Meeting: Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group

Meeting Date: 21 April 2023

Tabled Documents

Agenda Item 8.3 Scoping paper for the Review of the Strategy Group Terms of Reference

Tabled Document 1 - 2023.04.21 Scope TOR Review_RTASLG 2

Agenda Item 8.4 Programme Status Update, Mahere Mahi ā-tau 2023-2024, Pūrongo ā-ono marama 2022-2023

Tabled Document 2 - Programme Dashboard 24 March 2023 7

Agenda Item 8.8 Essential Freshwater Policy Programme Engagement Update

Tabled Document 3 - Draft EFPP Engagement Calendar 8

Presentation 20230421 RTALSG presentation on EFPP comms and engagement 9

Project scope:

Review of the RTALSG and associated Lakes Programme

Prepared by Nicki Douglas, Te Arawa Lakes Trust,

This document outlines the proposed scope of an upcoming review of the Terms of reference of the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group (RTALSG) and the Lakes Restoration Programme.

1. Our understanding of the Project

The Te Arawa Lakes Settlement Act 2006 established the RTALSG, a permanent joint committee of TALT, Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC) and Rotorua Lakes Council (RLC).

The Group's purpose, taken directly from the Settlement Act, is

> *To contribute to the promotion of the sustainable management of the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes and their catchments, for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations, while recognising and providing for the traditional relationship of Te Arawa with their ancestral lakes.*

In June 2022, the RTALSG moved that a strategic review of the current Terms of reference and the Lakes Restoration Programme is undertaken[1]. The role of Te Arawa Lakes Trust is to lead the review, on behalf of RTALSG.

[1] TALT to prepare a report to the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group hui scheduled for 30 September 2022 on the scope for the review of the strategy programme/strategy group (with the inclusion of an independent/objective overview as part of the process).

This resolution was made because of a recommendation from the triennial audit of the Programme[2] -

- *Review the governance arrangements and confirm the roles and responsibilities of the Strategy Group.*
  Include all lakes initiatives in programme reporting for strategy group oversight.
- *Review the remaining delivery path.*
  Set up an independent panel to review the programme and any delivery or funding gaps.
- *Review and refresh the TLI Targets.*
  Determine any changes to targets based on proposed changes to the NPS-FM.

In September 2022, RTALSG members provided guidance as to the potential scope of the review.

2. Project outcomes

The intended outcomes of the review are as follows:

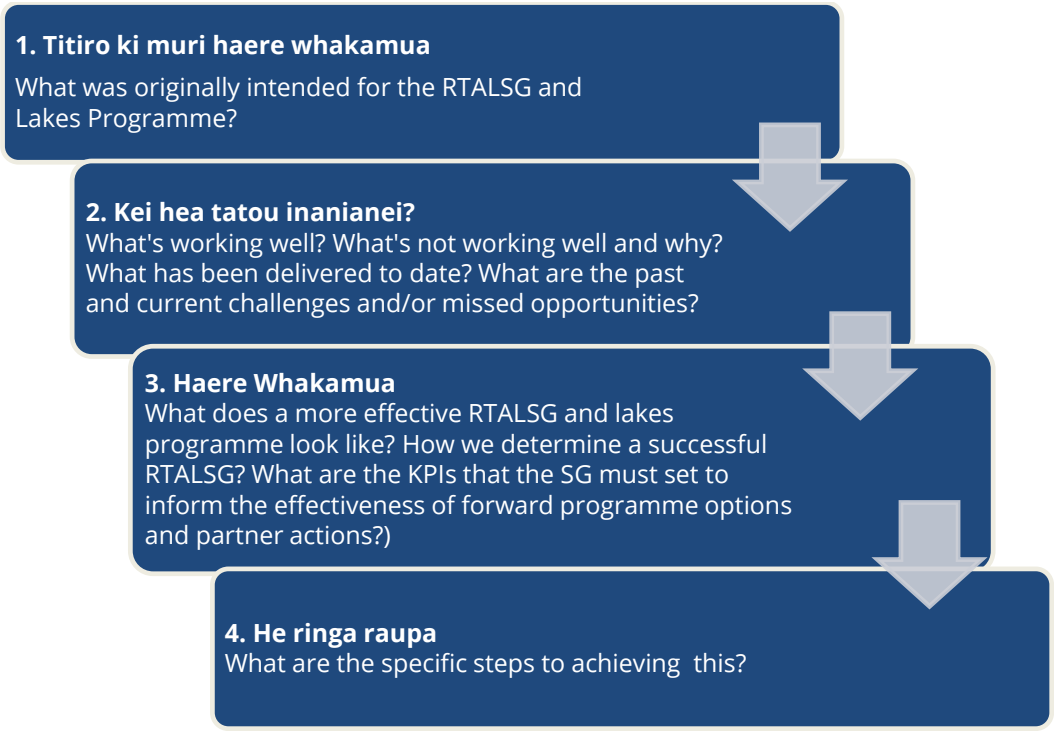
The Strategy Group governance scope and oversight arrangements enables strategic decision making for the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Programme and mandates the leadership of the Group to determine and implement the agreed Vision and the Delivery Strategy for the Te Arawa Rotorua Lakes. The agreed Strategic objectives and Programme include all the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes within the Catchment and of the areas of responsibility of the partner Councils.

