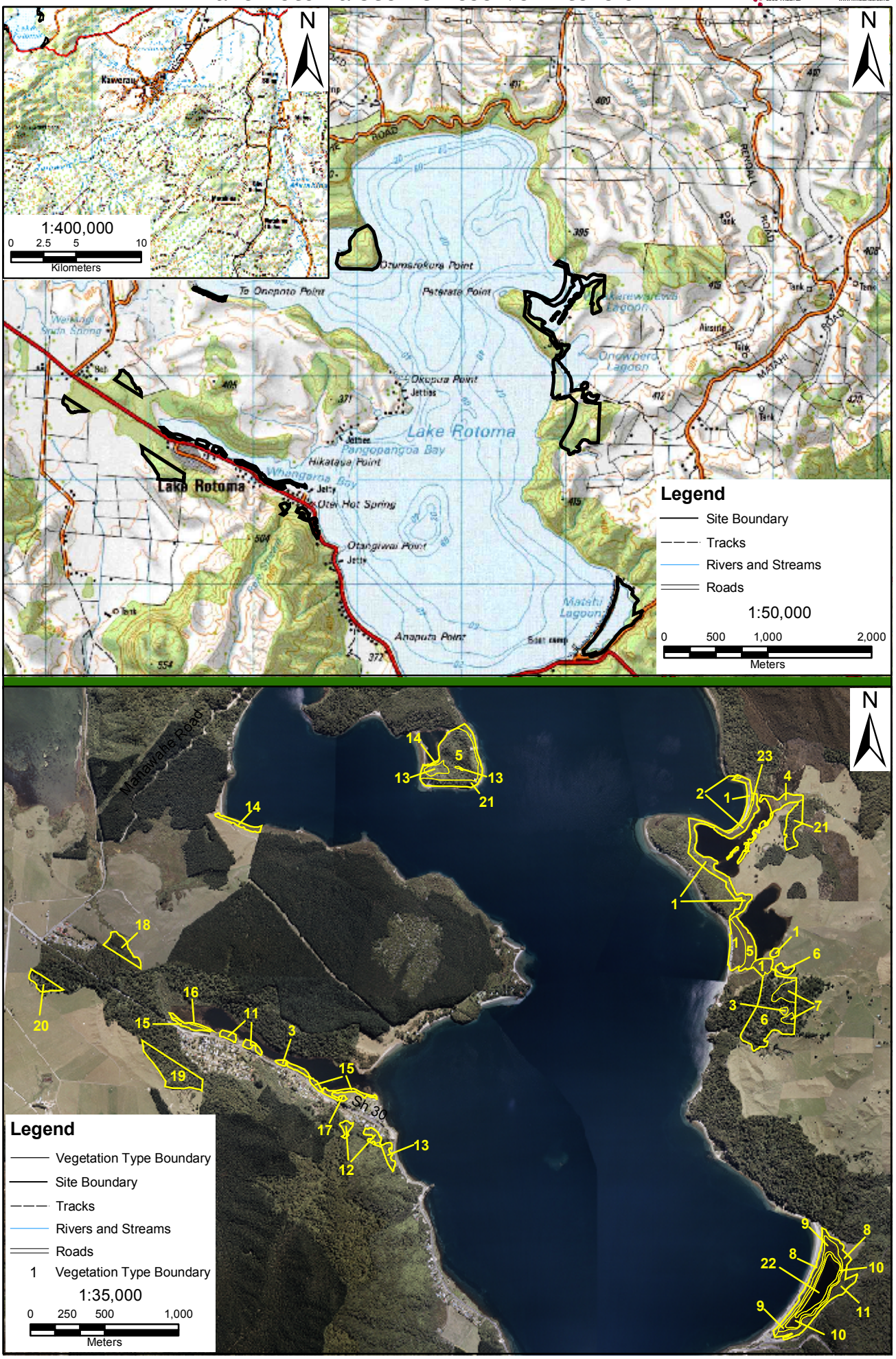
SNA 87

Lake Rotoma Scenic Reserve Extension



Lake Rotoma Scenic Reserve Extension

Site Number: SNA 87
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. 87
Current Tenure: Unprotected
Site Area: 70.8 ha
Altitude Range: 320-400 m
Bioclimatic Zone: Lowland
Grid Reference: NZTM E1915838, N5782871

