# CHANGES IN THE MARTHA OPEN PIT

29 August 2024

If you've been on the Pit Rim Walkway lately, you may have seen some changes on the southern side of the Martha Open Pit wall.

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The Martha Open Pit has several known interactions with historically mined stopes and fill areas from early mining activities (1878 – 1952). These areas or zones of the Open Pit are typically more prone to deterioration.

There are two factors which have contributed to this deterioration. Weathering and scouring can cause erosion over time. Historic workings from early mining intersected by current pit slopes are also a contributing factor, with deterioration occurring above the historic Edward and Empire Lodes. These deformations first appeared in early 2023, largely due to the increased volume and intensity of rainfall in the pit during Cyclone Gabrielle and other associated heavy rainfall events since.

#### DOES THIS CHANGE ANYTHING IN OR AROUND THE MARTHA OPEN PIT?

No. From a geotechnical perspective, these changes are cosmetic and shallow-seated at present and do not imply overall or deep-seated instability of the Open Pit walls. The ongoing erosion and deformation that has occurred over time is to be expected, and the various slope monitoring systems are employed to monitor deformation and ensure that there are no wider slope instability or safety issues with the Open Pit walls.

#### HOW IS THE PIT MONITORED?

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The Martha Open Pit walls are monitored using a combination of systems and technologies and have been for many years. 3D Real Aperture Radar (RAR) technology continuously monitors the southern wall, completing approximately 150 scans every 24 hours, with automated alerts in place should any results fall outside expected tolerances. Over 130 survey prisms are currently installed around the pit walls and are scanned approximately every two hours to provide longer-term monitoring trends. Down hole or in-ground Inclinometers are also used to measure slope movement below ground level. These are read and reported on a monthly basis. Additional 'remote sensing' monitoring is also being utilised, including Interferometric Synthetic-Aperture Radar (InSAR) deformation monitoring and aerial drone-based light detection and ranging (LiDAR) scanning as additional deformation monitoring to compliment the current prism and radar monitoring systems.

#### SO WHAT NOW?

We are investigating some additional slope and surface drainage control works for the Martha Open Pit, with the aim to divert and minimise scour and erosion along with controlling surface water drainage and future water



ingress into the historic and remnant features on the South Wall. Our ongoing operations in and around the Martha Open Pit are not affected. Ongoing maintenance and review of the monitoring systems to assess the Martha Open Pit will continue as part of our standard operations. The base of the Martha Open Pit will continue to be used for temporary stockpiling of non ore-bearing waste rock before it is eventually returned underground to act as backfill.

### **CORRENSO AND PROJECT MARTHA COMMUNITY MEETING** – September 12th

Our next Correnso and Project Martha Community Meeting will be held on Thursday the 12th of September from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

This public meeting is designed to provide an update about works in the existing Correnso and Project

Martha (including Rex) mining areas undertaker since the previous meeting.

The meeting will be held in the OceanaGold Education Centre on the corner of Moresby Avenue and Savage Road. This meeting is open to the public and all are welcome.

For queries on all other current or proposed projects, please visit or call the Project Information Office.

## INVESTING IN OUR HOST COMMUNITY

SPONSORSHIP APPLICATION FORM www.waihigold.co.nz/sponsorship-donations



SPONSORSHIPS AND DONATIONS APPROVED IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH

Waihi Beach Mem. RSA Bowling Club H.E.L.P. and Predator Free Waihi

Clear as Mud Pottery Show

ΤΟΤΑ	L \$6,551
Radio and print advertising	\$1,250
(\$3,2	51 in-kind)
Traps, trapping course, and coordinator costs	\$4,551
Support for tournament	\$750
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#### IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE CONTACT US.

Community Engagement Line: 0800 924 444 | Project Information Office: 86 Seddon St., Waihi. **Email us via our website: www.waihigold.co.nz** 

NOTE: WE ARE NOT CURRENTLY BLASTING IN THE MARTHA OPEN PIT. CHANGES TO THIS WILL BE NOTIFIED.