

The Northland Regional Council (NRC) is publicly notifying its intent to apply the aquatic herbicide Aquathol Super K (active ingredient endothall) to three Far North lakes to control an oxygen weed (Lagarosiphon major) and hornwort (Ceratophyllum demersum), The three lakes are Lake Ngatu, Lake Waiparera and Lake Ngakeketo (also known as Lake Ngakeketa). It's a selective herbicide that only affects the target plant species listed above, breaks down into natural elements and doesn't affect other native plants, fish or invertebrates.

Weather-permitting, the herbicide operation will take place sometime between Monday, 7 to Friday, 25 September 2020. It'll likely be applied over 48-hours at Lake Ngatu and a single day at Lake Waiparera and Ngakeketo.

Contact with lake water (including swimming) will be banned for 24-hours after the completion of the operation. Fishing will be banned for 72-hours, and there will be a restriction on water-takes for 14 days. Signs will be erected at key points around the three lakes notifying people of the operation, safety requirements and the associated water use restrictions timing. Affected landowners have been contacted already.

For more information please contact the Northland Regional Council on (0800) 002 004.