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Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa



RURAL DRINKING WATER FUNDS

1 JULY TO 31 DECEMBER 2025



Ruatahuna Water Treatment Plant,
Bay of Plenty – Rural Drinking Water Fund

RURAL DRINKING WATER FUNDS OVERVIEW

NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING AND FINANCING (NIFF) WAS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO WORK WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS (DIA) TO DELIVER A \$44M DRINKING WATER PROGRAMME.

This programme primarily supports providing safe, affordable, and reliable rural drinking water to marae, Te Kōhanga, and Papakāinga reo, and other rural communities that are in areas of high deprivation and not connected to a council drinking water supply.

The Fund provides treatment systems alongside training and maintenance to provide safe drinking water while meeting new regulatory requirements from Water Services Authority. The sites have a range of water sources, including lakes, streams, rivers, springs, and roofs. Very few have any form of water treatment, meaning communities are drinking untreated and possibly unsafe water.

The Fund also equips local communities with the necessary knowledge to maintain and operate the treatment plants themselves. Following installation, all equipment will be owned by the rural drinking water supplier.

NIFF has delivered the programme in partnership with Filtec who design and build the infrastructure. The Programmes have completed 120 new water treatment plants for communities at end of FY25. NIFF has also partnered with Te Arawa Lakes Trust to support the provision of safe drinking water within their rohe as an extension of the Marae Drinking Water Programme.

OUR TARGETS

INSTALLED



RDW*: 92
MDW*: 41

GOVERNMENT FUNDING



RDW: \$30.0m
MDW: \$11.5m

(\$30m RDW, \$11.5m MDW
and \$2.5m TALT)**

INSTALLATION SATISFACTION



80%

* RDW: Rural Drinking Water and MDW: Marae Drinking Water

** Te Arawa Lakes Trust is funded from Iwi funding provided under other government sources

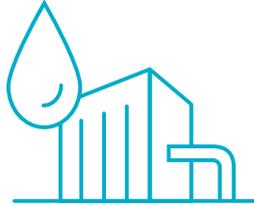
1 JULY TO 31 DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

