

**Statement from Rotoiti Rotomā Sewage Technical Advisory Group, 29 July 2014**

:

*The RRSS TAG is evaluating wastewater treatment options to reduce nutrient loads to Lakes Rotoiti and Rotomā. Although restrictions on nutrient losses from land use apply to Lake Rotoiti through Rule 11 of the Regional Water and Land Plan, there are no rules restricting land use at Lake Rotomā. Given the \$14-20 M investment in protecting water quality of Lake Rotomā through implementation of the advanced wastewater treatment, it is critical that land use planning rules are in place to ensure land use is consistent with maintaining or reducing diffuse-source nutrient loads to the lake. The benefits of nutrient reductions from advanced treatment of wastewater may otherwise be at risk due to uncontrolled and inappropriate land use activities. The treatment is estimated to reduce phosphorus loads to Lake Rotomā by about 140 kg per year, which will be a major component of the nutrient reduction required to meet the Regional Water and Land Plan targets for the Trophic Level Index (TLI), so that lake water quality is maintained or improved.*