This review will help to ensure that the RTALSG is operating effectively in determining and setting shared goals and in monitoring the effectiveness of agreed interventions and programmes and all related efforts by targeting the protection and restoration of the health of the Te Arawa Lakes.

3. Proposed approach

Our proposed approach involves three distinct stages, which are outlined further below.

[2] Comment re the triennial audit



The output will be a report documenting the above.

Step	What is involved?	Timeframe
Step 1: Titiro ki muri haere ki mua Step 1 of this project will be focused on ensuring the foundation that was set is honoured and understanding the aspirations, opportunities and challenges for the next decade of the programme. **OUTPUT** *A report outlining the future direction as articulated by members and the Governance*	*Review the governance arrangements and confirm the roles and responsibilities of the Strategy Group.* *Include all lakes initiatives in programme reporting for strategy group oversight.* **Key questions:** • What was originally intended for the RTALSG and Lakes Restoration Programme? • Is the Terms of Reference still fit for purpose? Is it reflecting what was intended by the settlement and tomorrow's needs? • What are tomorrow's needs and what does the programme of the future look like? This step will involve a review of the Deed of Settlement, Settlement Act and subsequent Terms of Reference and Memorandum of Understanding for the RTALSG.	April – June 2023

Step	What is involved?	Timeframe
arrangements that support this approach.	It will also involve interviews with RTALSG members past and present members of RTALSG and TALT. Te Arawa hapū and iwi leaders, elected members and community leaders of LWQS, Rotorua Lakes Community Board.	
Step 2. Kei hea tatou inanianei? Step 2 will seek to understand the current state in relation and focussing on where we need to be to aspirations align with finding from Step 1 above. **OUTPUT** *A report outlining the key changes or adaptations required in the programme.*	*Review the remaining delivery path.* *Set up an independent panel to review the programme and any delivery or funding gaps.* The independent panel will review what has been delivered to date and to determine the most effective programme(s) for the future as informed by our gained experience and new knowledge informed by science and mātauranga, as well as the funding required and the possible funding sources. **Key questions:** • What's working well? What's not working well and why? • What are the current challenges and/or missed opportunities? • What does a more effective RTALSG, and lakes restoration programme look like? This step will involve a review of past triennial reviews, feedback Step 1 and involve the Programme Steering Group members.	July 2023 – Sept 2023

Step	What is involved?	Timeframe
Step 3. He ringa raupa Step 3 outlines the new programme that will take us to the future. **OUTPUT** *A report outlining the new programme.*	*Review and refresh the TLI Targets. Determine any changes to targets based on proposed changes to the NPS-FM.* **Key questions:** • What are the targets and measures we set to monitor performance of the programme? Are TLI targets the valid or most appropriate monitoring KPI? How do we align our KPIs with proposed NPS-FM goals? • How can we deliver the programme in a way that delivers on the future aspirations?	Oct 2023 – Feb 2024 Implementation for new programme 1 July 2024

Item 8.4, Tabled Document 2

Programme Dashboard 24 March 2023

Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Programme

Lake Ōkāreka

- **230 hectares of land use change completed.**
- Outlet structure and pipeline upgraded and operational.
- Continued support of Landcare Ōkāreka work for environmental restoration – now teaming up with TALT.

TLI Target = 3.0
3 Year Average = 3.1

Lake Rotoehu

- Re-consenting (including optimised dosing methodology) being worked through for alum dosing on this lake, i.e. Cultural Impact Assessment and peer review.
- Rotoehu main trunk sewer installation completed. Further funding required for onsite connections to complete project.
- Phosphorous locking currently turned off due to extremely high lake levels.
- Weed harvesting unlikely this season due to spread of weed following Cyclone Gabrielle and difficulty of unloading weed due to extremely high lake level.

