

VALUING OUR ENVIRONMENT - FISH

BEFORE WE DO ANY WORK IN STREAMS OR DRAINS, WE CAPTURE AND RELOCATE NATIVE FISH.

We've relocated a number of endangered and declining species including black mudfish, giant kokopu and longfin eels. Other species that may be present include banded kokopu, shortfin eels, inanga, torrentfish and koura.

Where the expressway crosses streams and drains, we install culverts or bridges. Culverts (large concrete pipes) provide safe passage for water as it travels from one side of the expressway to the other. Sometimes these culverts provide special features to help fish move or migrate through this area.

Before we begin constructing a culvert or do any other work in streams and drains, we use a combination of nets, traps and electric fishing to fish the area for several days. Any native fish

caught are then carefully relocated upstream or downstream.

A number of rare black mudfish have been captured and relocated. This species is endangered, and found only in New Zealand. The mudfish is unique because it can burrow into mud and slow its body functions to withstand long dry periods. Among the many eels we have relocated is a large longfin eel believed to be more than 50 years old. This species is at risk, declining.



Our biggest eel, nicknamed 'Betsy'



Relocating eels.



Before we install culverts, we capture and relocate native fish



Setting fyke nets



Two black mudfish



Visit our website www.nzta.govt.nz/hamilton



Phone us on 0800 322 044



Email us at info@cityedgealliance.co.nz



Like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/waikatoexpressway



Stay up to date with project news by signing up to the database by visiting:

www.nzta.govt.nz/hamilton