

BIOSECURITY PROCESS FOR ALL W1 WAKA COMING FROM THE WAIKATO ROHE

WHY IS WASHING REQUIRED?

The invasive freshwater clam *Corbicula fluminea* was discovered in the Waikato River in May 2023. Biosecurity New Zealand, alongside iwi and other partners, is working to prevent its spread - [MPI - Freshwater gold clam](#)

To stop the clam from spreading, a **Controlled Area Notice (CAN)** is in place under the Biosecurity Act in the Bay of Plenty. This means it is illegal to knowingly move the clams or water that may contain them (e.g., in your waka). The CAN has been in effect since November 2023 and remains in place until further notice.

The Biosecurity New Zealand website has details of the [Check Clean Dry requirements](#) which must be followed throughout New Zealand to prevent the spread of this clam, as well as other invasives.

ADDITIONAL RULES TO PROTECT TE ARAWA LAKES

Please visit the - [Rotorua Lakes website](#)

1. **Te Arawa Lakes Controlled Area Notice (CAN)** - A CAN applies to the 14 Te Arawa lakes in the Bay of Plenty with additional protections for Lake Ōkātina.
2. **For all 14 Te Arawa lakes - Any boat that has been in the Waikato River in the previous 30 days must be cleaned at a designated wash station in Rotorua before entering the water. This is in addition to the 'Check Clean Dry' requirements**

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

If you have a W1 waka from the Waikato region, you must:

1. **Take your waka to be washed and checked** on Sunday, March 24th, between 4 pm - 6 pm at [The Wash Place \(338 Te Ngae Road\)](#),
2. **Follow the instructions** - Wash your waka, and roof rack, and drain any remaining water
3. **Scan the QR code (with your phone)** in the wash bay, complete the online form, and submit it while at the site.
4. **Have your waka checked off** by the Volunteer onsite (**between 4-6pm Sunday only**)
5. **Take your waka directly to the venue** and leave in the secured fenced area

Please note: You will not be permitted to use your W1 waka in Lake Tikitapu, if you do not complete these requirements

If there are any questions about this process, please immediately email events@wakaama.co.nz

Do NOT wait until Monday morning, as by then it will be too late, and your waka will not be permitted.