TLI Target = 3.9
3 Year Average = 4.3
Health Warning

Lake Rotorua

- **Advice and Support: 309 properties have used Service. 8 of these properties are over 40ha and there are 12 who have yet to be consented (or deemed permitted). These properties will shortly receive their final notice to comply, prior to compliance action. There are approximately 10 remaining properties under 40ha in the catchment to engage in the service, staff are working through this list.**
- **Low Nitrogen Land Use Fund: Irrigation scheduling equipment has been installed at the hazelnut trial site, preparations have commenced for harvesting the Hamurana mānuka trial site.**
- **Constructed Wetlands Project: Rural drain wetland pilot project site secured and design underway – construction likely to commence 2023/2024. Work underway to secure further restoration site.**
- **Incentives Scheme: To date 31 deals have been finalised which has removed 34.2 tN/yr from Lake Rotorua and resulted in almost 4500 ha of land use change.**
- **Deed funded gorse and sewerage reticulation projects complete.**
- Lake Rotorua Science Review: Review completed, summary report available shortly - will be presented to Strategy Group.
- Alum tanks have been replaced at Utuhina phosphorous locking plant, some upgrades planned to Puarenga plant.
- Current algae bloom on Lake Rotorua and Ōhau Channel, alum plants operating at full consented capacity.
- 159 ha of land use change, 40 ha of wetland restoration and 124 ha of Significant Natural Area Restoration undertaken in the Rotorua catchment (2017-2022).

TLI Target = 2.6
3 Year Average = 2.7
Health warning

Tarawera Catchments

- Phase One (mains and pump stations) construction of Tarawera Sewerage Scheme to commence beginning of April 2023, Fulton Hogan as contractor.
- Te Mana o Te Wai funding for three years secured for Collective Impact Project to be led by Te Arawa Lakes Trust. Team now in place based at Tūhourangi Tribal Authority Office, Whakarewarewa.
- Ōkaro alum dosing scheduled early March.
- Late April working bee planned at Tarawera to undertake Acacia seedling control and assess next steps with project.

TLI Target = 2.6
3 Year Average = 2.7

Lake Rotoiti

- **Curtis Road to Hinehopu Sewerage Scheme - supply/installation of onsite systems continues with additional Crown funding now committed – 173 onsite connections have now been made.**
- Significant algal bloom in Okawa Bay over summer which we believe was triggered by climatic conditions and spraying of weed in November. Parties have reviewed weed control undertaken and will tweak for coming year.
- TALT and Cawthorn Fish Futures team have established Workplan to create refuge for Kōura from Catfish in Lakes Rotorua and Rotoiti.
- Underwater inspection of Ohau Wall to be undertaken shortly to inspect structural integrity.

