

KIA HIWA RĀ, KIA HIWA RĀ!

ROTOHOE 4 – KOROKITEWAO BAY ROTOITI

SAT 8 JULY 2023

E te iwi he take nui kai te haere...

Te Arawa Lakes Trust (TALT) has advised that a freshwater mollusc commonly known as Asian gold clam was discovered along a stretch of the Waikato River in May 2023. Biosecurity New Zealand is working with iwi and other partners to prevent the spread of the clam and decide future actions. TALT is hoping to arrange a team to be at ROTOHOE 4 to do some Check, Clean, Dry advocacy focussing on the Golden Clam which is a new to NZ biosecurity risk and one we are really concerned about here in Te Arawa.

As a result, we are asking all participants coming to paddle at Rotohoe to do the following...

CHECK, CLEAN, DRY

Check

Remove any visible matter, including any clams you can see, along with plant material or mud. Drain all river water from the waka as it may contain larvae.

Clean

Do a washdown of your gear and watercraft with tap-water onto grass, beside the waterway or at home but not into a stormwater drain system. This will flush off clam larvae, which can be too small to be seen.

For gear made of absorbent materials, which will stay wet longer, apply a cleaning treatment (see table below)

Dry

Allow gear to dry to touch, inside and out, then leave it to dry for at least 5 days.

Dry the areas inside the waka where water has pooled with an old towel or similar, then leave the craft to dry for at least 5 days. The hull of a watercraft will dry when towed.

What to do if you see a freshwater gold clam...

Take a photo and note the location.

Report it – freephone 0800 80 99 66 or use the online form at report.mpi.govt.nz

Don't move it – leave it where you found it.

Type of treatment	Method
Hot water	Above 45°C for 5 minutes (about the heat needed to wash dishes)
Freezing	Until solid
Other treatment options	

Type of treatment	Method
Broad spectrum disinfectant	Mix household bleach in a 10% (1 in 10) ratio with water and immerse for 1 hour.
Steam cleaning	Apply steam of 100°C or above for at least 30 seconds, with the clams between 3cm and 4cm from the steam source. Be careful with your gear.