarawera community, including reserve toilet blocks, Tarawera Landing toilet, The Landing Café, Te Mu Road cluster and houses along Tarawera Road, The Buried Village of Te Wairoa, Tarawera Trail carpark toilets, houses on Tarawera Road as far as Rotokakahi Green Lake.



## Project committee established

Meetings looking at establishing a reticulated sewerage scheme for Tarawera and water quality research have been progressing for many years. The Tarawera Sewerage Committee, established at the community's request, has met three times to date. Supported by Council, it will progress the project, secure funding and address community concern about water quality and drinking water.

## Goals of the committee

The Committee will select the best practicable option which also:

- Contributes best to improving the water quality in Lake Tarawera by reducing nutrient and contaminant flows from homes and properties into the lakes
- Best meets the cultural needs of tangata whenua
- Achieves community environmental outcomes
- Best safeguards public health
- Complies with regional and national regulatory requirements
- Attracts appropriate subsidy funding (due to public health and water quality concerns)
- Is most cost effective for ratepayers and Council
- Has community support.

## **Project committee membership**

The committee comprises representatives from the Lake Tarawera Ratepayers Association, Ngāti Rangitahi, Tuhourangi, Te Arawa Lakes Trust, Lakes Water Quality Society, Tarawera Lakes Protection Society, Rotorua Lakes Community Board, Project Rerewhakaitu, Rotorua/Taupo Federated Farmers, Fish and Game, Ministry of Health, Department of Conservation and both the Rotorua Lakes Council and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council. Glenn Snelgrove has been appointed as the Independent Chair.

## **Funding**

Funding for the scheme will be sought from a number of parties.

Funding has not been allocated in Council's Ten-year Plan but \$50,000 has been made available for project costs during the 2016/2017 financial year.

The alternative to a scheme would see most property owners required to upgrade or install a new on-site effluent scheme at their own cost.

## **Current situation**

Bay of Plenty Regional Council will continue to follow-up Tarawera property owners to ensure that septic tanks are pumped out and inspected regularly. Reminder letters will be sent out during February 2017 however, if you know your septic tank needs attention now please do not wait. The two companies emptying tanks are Rotorua Waste Disposal (ph. 332 2791) and Waste Management (ph. 349 2542). In addition to emptying the septic tank, make sure you ask for an inspection. Repairs or upgrade work is only currently required where a serious failure has been identified. By ensuring your tank is pumped out and inspected regularly you are helping to keep the lake clean.

## **Drinking water**

Concerns have been raised about the safety of the household drinking water at Tarawera. If you have any questions with regard to this please contact Annaka Davis on: [annaka.davis@bopdhb.govt.nz](mailto:annaka.davis@bopdhb.govt.nz)

## **The way ahead**

The committee is considering a number of options for reticulation. Once options have been approved by the whole committee a risk analysis will be undertaken for each option.

Cultural Impact Assessments will be completed on all options.

A funding sub-committee and a technical advisory committee will be established.

The committee will provide regular updates to all those who have an interest in the Tarawera scheme.

### **For more information please contact:**

Glenn Snelgrove, Committee Chair

Email: [glenn\\_snelgrove@xtra.co.nz](mailto:glenn_snelgrove@xtra.co.nz)