



*InSitu Heritage Ltd.*

PO BOX 710  
WHAKATANE  
MOBILE (027) 4721 467

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Niroy Sumeran  
Civil Construction Engineer  
Bay of Plenty Regional Council  
P O Box 364  
WHAKATANE 3158

Tena koe Niroy

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL ADVICE – PROPOSED STREAM  
EROSION PROTECTION WORKS, WAITANGI STREAM, 341  
SPENCER ROAD, LAKE TARAWERA, ROTORUA DISTRICT**

Acting on your instruction, I have completed an archaeological field inspection and desktop research relating to the proposed stream erosion and protection works within the Waitangi Stream at Lake Tarawera. There is a recorded archaeological site nearby, so a risk assessment has been carried out to determine if it is advisable to obtain an archaeological authority from Heritage New Zealand prior to carrying out project earthworks.

The stream erosion and protection work includes earthworks to widen a section of the stream located adjacent to the property at 341 Spencer Road, and placement of rock and gabion baskets to provide stream bank and bed protection in the area. The area has experienced significant water induced erosion over the last thirty years, and this has recently accelerated particularly on the eastern side of the stream. Erosion is now close to threatening the structural integrity of buildings on the adjacent property.

The nearby recorded archaeological site is U16/60 (Pa), which includes historic burials that were disturbed by residential property development in 2010. The work was subject to two archaeological authorities granted by Heritage New Zealand. The site is approximately 200 metres east of the proposed stream works.

In addition, archival research indicates that historic Maori settlement, prior to the 1886 eruption of Mt Tarawera; extended across Waitangi Bay in the vicinity of the stream course.

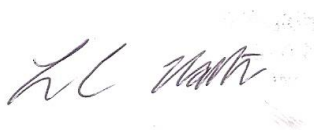
No archaeological sites were identified during the field inspection carried out on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2018. The area of proposed stream works has been subject to significant erosion, which has resulted in considerable incising and widening of the stream. It is highly likely that any archaeological evidence that may have been present immediately adjacent to the stream has already been eroded out. The proposed works will be confined to the incised portion of the stream course, and will involve very minor cutting of slumped material. The majority of works will relate to importing of rock and fill to reinstate the eroded sides of the stream.

It is my assessment that the proposed work is highly unlikely to affect intact archaeological sites; in fact, the protection of the stream bed and reduction of the possibility of further erosion is likely to aid the long-term conservation of any buried archaeological features that may be present in the general vicinity.

As an additional safeguard the Bay of Plenty Regional Council Archaeological Site Discovery Protocol should be in place; during all earthworks and other ground disturbing activity such as planting; so that in the unlikely event that buried archaeological deposits are encountered appropriate advice can be obtained regarding recording and conservation.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this advice.

Naku noa na

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Walter', with some faint, illegible text or markings to its right.

Lynda Walter  
Director

cc. Dr Rachel Darmody, Lower Northern Region Senior Archaeologist, Heritage New Zealand, Tauranga.



*Figure 1: Extent of proposed stream works adjacent to 341 Spencer Road, indicated by blue shading. Archaeological site U16/60 is located approximately 200m to the east.*



*Figure 2: Current culvert outlet (installed approximately 30 years ago), at the northern end of the proposed stream works.*



*Figure 3: View upstream over the area of proposed works (looking toward the culvert outlet), illustrating stream incising and erosion. Protective boards have been installed as a temporary measure to reduce bank erosion.*



*Figure 4: View downstream within area of proposed works (looking toward Lake Tarawera) illustrating current erosion and previous modification.*