

Clarks Beach Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade and outfall pipe – update

We have two projects underway for wastewater treatment improvements in Clarks Beach. We are upgrading the existing wastewater treatment plant and building a new outfall. Delivering this work allows higher quality treated effluent to be discharged effectively on the outgoing tide and minimises our impact on the local environment.

Wastewater Treatment Plant

We're upgrading the existing wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) to allow it to treat wastewater for up to 6,000 people, which is expected to cover population growth through to 2030.

Construction began in August 2024 and is progressing well, with completion expected in June 2026.

The largest tanks are onsite and we have been working on the remaining foundations, stormwater drainage, above ground pipe supports and access platforms. We will have more equipment, such as pumps, screens and UVs arriving throughout the year.

We've also built a small temporary WWTP, known as the Winter Plant which will be operational in June. This will allow us to treat wastewater to a high standard uninterrupted while we continue to build the main WWTP.



Fun fact!

The stainless steel tanks were specially designed to be able to support pipework and access platforms. This design saved space, reduced cost and is more efficient.

Outfall

We're building a new outfall pipe that will carry the treated wastewater from the plant to around 100 metres off the coast in the Waiuku Channel. Construction began in November 2024 and is progressing well.

The piling works, excavation and concreting of the launch pit has been finished. Check out a timelapse video of the works on our [project page](#).

Our micro tunnel boring machine (MTBM) was lowered into the launch pit last week and the team is busy getting ready to begin tunnelling in mid-May. Once it begins, it's expected to take up to seven weeks to finish its journey.



During the tunnelling period, our team will be temporarily working longer hours to complete this essential mahi. From 12 May, our working hours will be:

- **Monday to Friday, 7:30am to 11pm**
- **Saturday, 7:30am to 2pm**

All work will be kept within the consented noise limit and we will ensure we are meeting our consent requirements. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at Southwest@water.co.nz

Thank you for your patience while we complete this important work.