TLI Target = 3.5
*3 Year Average = 3.7

KEY - Programme Status

On track

Resolving issues

KEY - Water quality status

Good

Moderate

Poor

***Note:** The current stability of Lake Rotorua and Lake Rotoiti TLI due to P-locking and Ohau Wall.

***Note: Deed-funded activities are bolded**

Item 8.8, Tabled Document 3

2023 DRAFT EFPP Engagement Calendar (Version 23 March 2023)

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Mon	30 Auckland Anniversary				29		31			30		
Tue	31 No meetings after Public Holiday				30 Tarawera			1		31		
Wed		1	1		31 Whakatāne			2 Waihī Estuary			1	
Thu		2	2			1		3 Waitahanui			2	
Fri		3	3			2 Rangitaiki* (Rangitāiki River Forum)		4 Kaituna* Te Maru o Kaituna	1		3	1
Sat		4	4 Kuirau Park Sat Market	1		3	1	5	2 Whakatāne		4	2
Sun	1 New Years Day	5 Kaitikati A&P Show	5	2 Daylight savings ends		4	2	6	3	1	5	3
Mon	2 Day after New Years Day	6 Waitangi Day	6	3	1 RESOF	5 Kings Birthday	3	7 No EFPP meetings	4	2	6	4
Tue	3 New Years Day Observed	7	7 RESOF	4	2	6	4 Tauranga Moana	8 No EFPP meetings (Strategy and Policy)	5	3	7 TLA Forum	5
Wed	4	8	8	5 Waioeka-Otara RSAG	3 Waitahanui	7	5	9 No EFPP meetings	6 Additional Focus Group (Kaituna Catchment Control)	4	8	6
Thu	5	9	9	6	4 TLA Forum	8	6	10 No EFPP meetings	7 Ōhiwa* (OHIF)	5	9	7
Fri	6	10 Te Maru o Kaituna	10 Tauranga Moana Advisory Board	7 Good Friday	5 Waihī Estuary	9 Tauranga Moana* (TM Advisory Group)	7	11 No EFPP meetings	8 Rangitaki* (Rangitāiki River Forum)	6	10	8
Sat	7	11 Te Puke A&P Show	11 Rangitāiki River Festival	8	6 Kaituna	10	8 Rotorua	12	9	7	11	9
Sun	8	12	12	9	7	11	9	13	10	8	12	10
Mon	9	13 TLA Forum	13	10 Easter Monday	8 No EFPP meetings	12 No EFPP meetings	10 No EFPP meetings	14 TLA Forum	11	9	13	11
Tue	10	14	14 Ohiwa Harbour Implementation Forum	11 Kaituna Freshwater Futures Community Group	9 No EFPP meetings (AP Hearings)	13 No EFPP meetings	11 No EFPP meetings	15 Katikati Allocation	12 Waihī Estuary	10	14	12
Wed	11	15	15 Kaituna Catchment Control	12 Pongakawa-Waitahanui Freshwater Futures Community Group	10 No EFPP meetings (AP Hearings)	14 No EFPP meetings	12 No EFPP meetings	16 Hui a rohe (Rotorua)	13 Waitahanui	11	15	13
Thu	12	16	16	13 Rangitāiki Freshwater Futures Community Group	11 No EFPP meetings (AP Hearings)	15 No EFPP meetings	13 No EFPP meetings	17 Tauranga Moana	14	12	16	14
Fri	13	17	17	14 No EFPP meetings (Te Maru o Kaituna)	12 No EFPP meetings	16 No EFPP meetings	14 Matariki	18 Te Puke Allocation	15 Kaituna	13	17	15
Sat	14	18 Tauranga A&P Show	18	15	13	17	15	19	16	14	18	16
Sun	15	19	19	16	14	18	16	20	17	15	19	17
Mon	16	20	20	17	15 Ōhiwa	19 Mōtiti	17	21 Mōtiti	18 Additional Focus Group (Kaituna Catchment Control)	16	20	18
Tue	17	21	21	18	16 Strategy and Policy	20	18 Waiotahe	22	19	17	21	19
Wed	18	22	22 Rangitaiki- Tarawera RSAG	19	17 East Coast; Hui a rohe (Ōkurei)	21	19 Waioeka-Ōtara	23	20 Whakatāne-Tauranga RSAG	18	22	20
Thu	19	23	23 Rangitaiki River Forum	20	18 Waioeka-Ōtara; Hui a rohe (Mauao)	22	20 East Coast	24 Hui a rohe (Tauranga)	21	19	23	21
Fri	20	24	24 RTALSG	21 Contingency for Hui a Rohe	19 Waiotahe; Te Maru o Kaituna	23 Rotorua* (RTALSG)	21 Ōhiwa	25 Hui a Rohe (Whakatane)	22 Rotorua* (RTALSG)	20	24 Te Maru o Kaituna	22
Sat	21	25	25	22	20	24 Waihī Estuary	22	26	23	21	25	23
Sun	22	26	26	23	21 Tauranga Moana	25	23 Rangitāiki	27	24 Daylight savings	22	26	24
Mon	23	27	27 Waka Ama- Lake Tikitapu	24	22	26 RESOF	24	28 RESOF	25 No EFPP meetings	23 Labour Day	27	25 Christmas Day
Tue	24	28 Te Arawa Restoration Group	28	25 ANZAC Day	23 Rotorua	27 Strategy and Policy Workshop	25	29 Te Arawa Restoration Group	26 No EFPP meetings (NSB Hearings)	24 RESOF	28	26 Boxing Day
Wed	25		29 Whakatane-Tauranga RSAG	26 Whakatāne	24 Hui a rohe (Kohi)	28	26 Tarawera	30 Additional Focus Group	27 No EFPP meetings (NSB Hearings; Waioeka-Otara RSAG)	25	29 Te Arawa Restoration Group	27
Thu	26		30	27 Rangitaki	25	29 Kaituna	27	31 Additional Focus Group	28 No EFPP meetings (NSB Hearings)	26	30	28
Fri	27		31	28 Tarawera	26	30	28 Whakatāne		29 No EFPP meetings	27		29
Sat	28			29	27		29		30	28		30
Sun	29 Farming like Grandad			30	28		30			29		31

