

Ngatarawa Site Visit 8th December 8, 2022

On Thursday 8th December 2022, the whānau with support from HTST, had a site visit alongside HBRC at the Winstone Quarry. The purpose of this visit was to have an up-close look at the process of the Ngatarawa Stop Bank Enhancement Upgrade. The enhancement work had been halted so whānau could be properly consulted and this also gave them an opportunity to discuss what they thought of it and how it should be progressed. Jon Kingsford, the Projects Manager from HBRC explained the nature of the work, how it will progress and why it is of great importance. He also stated that a lot of research was put into this upgrade to mitigate any potential risks to the whenua or to the current stop bank if a potential flood happened. The whānau present got an opportunity to have a look the site, visit the stop bank and look at the work that had already begun. It was important to visit the site as it visually showed everyone the importance of the enhancement work.

During the visit we also got to see 37,000 native plants that were planted this year as a trial to help aid in flood protection. More plants are being planted next year June 2023 and there is an opportunity for whānau to help if they wish.

Overall, it was a positive site visit, and everyone agreed that the work was necessary for the protection of the Hastings Community.

Update on Wai Claim 596

After discussing with whānau, they agree in principle to support the stop bank enhancement, recognizing this support is premised on:

1. License to Occupy for the interim
2. Agreement to establish a Memorandum of Understanding or Heads of Agreement framework which:
 - Sets out shared goals between parties
 - Timeline key outcomes and to achieve the shared goals
 - Establishment of “MoU/HoA” by the end of January 2023

This has already been agreed, in principle by all parties.

