

Waiāri

WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

KO TE WAI TE ORA O NGĀ MEA KATOA
WATER IS THE LIFE GIVER OF ALL THINGS

The Waiāri Water Supply Scheme is designed to help meet the future water supply needs of Tauranga and the wider Western Bay of Plenty.

The project involves developing a water abstraction facility on the Waiāri Stream, a water treatment plant in No.1 Road, Te Puke, and an underground water pipeline from the plant to Papamoa.



Questions you may have

Why do we need a new water supply?

Tauranga and Western Bay of Plenty populations are increasing and demand for water in the summer season grows every year. Tauranga City Council and Western Bay of Plenty District Council are working together to protect the sub-regional water supply for the future.

Currently Tauranga City operates two water treatment plants: one at Joyce Road and Oropi. The Waiāri Water Supply Scheme will give the region more resilience in its water supply, especially as it is in a different location to the Joyce Road and Oropi plants.

Which areas will the water treatment plant supply?

The Waiāri Water Supply Scheme will mainly service the Papamoa coastal strip/Te Tumu growth areas, and also provide a backup for the groundwater bores that service the Te Puke area.

Why the Waiāri Stream?

We explored a number of different options to increase Tauranga's water supply, including groundwater bores and 10 streams

in the Western Bay. We chose the Waiāri Stream because of its year-round stream flow, water quality and proximity to our growing coastal communities.

How much water will be abstracted from the Waiāri Stream?

The plant is currently being designed for expected demand up to 30,000m³ per day.

Bay of Plenty Regional Council is also reviewing the amount of water that will be abstracted from the stream, to ensure we maintain water quality, and the waterway can still support wildlife and naturally recharge.

How will you protect the Waiāri Stream?

We've been undertaking ecological monitoring since the resource consent was granted in 2010, and will continue to monitor the stream's chemical and biological health. We'll also plant alongside the stream to prevent erosion and re-establish shade.





How will the scheme be funded?

The project will cost Tauranga City Council \$115 million, which is being funded in the first instance by an interest-free government infrastructure loan. We'll be able to repay the loan once we receive revenue from new houses, development contributions and rates.

Will Western Bay of Plenty District Council be using this water for Te Puke and other landowners in the area?

Tauranga City Council and Western Bay of Plenty Council have a joint resource consent to abstract water from the Waiāri Stream. Western Bay of Plenty District Council currently gets its water supply from groundwater bores around the district. At some stage in the future, the council will need to use the water from the Waiāri Water Supply Scheme. The resource consent for the water abstracted from the Waiāri Stream allows for 25 per cent to go to the Western Bay of Plenty district.

What does the project consist of?

The project consists of the following, which are currently in various stages of design:

- a water abstraction facility on the Waiāri Stream
- raw water pipelines feeding water from the abstraction point to the treatment plant
- a microfiltration water treatment plant
- a treated water reservoir
- a waste/residuals handling plant
- various pipelines from the plant to distribute the water to service reservoirs

Where is the pipeline going?

The water will flow from the plant through a high-pressure pipeline down No. 1 Road, through Te Puke and out to Poplar Lane reservoir. Pipes from here will take the water to the eastern reservoir and Papamoa.

There will be around 15 kilometres of underground pipelines, but we don't know their exact routes yet.

What about the local iwi?

Iwi relationships with the river, water quality and quantity, and ecosystem health are important in our plans for the increasing population in the Papamoa East area.

The project recognises the inherent relationship tangata whenua have with the stream by partnering with iwi through the Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Committee.

