

StAG Updates

Issue 4

21 May 2015

LandTAG

Dave Clark, Chair-LandTAG

LandTAG provides technical science and economics advice to BOPRC and other organisations on catchment land uses, associated contaminant losses to water, and land-based methods of mitigating those losses. Its first meeting was held at Rotorua on 8th October 2014 with further meetings in November 2014, February, and May 2015. Early meetings concentrated on ensuring the group were aware of previous work done by the Water Quality Technical Advisory Group and other organisations. This involved presentations on lake science, OVERSEER application to nutrient benchmarking, land use mitigation options and landowner perspectives on science, economics and change. The group has also critiqued farm scale modelling work done within the Lake Rotorua catchment. Recent work by the group has concentrated on identifying and prioritising Land Research within the BOPRC Lakes Programme; and reviewing presentation abstract for the upcoming "Lake Management & Opportunities in the Lake Rotorua Catchment" symposium to be held in Rotorua on 16-17th June 2015. ([LandTAG Minutes](#))

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Opportunities Symposium

Warren Webber & Hariata Ngatai

Don't forget to register online for the upcoming 2 day symposium 16 & 17 June 2015.



[REGISTER HERE](#)

Or visit

<http://www.rotorualakes.co.nz/symposium2015>

\$ 3.3 million criteria

Helen Creagh, Rotorua Catchments Manager, BOPRC

A decision making framework has been prepared for the \$3.3 million low nitrogen land use budget. The Ministry for the Environment have requested amendments to the framework before it is presented to the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group. The framework will now be presented to the Strategy Group in October, it is not considered that this will hold up implementation work.

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WQTAG

Andy Bruere, Lake Operations Manager, BOPRC

The WQTAG meets regularly 4 times per year. The last meeting was 6 May 2015. The scientists are working on the following key projects:

1. The 12 lake nutrient update that will take the latest info on each lake inputs from land use and atmospheric deposition,
2. Continue to review the alum dosing protocol and reconsider any potential operational changes,
3. Looking into the use of modelling scenarios for Lake Ōkaro utilising the work of previous post grad studies to identify if these can improve water quality.

ROTAN

Andy Bruere, Lake Operations Manager, BOPRC

BOPRC is working with UoW and NIWA to update the ROTAN model to take account of the changed overseer outputs. The progress on this will be updated as we move forward.

The Lake Rotorua Primary Producers Collective e-news

The April 2015 Edition is now online to keep you up to date with the latest news and events in and around the catchment.

You may visit the website at:

<http://www.rotoruafarmers.org.nz>

or by clicking [April 2015 e-news](#)

UoW Alum Effects Study

David P. Hamilton, Chris G. McBride & Hannah F.E. Jones

The study considers the effects on Lake Rotorua water quality of alum dosing of its stream inflows. Alum dosing commenced in the Utuhina Stream in 2006 and in the Puarenga Stream in 2009. Nutrient concentrations in surface and bottom waters were examined at a central site in Lake Rotorua from 2001 to 2013. The study included analysis of the time series of discharge and nutrient concentrations in the lake inflows including the nine major stream inflows, combined minor stream inflows, and rainfall.

You can read the completed study and its conclusions here:

[Assessing the effects of alum dosing of two inflows to Lake Rotorua against external nutrient load reductions: Model simulations for 2001-2012.](#)



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