

Ōhope Stormwater Upgrade – Maraetōtara East

Dear Resident

Update

We are nearing the completion of a successful project. The drainage system was installed prior to Christmas, and six new catch pits now drain the area from within properties and out to the large soakage chamber installed along the dunes, between the Maraetōtara Stream and Te Akau Street. In March, the link which discharges into Maraetōtara Stream was installed, completing the system.

The new system worked very well during recent rain events and provided much-enhanced drainage. We are aware of and support the residents who are preparing to open up flow paths to the new drains, which will further enhance the effectiveness of the new system.

Rehabilitation Works

RABBIT CONTROL

The next stage is to plant the area of dunes affected by the construction, but in order to do this successfully we need to clear the area of rabbits first. This will be undertaken over the next month. Given the proximity of residential properties and recreational uses, we are unable to use broad scale eradication methods such as broadcast poisons and have opted to fumigate burrows instead. This process uses tablets, which when hydrated, form a gas which dissipates quickly. Whilst deadly to rabbits, it has no lasting effects on the environment and is considered low risk to non-target species. Please read the detailed notification attached.

WEED CONTROL

Following the construction work, the work site was hydroseed-sown with grass to hold the dunes over the summer months. Now the planting season is near, the next step is to spray the vegetation that has established to make way for planting native species. The spraying will be carried out in June using two common herbicides (Glyphosphate and Metsulfuron).

PLANTING

Planting of native dune species will commence mid- to late-July and take a couple of weeks. We are planning this work in close consultation with Coast Care. Some residents have indicated that they would like to plant the area between their property boundary and the line of the work site. If you are interested in undertaking this further work on a voluntary basis, please contact us.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss additional planting, please call Paul Smith on 07 306 0523, or 027 603 1789.

Paul Smith
ENGINEER - THREE WATERS PROJECTS
Whakatāne District Council

Rabbit Control

Maraetōtara Dunes May/June 2017

Dear Resident,

This is to notify you that a rabbit control operation will take place in the sand dunes between the **Maraetōtara Stream** and **Te Akau Street**, starting on or around **Monday, 29 May 2017** and continuing for up to 14 days.

METHODS OF CONTROL WILL BE:

- Fumigant pesticide **Magnesium Phosphide** (Magtoxin). This will be laid by hand into active rabbit burrows during daylight hours.
- **Magtoxin** is a broad spectrum fumigant which degrades very quickly, with little risk to non-target species and humans.
- Warning signs will be erected at 100m intervals along the beach, as well as at major accessways.

Please follow the signage directions.

- **Avoid rabbit burrows**
- **Keep dogs on a leash when walking through the sand dunes**
- **Watch children at all times**
- **Do not consume wildlife from this area.**



For more information,
Contact:

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Landscape
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or
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Whakatāne
District Council
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