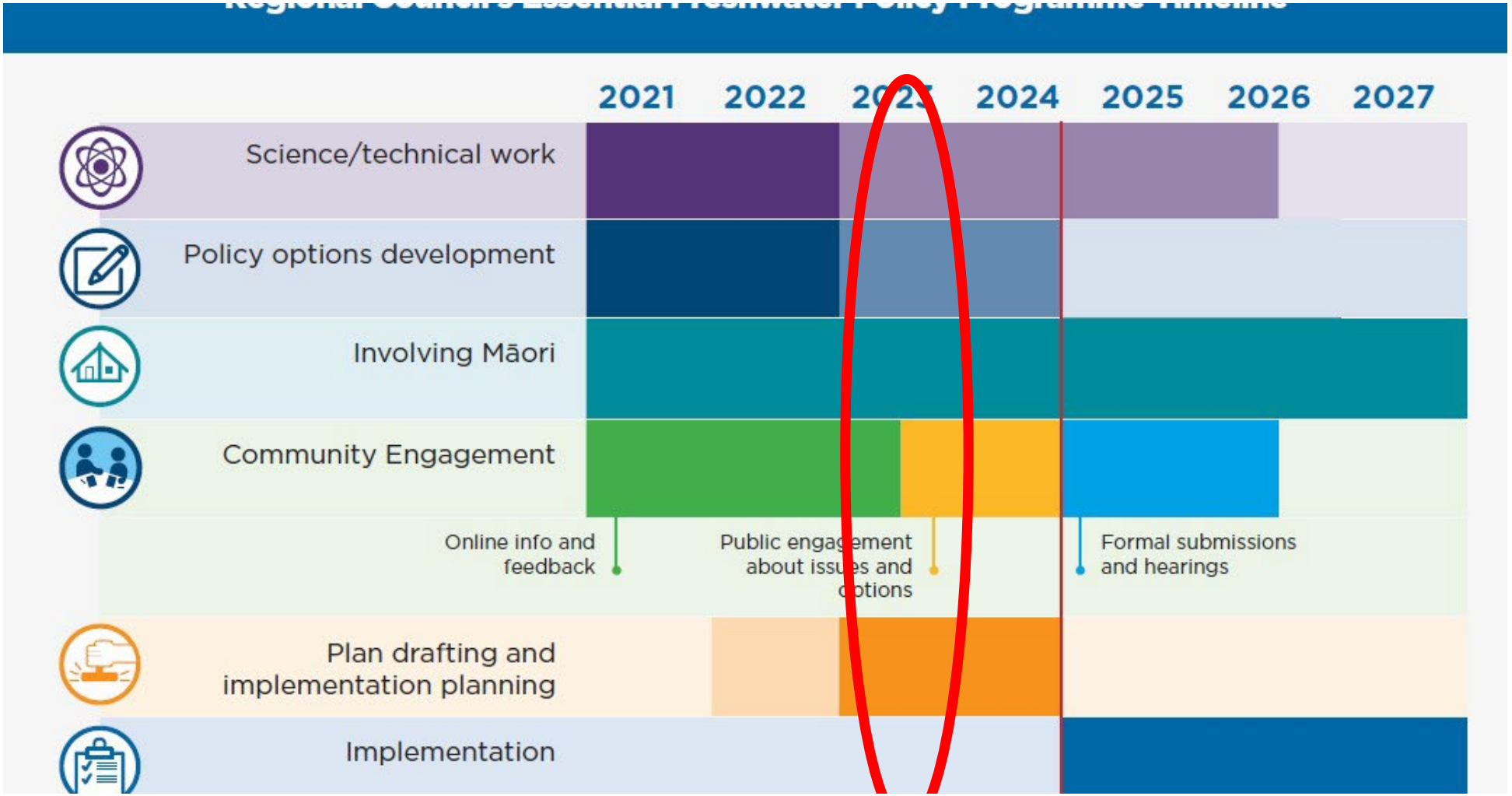
22 March 2023 - not for wider circulation

TOI MOANA
BAY OF PLENTY
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Essential Freshwater Policy Programme

Comms and engagement

Rotorua Te Arawa Strategy Group
20 April 2023


2021
2022
2023
2024
2025
2026
2027
Science/technical work
Policy options development
Involving Māori
Community Engagement
Online info and feedback
Public engagement about issues and options
Formal submissions and hearings
Plan drafting and implementation planning
Implementation

Lake Rotorua (Rotorua)

Community engagement

- Draft calendar of events – locked in & underway
- Limited capacity to respond to 'ad hoc' engagement requests
- Communications material
  - *Regional booklet*
  - *FMU specific booklets*
- FMU specific events
- Feedback in person, online and in hard copy
- Sign up to *Freshwater Flash* eNewsletter

Tangata whenua engagement

- Supporting current engagement projects/relationships
- Two rounds of Hui ā rohe in each of Okurei, Mauao & Kohi
- Ongoing invitations to engage – responsive to requests