INVESTIGATED



RDW: 0
MDW: 18

INSTALLATIONS



RDW: 2
MDW: 28

COMMISSIONED



RDW: 9
MDW: 26

GOVERNMENT FUNDING



RDW: \$1.7m
MDW: \$3.9m

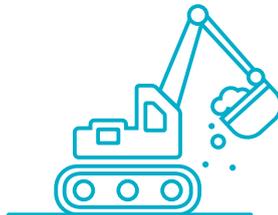
OVERALL PROGRESS

REGISTERED



RDW: 217
MDW: 189

INVESTIGATED



RDW: 119
MDW: 59

INSTALLATIONS



RDW: 91
MDW: 29

COMMISSIONED



RDW: 88
MDW: 26

TANKS INSTALLED



RDW: 134
MDW: 24

GOVERNMENT FUNDING



RDW: \$24.6m
MDW: \$5.1m

INSTALLATION SATISFACTION

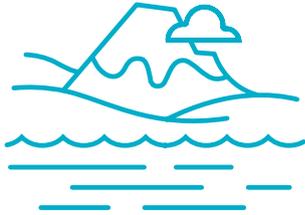


RDW: 81.5%
MDW: N/A*

* No satisfaction surveys have been issued for MDW at this stage

SITE WATER SOURCE PROGRESS TO DATE

DAM OR LAKE



	RDW	MDW
INVESTIGATED:	5	2
INSTALLED:	4	2

RIVER OR STREAM



	RDW	MDW
INVESTIGATED:	42	18
INSTALLED:	31	11

BORE SUPPLY



	RDW	MDW
INVESTIGATED:	28	21
INSTALLED:	26	9

SPRING



	RDW	MDW
INVESTIGATED:	24	9
INSTALLED:	18	6

ROOF WATER



	RDW	MDW
INVESTIGATED:	6	1
INSTALLED:	4	0

OTHERS

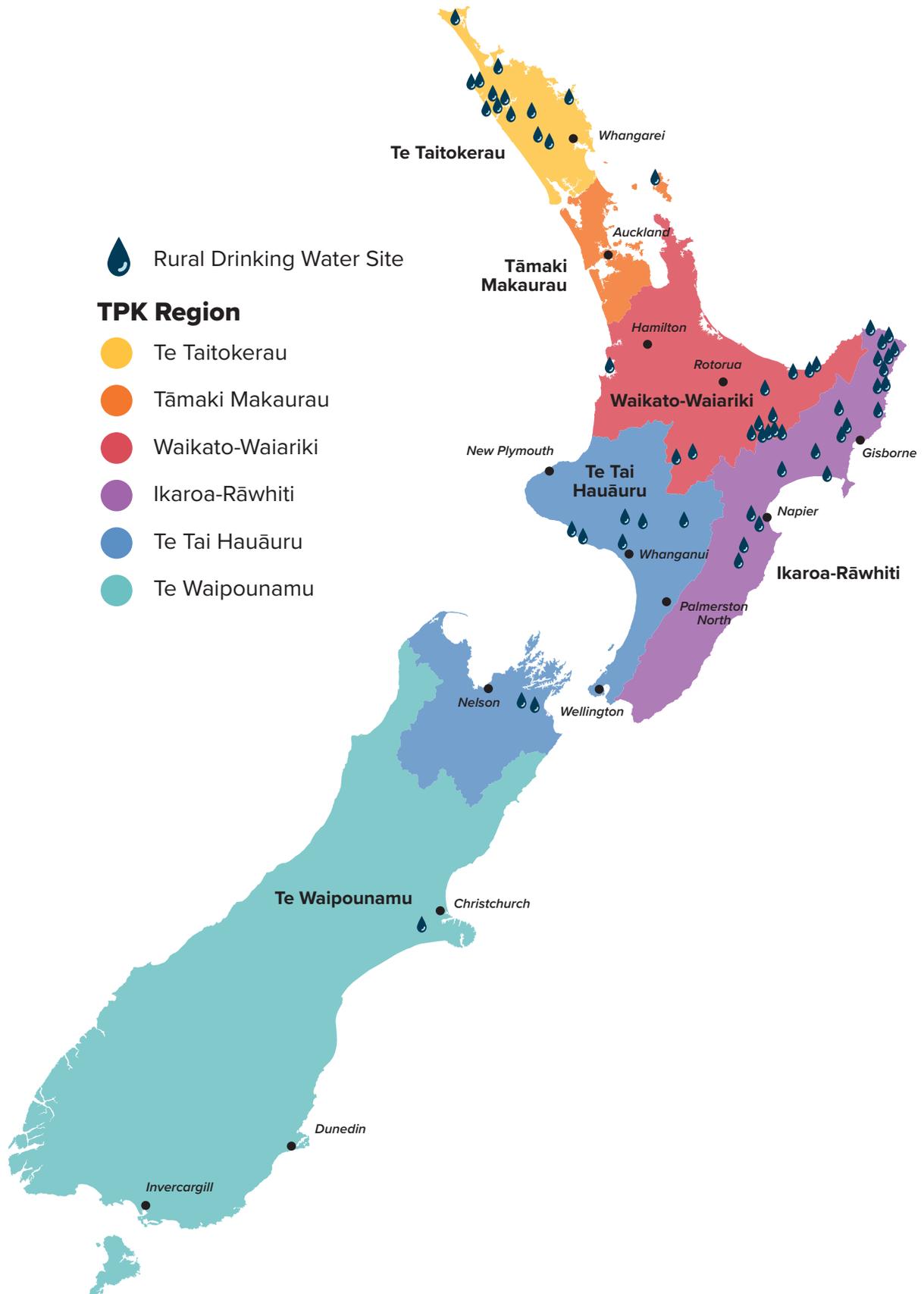


	RDW	MDW
INVESTIGATED:	14	8
INSTALLED:	9	0

WATER TREATMENT PLANT SIZE

INSTALLATIONS	RDW	MDW	TOTAL
25 cubic metres per day	6	2	8
50 cubic metres per day	47	16	63
100 cubic metres or more per day	39	10	49
TOTAL	92	28	120

DRINKING WATER SYSTEMS INSTALLED



RURAL DRINKING WATER CASE STUDY

RUATAHUNA VILLAGE/TI TII, URAWERA RANGES

RUATAHUNA VILLAGE / TI TII IS A VILLAGE IN THE MIDDLE OF TE URAWERA RANGES, APPROXIMATELY 1.5 HOURS DRIVE FROM ROTORUA. IT IS A RELATIVELY ISOLATED COMMUNITY, HOWEVER IS SURROUNDED BY MANY MARAE IN THE RUATAHUNA VALLEY.

The village comprises of housing, two marae, a hub at Ti Tii including a health centre, shop, petrol station and tribal hub and tourist accommodation.

Ruatahuna historically had a basic treatment system which only served parts of the village and required upgrading to new drinking water standards. The upgrade has also allowed the opportunity to connect the kura / school to the treated water. This was important as the kura had been closing periodically due to Escherichia coli (E. coli) being detected in the water.

The programme originally set out to serve just the marae, however a benefit was identified in including the whole village in the treatment.

The programme has provided a treatment plant capable of

providing 200,000L of water a day to the village, with water taken from a spring and also the Ruatahuna stream. It sits high above the village with 18 tanks and four treatment sheds, with a combination of both new and previously used tanks.

Alongside the water treatment plant, solar capability has also been installed by the programme, meaning that the plant can operate independently of the main power supply coming into the village which, in winter can experience regular outages.

The whole village and its guests now have a continuous supply of clean, safe drinking water, with the added assurance that frequent power cuts will not cause the water to stop flowing. There will also be no more school days missed for children through school shutdowns due to E. Coli.



Ruatahuna Training