



2011

Rena Oil Spill

v2

(MFE, 2012)

Rena long-term environmental recovery

The grounding of the Rena on Otaiti (Astrolabe Reef) on 5 October 2012 had the potential to be New Zealand's worst environmental disaster. The vessel held more than 1700 tonnes of oil and more than 1300 shipping containers. These could have had a disastrous, multi-year effect on the pristine Bay of Plenty marine environment.

Government (both central and local), iwi, and the local community took action immediately following the grounding, and have continued to work together to minimise the environmental effects. At the same time, the appointed salvors have worked tirelessly to remove oil from the vessel, averting more major environmental disaster from a significant oil spill.

Rena Long-term Environmental Recovery Plan

Minister for the Environment Hon Dr Nick Smith launched the [Plan](#) in Tauranga on 26 January 2012.

**As at date of publication
Nov 2012 (Archive)**

This Plan sets the goals and objectives for the long-term recovery of the Bay of Plenty following the grounding of the Rena. It describes the environmental recovery actions that are undertaken to address them.

You can read Dr Smith's media release on the [Beehive website](#).

Further information

Health and safety	The Bay of Plenty Health Board has information on health and safety (Toi Te Ora website) for residents and people helping with the beach clean up, as well as health advice on eating seafood from the affected area.
Media updates	Maritime New Zealand is coordinating media updates (Maritime New Zealand website).
Wildlife response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not attempt to handle wildlife, or attempt to move or clean the animals. • Report any oiled wildlife to 0800 333 771. • Updated information is on the Bay of Plenty Regional Council website.
Beach clean up	If you haven't yet volunteered for beach clean up and you want to help, please call 0800 645 774 or register on Bay of Plenty Regional Council website .

Last updated: 26 January 2012

Related links

- [Rena Long-term Environmental Recovery Plan](#)
- [Maritime New Zealand](#)

- **Bay of Plenty Regional Council**
 - **Bay of Plenty District Health Board**
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