Rotorua Te Arawa FMU events

Drop in sessions

- 4 March Kuirau Park Markets
- 29 March Waka Ama, Tikitapu

Coming up

- 23 May 2-7pm Toi Ohomai, Mokoia Dr
- 23 June 12 -1:30pm **online event**
- 8 July 10am-2pm *venue tbc*
- 22 Sept 2-7pm *venue tbc*

Rotorua Te Arawa FMU events

Hui ā rohe Okurei

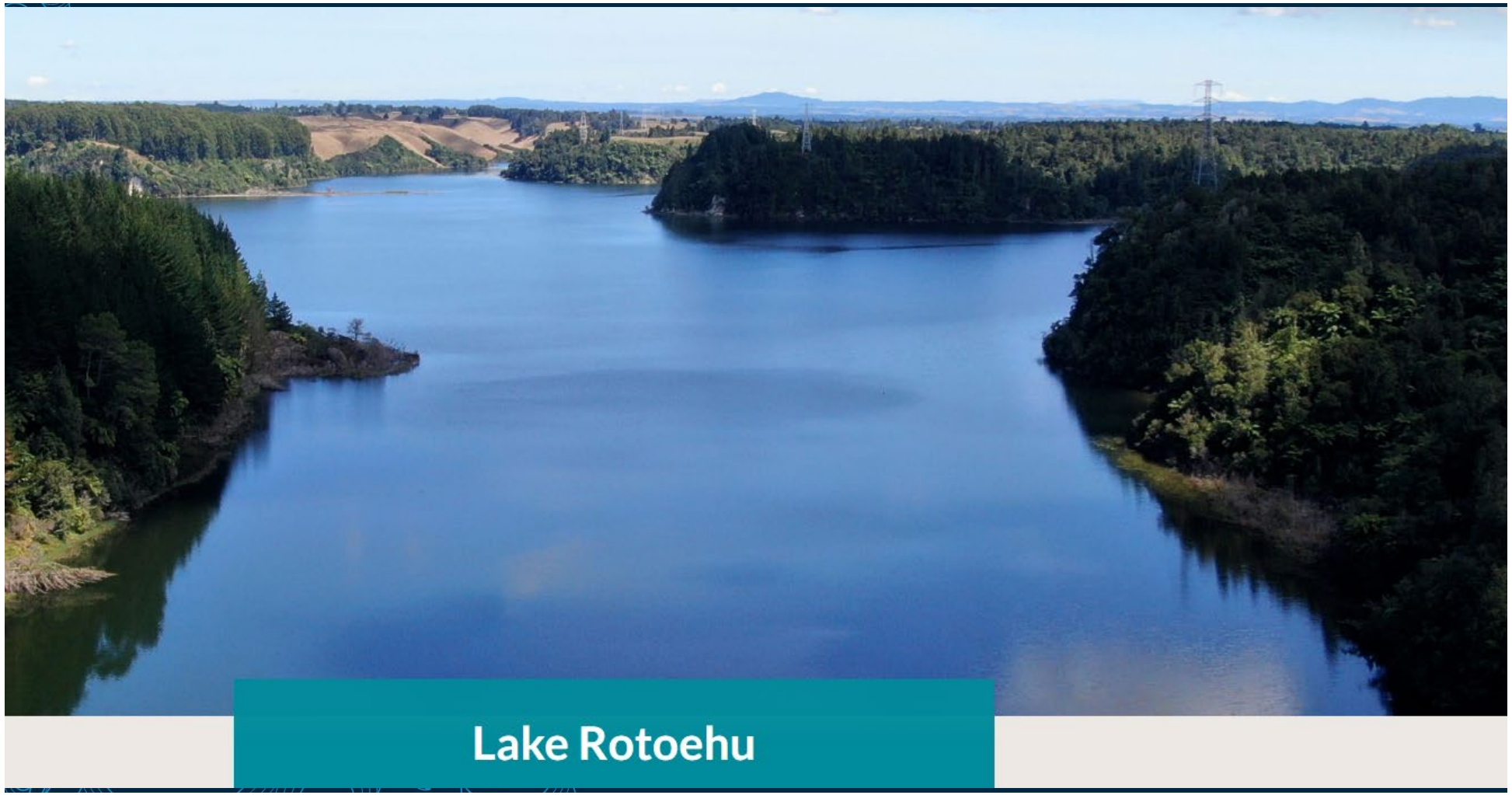
- Wed 17 May 2pm-4pm, 5.30pm-7pm, Te Ao Marama, Ōhinemutu
- Wed 16 Aug *venue tbc*

