



Lake Rotokawau

Site Number: SNA42
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. 42
Current Tenure: Unprotected
Site Area: 133.7 ha
Altitude Range: 340-460 m
Bioclimatic Zone: Lowland
Grid Reference: NZTM E1896666, N5780810

VEGETATION		LANDFORM	EXTENT
CODE	TYPE		
1	(Rewarewa)/kamahi-tawa-mangeao forest (with scattered kohekohe, pukatea, rimu) ↔ kamahi-(rewarewa) forest (with scattered kohekohe) on ridge (with common porokaiwhiri, mahoe, scattered mamaku and local kotukutuku in the subcanopy).	Flat; gentle hillslopes	63.8 ha
2	Rewarewa-(radiata pine)/tawa-mangeao-(pukatea) forest (with common mahoe and mamaku in the subcanopy).	Rolling and steep hillslopes	7.1 ha
3	(Rewarewa)-(mamaku)/kanuka-mingimingi scrub (with locally common gorse and kiokio, and local ti kouka; kiokio fernland locally common on eroded scarp faces).	Scarp	5.7 ha
4	Lake	Open water	52.9 ha
5	Tawa-pukatea-(rewarewa)-(mangeao) forest (with subcanopy of common porokaiwhiri, mahoe, scattered titoki and mamaku).	Steep and rolling hillslopes, flat	4.4 ha
6	Nonvegetated raw soilfield (not mapped).	Sinter	<0.1 ha

Indigenous Flora: This site contains a population of *Ileostylus micranthus* ('Not Threatened' in de Lange *et al.* 2009) and a small population of *Tupeia antarctica* ('At Risk - Declining' in de Lange *et al.* 2009). Kohekohe reaches its local inland limit at this site. Nikau is present.

Due to steep littoral gradients, no submerged or emergent macrophytes have been recorded from the littoral zone of Lake Rotokawau (Clayton *et al.* 1989).

Fauna: Forest bird species present include kereru. Common birds typical of lake habitats are present. Two threatened or at risk species as listed in Miskelly *et al.* (2008) are present - New Zealand dabchick ('Threatened - Nationally Vulnerable') and little shag ('At Risk - Naturally Uncommon').

Notes on Overall Condition: Modified by logging, part of this site has been cleared and secondary indigenous vegetation has established. No submerged vegetation occurs within the lake at present (Edwards *et al.* 2007).

Change Relative to Shaw and Beadel (1998): A small area of indigenous forest has been cleared at the western end of the site.

Threats/Modification/ This site is not grazed by domestic stock; however it has a high population

Vulnerability:	of wallabies. Walking tracks dissect this site. The small area of forest near Kiwi Ranch has a high level of use and the understorey is very sparse. This part is split by a road.
Risk Assessment:	Wallabies: Risk to site - high; Timeframe - high.
Significance Level:	Regional (Appendix 4 - Table 1 - Criteria 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13; Table 2 - Factors R4, R5, R8, R9).
Significance Justification:	<p>This site is of regional significance as it contains a relatively large example of indigenous vegetation on flat-undulating land - an ecological unit which is under-represented in the existing reserve system.</p> <p>This site contains a population of <i>Tupeia antarctica</i> ('At Risk - Declining') near a large tract of indigenous vegetation (including Lake Okataina Scenic Reserve). It encompasses Lake Rotokawau, providing a protective buffer around the entire margins of this small lake.</p> <p>A small unit of geothermal vegetation occurs on the western margin of Lake Rotokawau. Geothermal vegetation is a nationally uncommon vegetation type.</p>
Fieldwork Required:	No fieldwork required to assess significance, but fieldwork required to update biodiversity and management information.
Notes:	None
References:	Shaw and Beadel (1998); Clayton <i>et al.</i> (1989); Edwards <i>et al.</i> (2007).