



NEWS UPDATE

MEI TE VAI KI TE VAI – RESTORING THE HEALTH OF OUR LAGOONS RAROTONGA NEWS UPDATE, APRIL-MAY 2018

AT A GLANCE

- Water monitoring beginning on Aitutaki
- Vai Te Renga Stream dredging approved
- Storm damage highlights sediment issues in Muri Lagoon

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Water monitoring beginning on Aitutaki

The Mei Te Vai Ki Te Vai project has been monitoring water quality at sites around Rarotonga – you may have seen the portable monitoring station at sites around Muri Lagoon recently. Soon we will also begin to sample water quality at sites in Aitutaki as a further part of our project to improve the health of our lagoons.

Review of past monitoring from Aitutaki has shown that wastewater may be adversely affecting the water quality of the Aitutaki Lagoon. This is based on the extent of seaweed and algae in the lagoon, and on measurements of certain bacteria in the water.

To find out more, we are looking into the quality of groundwater in key areas in Aitutaki, investigating how this groundwater flows into Aitutaki Lagoon, and taking further measurements of the lagoon's water quality.

Mei Te Vai Ki Te Vai is carrying out this work in Aitutaki alongside the Ministry of Marine Resources, building the capability of local staff to carry out the regular monitoring work, rather than frequent visits by staff from further afield.

Vai Te Renga Stream dredging approved

On March 22, the National Environment Service (NES) approved Mei Te Vai Ki Te Vai's proposed dredging to remove sediment from the mouth of Vai Te Renga Stream near Pacific Resort. This work was originally planned to take place in the tourist low season (January – February), to minimise disruption to resort businesses, but this was delayed as the NES considered submissions on our proposal.

We are now working on a revised plan for these works. We don't want to wait until next January to clear sediment from this area, but the original approach to the dredging work would be too disruptive to resort business and tourist activities.

We are investigating different approaches such as using a barge to reduce the need to drive trucks along the beach, and we are talking with affected people and businesses to find an appropriate time for work to take place. This includes working with Pacific Resort and Muri Beach Club to fit in around the dates of any major events they are hosting.

Once complete, we think the dredging will improve water circulation in this area of the lagoon, and enable us to replenish sands on the beach near Nukupure Park.

Storm damage highlights sediment issues in Muri lagoon

Recent heavy rains in Rarotonga have had an impact on beaches around Muri Lagoon, washing sands and sediments downstream and depositing them into the lagoon, and causing significant erosion and damage to beaches, particularly in the area that we are targeting for initial dredging work – around Vai Te Renga Stream.

Koka Lagoon was badly affected with severe erosion. At Nukupure Park beach, sand has been lost due to being washed out into the Avana passage. Where there is no current in the water, more sand and sediment has settled in the lagoon itself.

This sedimentation is an example of the type of build-up of sediment that is believed to slow down water circulation in the Muri Lagoon and contribute to poor water quality. Removing some of the sediment through dredging is a part of Mei Te Vai Ki Te Vai's plan to improve the health of Muri Lagoon.

These photos show the impact of the erosion at Koka Lagoon (right), and sedimentation between Nukupure Park and Muri Beach Club (left).



TE KARERE

MEI TE VAI KI TE VAI – TE AKAOKI'ANGA MAI I TE TURANGA MEITAKI O TO TATOU TAI ROTO. RAROTONGA, TE KARERE, APEREIRA 2018

TE AKARAKARA'ANGA ATU

AT A GLANCE

- Ka akamata te akarakara'anga ite turanga ote Vai i Aitutaki
- Kua rauka te tika'anga note kerī'anga ite one repo ite va'a ote kauvai Vai Te Renga
- Kua riro te puke'anga vai maata ite akaari mai ite manamanata no runga ite au mea kino e tae nei ki roto ite tai roto i Muri.

EAA TE TUPU NEI?

Ka akamata te akarakara'anga ite turanga ote Vai i Aitutaki

Te rave nei te tu'anga 'anga'anga o te Mei Te Vai Ki Te Vai ite akarakara'anga ite turanga ote vai i runga i tetai au tu'anga enua takapini ia Rarotonga – penei kua kite ana kotou ite matini akarakara ete vaito vai i runga i tetai au ngai i Muri i teia nga ra. Kare e roa atu ana ka akamata atu te akarakara'anga ete vaito'anga ite turanga ote vai i runga i tetai au ngai i Aitutaki ei ravenga no te akameitaki akaou'anga ite turanga ora'anga meitaki ote tai roto i reira.

Ko te au akarakara'anga ite turanga ote vai tei rave'ia ana ki runga ite enua ko Aitutaki kua akaari mai te reira e te riro nei te vai repo tangata ite tamanamanata ite turanga ote tai roto o Aitutaki. Kua kite'ia teia na roto ite maata ote remuremu kikino e pera tetai ua atu au mea kino e tupu nei i roto ite tai roto, kua teitei katoa te vaito ote numero ote manumanu kikino i roto ite tai roto.