Hui ā rohe Mauao

- Thurs 18 May, 2pm-4pm, 5.30pm-7pm *venue tbc*
- Thurs 24 Aug *venue tbc*

Regular updates

- Resource and Environmental Sector Forum
- Territorial Local Authority forum
- Where appropriate River and Drainage Advisory Groups, Drainage Boards
- Rotorua Lakes Strategy Group

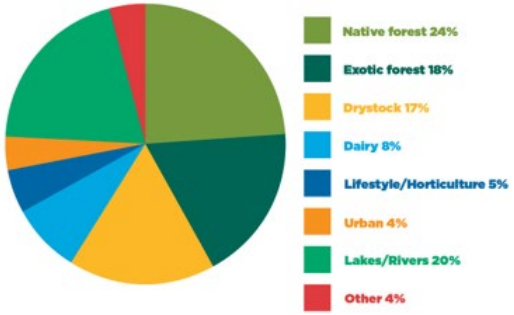

Lake Rotoehu

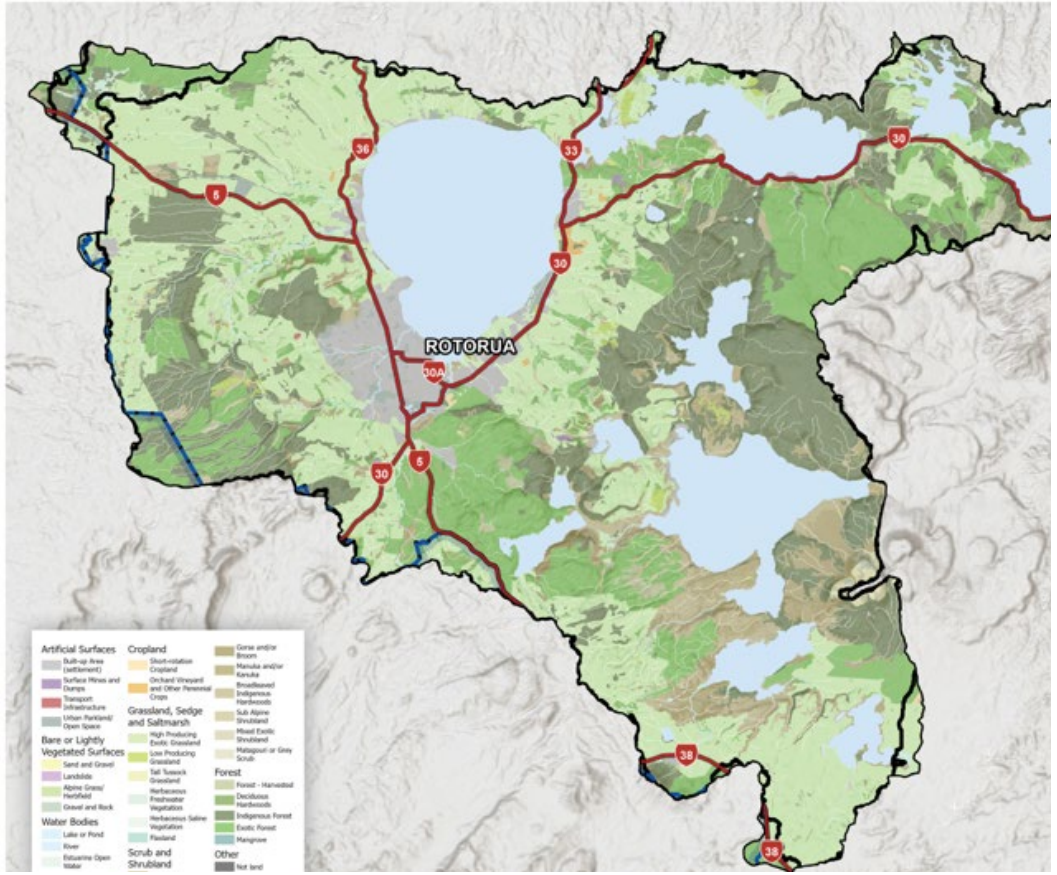
Draft Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes FMU

Lake Ōkataina

nd area:
05,576 ha
Bay of Plenty
1,605 in Waikato)

pulation:
76,100





Change needed Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes FMU

Large contaminant load reduction required for some lakes

Will be building on:

