



Rotohoe ki Ngongotahā Waitetī Bay (Reeme St Reserve) Saturday 21 September 2024

ROTOHOE BIOSECURITY PLAN

This to prevent the spread of any invasive species, but in particular, the Freshwater Gold Clam (*Corbicula fluminea*) by our event – both by our event equipment and by participants' equipment.

All kaihoe are expected to follow best practice Check Clean Dry (CCD) procedures as set out in the Waka Ama NZ Freshwater Gold Clam Info Sheet (see next page).

This includes removing bungs from all waka and draining bulkheads/hulls of W1 and W6. If it is not possible to completely drain bulkheads/hulls, bleach must be added. Kaihoe will be required to sign a waiver indicating that they have followed the carried out appropriate treatment of waka, PFDs and hoe.

Furthermore, kaihoe participating in the Rotohoe Series will also be assessed as being at one of three levels of risk, depending on the waterway they and their waka & equipment have been used on.

High risk

Kaihoe coming from 'high risk' areas i.e. anywhere along the Waikato River will be identified through the registration process and biosecurity procedures will be communicated via email in the weeks leading up to the race. All kaihoe **must** self-identify if their waka has been on the Waikato River in the 30 days prior to the Rotohoe race and follow the following procedures:

1. Any waka from "the clam zone" (i.e. anywhere along the Waikato River) will be required to be:

- a. washed by Te Arawa Lakes Trust biosecurity team using high-pressure wash facilities located at the Rotohoe race venue (Reeme St Reserve) from 7.30am – 12pm on race day and
 - i. After being washed have waiver signed off by Te Arawa Lakes Trust biosecurity team confirming that waka have been washed following appropriate procedures

or

- b. washed at The Wash Place located at 338 Te Ngae Road and after being washed at The Wash Place:
 - i. Scanned the QR Code displayed within each wash bay at The Wash Place using a mobile device and filled out the online form that opens on their mobile device; or
 - ii. Taken a video on a mobile device showing that they washed their craft at The Wash Place

2. Where possible hire equipment from Rotorua clubs.

3. Follow good practice (CCD) on return home.

Medium Risk

Any waka from other North Island lakes, rivers, and estuaries that contain a large amount of freshwater – i.e. Whanganui, Whakatane are to follow ‘Clam specific CCD’ instructions for entry to Te Arawa Lakes (including Lake Rotorua). For return home ‘Clam specific CCD’ is also required.

Low Risk

Any waka and equipment used on Te Arawa Lakes & from saltwater locations with minimal freshwater input. CCD procedure is recommended as following best practice.



As kaitiaki of our roto and awa we are emphasising the importance of following the new Check Clean Dry steps for our Waka Ama whānau to ensure we do not spread gold clams or any other invasive species in our waterways.

Before you move

- from Lake Maraetai (Mangakino) to anywhere upstream; OR
- from any part of the Waikato River and lakes to any other lake, river or estuary; OR
- between any lake, river or estuary in the North Island; OR
- when going from the North Island to the South Island



CHECK - for what is visible

- CHECK and flick off any visible matter like weed, mud or adult clams at the site.

CLEAN - for what is not visible

- Blast your waka inside and out with tap water, including the ama and kiato, beside the waterway or at home – NOT into a stormwater drain.
- Be sure to wash out any nooks and crevices.
- Then drain it, including removing the bungs.
- Use one of the treatments (below) for absorbent materials that have been in the river or lake water and can stay wet longer – lifejackets, canvas sprayskirts, removable seats, dry bags, booties, straps/ratchets and ropes.

TREATMENTS:

1. Soak in hot tap water (above 55°C for at least 5 minutes); or
2. Soak in diluted household bleach (10%, or 1 to 10 ratio) for an hour; or
3. Freeze until solid (overnight)

DRY - to be sure

- DRY areas inside the waka where water has pooled with an old towel.
- Then leave to dry inside and out.
- Leave waka and gear to completely dry for 2 days.



CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION



<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/biosecurity/exotic-pests-and-diseases-in-new-zealand/pests-and-diseases-under-response/freshwater-gold-clam/>

Process undertaken by Ruamata Waka Ama Club:

Pre-Event Comms:

- Share appropriate Biosecurity NZ info about Clams and Te Arawa Lakes specific CCD procedures via our communication channels – Facebook, emails to participants and the Waka Ama NZ event site Pānui.
- Share Rotohoe/Rotorua/Te Arawa Lakes generated Clam specific plan (details in this plan) with clubs wishing to enter the event.
- A waiver will be sent to all participants when requesting an entry form which will include the 'Clam specific CCD' requirements for entry acceptance to our event and specific techniques for cleaning equipment.
- This waiver will be signed acknowledging that all 'Clam specific CCD' processes will be adhered to and received prior to the event day along with the entrance fee.
- Liaise with TALT representative who will be present on event day to advise and educate.
- We will hold a record of Comms sent out to participants.

Late Entries

- As some of the 'Clam specific CCD' takes a minimum of 3 days there will be no late entries.

Registration

- Confirmation at check-in that participants have followed 'Clam specific CCD' including the signed waiver.
- No signed waiver means no entry to event.
- TALT representative will be present to assist and discuss options.

Race Briefings/Prizegiving

- Include Clam CCD information at race briefings. TALT representative present at race to inform/educate.

Post Event CCD

- Reminders that Lake Rotorua has invasive species present (i.e. catfish) and is high risk for a clam incursion, so 'Clam specific CCD' must be used on exit from Rotorua.
- Provide Clam updates to your sporting community in between events.

Post Event Assessment

- Club member comments on CCD at your event to be reviewed - what worked well, what could be improved? Attitude of participants.
- Allow TALT to edit and add any comments/improvements.