



Lake Okataina Scenic Reserve Extension

Site Number:	SNA58
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. 58
Current Tenure:	Unprotected
Site Area:	311.4 ha
Altitude Range:	300-680 m
Bioclimatic Zone:	Lowland and submontane
Grid Reference:	NZTM E1894450, N5774428

VEGETATION		LANDFORM	EXTENT
CODE	TYPE		
1	Tawa-rewarewa-mangeao forest (northern rata, hinau, pukatea, miro, and kohekohe are also locally present in the canopy; subcanopy comprised of porokaiwhiri, putaputaweta, horoeka, mapou, titoki, kohuhu, kamahi, wheki, ponga and mamaku. Secondary scrub and forest occurs locally around the margins, comprising wheki, rangiora, putaputaweta, mahoe, local gorse and scattered pole rimu).	Rolling hillslopes	143.3 ha
2	Tawa forest ↔ tawa-mangeao forest (with scattered pukatea).	Rolling hillslopes	97.0 ha
3	(Mahoe)-(rewarewa)-(mamaku)/bracken-(kiokio) fernland	Rolling hillslopes	20.0 ha
4	Tawa-mangeao-rewarewa forest (with scattered mamaku, makomako, pukatea; a few big rimu, pole rimu, and wheki around the margins).	Gentle and steep hillslopes	51.0 ha
5	Whauwhaupaku-kohuhu-karamu-kotukutuku forest and scrub with local toetoe and bracken)	Gentle and steep hillslopes	0.9 ha

Indigenous Flora: Lowland ribbonwood (*Plagianthus regius*) occurs in the northern part of this site and adjacent reserved areas; it is not known to occur elsewhere in the Rotorua Lakes Ecological District.

Fauna: Forest birds including kereru, North Island rifleman ('At Risk - Declining' in Miskelly *et al.* 2008), pied tit, and whitehead were recorded in 1996. Long-tailed cuckoo ('At Risk - Naturally Uncommon in Miskelly *et al.* 2008) are also likely to utilise this site.

Notes on Overall Condition: Indigenous forest of variable quality adjoining Lake Okataina Scenic Reserve. Some parts are secondary while others are modified primary. Some parts were grazed in 1996. Pest animals, particularly wallabies and possums, are considered major pests at this site.

Change Relative to Shaw and Beadel (1998): Part of this site mapped in the 1998 report is in the Lakes A Zone and is excluded from this report. A small section is also now administered by DOC. Otherwise probably little change.

Threats/Modification/Vulnerability: Parts of this site are grazed, and should be fenced to exclude stock. Wallabies are a serious problem in Okataina Scenic Reserve and surrounding areas; King (1985) considered them the greatest threat to reserve vegetation, through their selective browsing of palatable species. Control of possums should be

undertaken to protect northern rata.

Risk Assessment: Management information is dated.

Wallabies: Risk to site - high; Timeframe - high.
Possums: Risk to site - high; Timeframe - high.

Significance Level: Regional

Significance Justification: The site is of regional significance as it comprises several areas of indigenous vegetation which are contiguous with a large tract of indigenous vegetation (including Lake Okataina Scenic Reserve) which forms the largest tract of forest in the Rotorua Lakes Ecological District. It also provides good quality habitat for at least two at risk bird species.

Fieldwork Required: No fieldwork required to assess significance, but fieldwork required to update biodiversity and management information.

Notes: This site was identified as a “Recommended Area for Protection” (RAP No. 58) in the natural area survey of Rotorua Lakes ED (Beadel *et al.* 1998).

References: King (1985); Shaw and Beadel (1998); Beadel *et al.* (1998).