



Hamurana Road Wetland

Site Number: SNA 20
Ecological District: Rotorua Lakes
Source of Information: Shaw and Beadel (1998)
Digital Scale: 1:2,000
Data Source: RDAM 2006
Regional Council: Bay of Plenty
1998 Site Number: NHS No. 20
Current Tenure: Unprotected
Site Area: 12.0 ha
Altitude Range: 300 m
Bioclimatic Zone: Lowland
Grid Reference: NZTM E1882674, N5783905

| VEGETATION | | LANDFORM | EXTENT |
|------------|---|----------------|---------|
| CODE | TYPE | | |
| 1 | Grey willow/blackberry forest (with local swamp coprosma, manuka, kohuhu and rank pasture in the understorey; local <i>Carex</i> sp. (<i>C. geminata</i> agg.) and <i>Juncus edgariae</i>). | Flat (wetland) | 12.0 ha |

Indigenous Flora: No threatened or at risk species as listed by de Lange *et al.* (2009) have been recorded from this site. Species recorded in 1996 include swamp kiokio, *Baumea tenax*, ti kouka, and pukatea.

Fauna: Common forest birds present; lake birds including New Zealand scaup utilise the margins of this site. No threatened or at risk species as listed by Miskelly *et al.* (2008) are known from this site. However, this site is likely to provide habitat for spotless crane ('At Risk - Declining' in Miskelly *et al.* 2008).

Notes on Overall Condition: Predominantly adventive wetland vegetation developed following previous clearance; local areas of indigenous wetland vegetation in the understorey.

Change Relative to Shaw and Beadel (1998): Unknown

Threats/Modification/Vulnerability: This site has been heavily degraded by clearance and grazing, enabling the establishment of adventive weeds. Grey willow now forms a continuous canopy over the whole site. Part of this wetland has been drained and is currently grazed by goats. Adventive grasses have established under the willow canopy in this part of the site.

Risk Assessment: Grey willow: Risk to site - high; Timeframe - high.
 Grazing (goats if present): Risk to site - high; Timeframe - high.

Significance Level: Regional (Appendix 4 - Table 1 - Criteria 1, 2, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11; Table 2 - Factors R4, R6, R9, R14, R17).

Significance Justification: This site is regionally significant because it is an example of wetland vegetation on the margins of Lake Rotorua (a nationally significant site). Wetland vegetation on flats is poorly represented in the existing reserve system in Rotorua Lakes Ecological District. Although highly modified, lake edge wetlands are effective in controlling nutrient and bacteria inputs to lakes via groundwater contaminated from urban development and rural agricultural

practices (Gibbs & Lusby 1996). It is also likely to provide habitat to 'At Risk' bird species such as spotless crane.

Fieldwork Required: Yes. Biodiversity and management information requires updating. Vegetation mapping is incomplete.

Notes: This site was identified as a "Recommended Area for Protection" (RAP No. 20) in the natural area survey of Rotorua Lakes ED (Beadel *et al.* 1998).

References: Gibbs and Lusby (1996); Shaw and Beadel (1998); Beadel *et al.* (1998).