- PC 10 for Lake Rotorua
- Rule 11 / action plans for other lakes

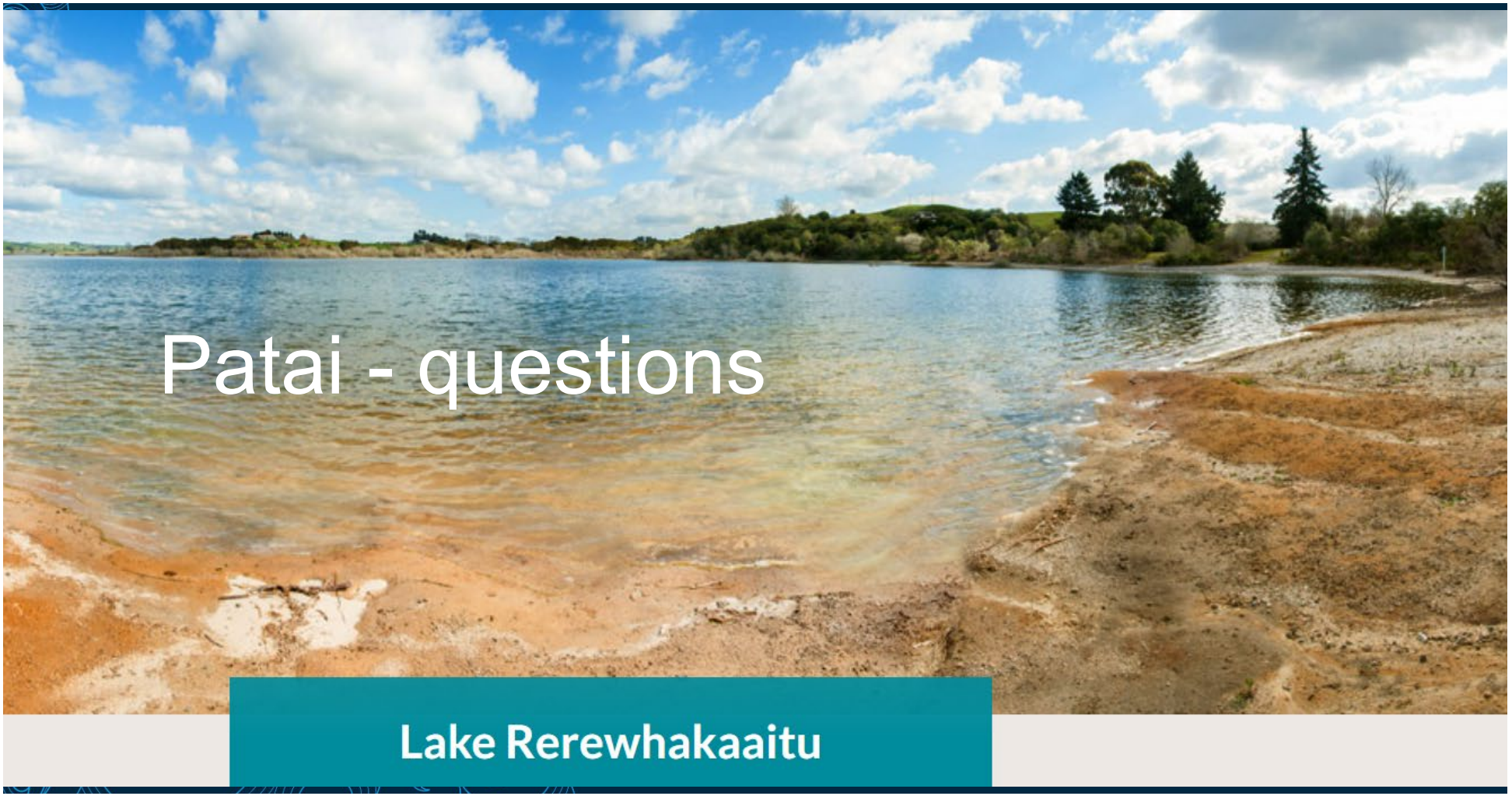
Indicative scale of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and *E. coli* load reduction needed to improve water quality and meet draft environmental outcomes.

Catchment	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Sediment	*E. coli*
Lake Rotorua	High	Moderate	Moderate	High
Lake Rotoiti	Moderate	Moderate	Small	Small
Lake Rotoehu	High	High	Small	Small
Lake Rotoma	Small	Small	Small	Small
Lake Tarawera	Small	Small	Small	Small
Lake Tikitapu	Small	Small	Small	Small
Lake Rotokakahi	Moderate	Moderate	Small	Small
Lake Rerewhakaaitu	Moderate	Small	Moderate	Moderate
Lake Rotomahana	Small	Moderate	Small	Small
Lake Okaro	High	High	High	Small
Lake Okataina	Small	Small	Small	Small
Lake Okareka	Small	Small	Small	Small

This includes rivers flowing into the lake

KEY: Indicative scale of change needed to improve water quality, or likely water quantity constraint.

Small | Moderate | High


Patai - questions
Lake Rerewhakaaitu