Ei ravenga kia rauka te kite oonu no runga i teia, ka akarakara matou ite turanga ote vai enua i tetai au ngai tau tikai i Aitutaki note akara oonu'anga atu e te akapeea nei te vai enua ite aere anga ki roto ite tai roto, e pera katoa ka rave'ia te vaito'anga ite turanga ote tai roto.

Ka rave te Mei Te Vai Ki Te Vai i teia tu'anga'anga'anga kapiti atu kite Tipatimani ote Marine Resources, mate akamatutu atu ite kite, marama ete karape ote aronga angaanga o Aitutaki kia rauka ia ratou ite rave putuputu ite akarakara matatio'anga ite turanga ote tai roto, auraka kia tiaki ite aronga mei vao mai note rave i teia tu'anga 'anga'anga.

Kua rauka te tika'anga note kerī'anga ite one repo ite va'a ote kauvai Vai Te Renga.

I tera ra 22 o Mati, kua oronga mai te Tuanga Taporoporo ote Kuki Airani ite tika'anga kite Mei Te Vai Ki Te Vai note kerī'anga ete aka'atea'anga ite one repo mei te vaa ote kauvai Vai Te Renga ite pae ite otera Pacific Resort. Kua parani'ia teia angaanga kia rave'ia ite tuatau te iti ra te numero ote turoto (Tianuare – Peperuare), no te akaiti ite tamanamanata kite au are turoto, inara kua taroaroa'ia teia note kimikimi'anga matatio ate Tu'anga Taporoporo no runga i teia pati'anga.

Te 'anga'anga nei matou i teiane ki runga i tetai parani ou no teia tu'anga 'anga'anga. Kare matou e inangaro ite tiaki ite marama Tianuare ki mua note kerī'anga ete aka'atea atu'anga ite one repo inara kote ravenga mua tei tamanako'ia no teia angaanga ka riro te reira ei tamamanata maata kite au pitiniti turoto e pera te au peu turoto e rave'ia nei ki teia ngai.

Te akarakara matatio nei matou i tetai au ravenga takake mei te ta'anga'anga 'anga'anga atu ite kau note akaiti ite tuatau ka ta'anga'anga'ia te toroka na runga ite tapa ta'atai, te komakoma katoa nei matou kite au tangata e pera te au pitiniti te ka arapaki'ia note kimi'anga ite tuatau tau no teia 'anga'anga kia rave'ia. Ka 'anga'anga kapiti matou kite nga otera Pacific Resort ete Muri Beach Club Hotel no runga ite tuatau ka tau notee rave'anga i teia 'anga'anga kia kore te reira e riro ite tamamanata ite au 'anga'anga mamaata ta ratou ka rave ite tapa taatai.

Me oti teia 'anga'anga, kote irinaki'anga e ka riro te reira ite akameitaki ite aere'anga ote tai i roto ite tai roto e pera te akaki akaou'anga ite one ite tapa taatai i Nukupure Park.

Kua riro te puke'anga vai ite akaari mai ite manamanata no runga ite au mea kino e tae nei ki roto ite tai roto i Muri

Kote ua maata tei tupu akenei i Rarotonga nei, kua riro te reira ite akatupu ite kino i runga ite tapa taatai i Muri, kua pakoko'ia te one ete au mea kino na raro ite kauvai e kua akaputu ia atu ki roto ite tai roto, kua tupu te pakoko'anga maata ete kino ki tetai au ngai ite tapa ta'atai, te au ngai tikai i parani'ia note tu'anga 'anga'anga kerī'anga – ite pae ite kauvai Vai Te Renga.

Kote ngai ote Koka Lagoon, kote ngai teia tei tupu te pakoko'anga ma'ata roa atu ete kino. Ite tapa taatai i Nukupure, e maata te one tei pakoko'ia ki raro ite ava i Avana. Ko te au ngai kare te tai e aere ana me kore e koko ana, kua akaputu'ia te one e pera te au mea kino ki roto ite tai roto.

Ko teia au ngai tei akaputu'ia te one repo ete au mea kino e akara'anga te reira no te akaputu'anga one repo tei irinaki'ia e te ta marie nei ite aere'anga ote tai i roto ite tai roto i Muri e pera katoa ite tauturu'anga ite takinga kino ite turanga ora'anga ote tai roto. Kote aka'atea'anga ite one kino na roto ite kerī'anga, ko teia tetai i te tu'anga 'anga'anga a te Mei Te Vai Ki Te Vai tei parani'ia note akameitaki akaou'anga ite turanga ora'anga ote tai roto o Muri.

Ko teia nga tutu te akaari mai nei te reira ite kino maata tate pakoko'anga i akatupu ite ngai ote Koka Lagoon (tua katau), e pera te one tei pakoko'ia mai mei rotopu ite ngai tamataora Nukupure Park ete Otera Muri Beach Club Hotel kua akaputu'ia atu te reira ki roto ite tai roto (tua kaui).