VEGETATION		LANDFORM
CODE	TYPE	
1	Manuka scrub with local emergent rewarewa, scattered karamu, blackberry, tutu, and toetoe around the margins, and local pampas; lotus, buddleia, lupin (*Lupinus arboreus*), catsear (*Hypochoeris radicata*), and ragwort (*Jacobaea vulgaris*) are also present.	Flat
2	*Machaerina articulata* rushland ⇔ *Machaerina articulata*-matata-*Hypolepis ambigua*-kiokio fernland and rushland (with locally common *Ficinia nodosa* and local *Lobelia angulata*).	Wetland
3	Rough pasture.	Flat; gentle and rolling hillslopes
4	*Juncus edgariae* rushland (with local pampas).	Wetland
5	Low manuka scrub (*Juncus edgariae* occurs locally along the lagoon margins).	Flat
6	(Rewarewa)/kānuka forest and (Rewarewa)/mānuka-kānuka scrub.	Rolling hillslopes
8	Manuka-kanuka scrub (with common whauwhaupaku, mahoe and scattered exotic tree species, e.g. black wattle).	Flat; gentle hillslopes
9	Manuka/ *Machaerina articulata*-(blackberry) scrub (with common grey willow seedlings) ⇔ tutu-manuka-blackberry scrub (with common kiokio, scattered hangehange, lupin, and mahoe, and local matata).	Wetland
10	*Eleocharis sphacelata* reedland.	Wetland
11	(Rewarewa)/whauwhaupaku-kohuhu-mahoe-(manuka) forest (with common manuka, and locally common crack willow and grey willow).	Flat; gentle hillslopes
12	(Northern rata)/rewarewa-tawa-(mangeao) forest (with scattered pukatea, kohekohe, kamahi, and hinau; and locally common mamaku in gullies).	Steep hillslopes
13	(Rewarewa)/mamaku treefernland (with locally common mahoe and kohuhu).	Gullies; steep hillslopes
14	(Kamahi)/kanuka scrub (with scattered mingimingi and local grey willow).	Rolling and gentle hillslopes
15	Manuka-(blackberry)-(Japanese honeysuckle)-(*Eleocharis sphacelata*) scrub (with scattered karamu).	Flat
16	*Eleocharis sphacelata*-*Juncus edgariae* rushland (with grey willow seedlings common throughout).	Wetland
17	Crack willow-grey willow forest (with manuka around the margins).	Flat
18	(Rimu)/tawa-(pukatea) forest	Gentle hillslope
19	Rewarewa/kamahi-tawa-mangeao forest (with local mamaku).	
20	Rewarewa/kamahi-tawa-mangeao forest (with local mamaku) ⇔ Rough pasture.	
21	Rewarewa/whauwhaupaku scrub and kamahi-rewarewa forest.	Hillslope
22	Open water.	Open water

Indigenous Flora:	No Threatened or At Risk plant species listed in de Lange *et al*. (2009) have been recorded from this site. The site is a transition zone for many coastal species. For example, kohekohe, kawakawa (*Macropiper excelsum* var. *excelsum*), and nikau are relatively common in this site. These species are only sparsely represented in, or are absent from, more inland areas of indigenous vegetation. Other taxa of interest include *Machaerina juncea, Limosella lineata*, and *Glossostigma elatinoides*. Northern rata trees are present.
Fauna:	Lake Rotoma supports 16 species of water birds, including New Zealand dabchick ('Threatened-Nationally Vulnerable' in Miskelly *et al*. 2008),and New Zealand scaup. The lake supports 2-3% of the world population of New Zealand dabchick (Owen 1996). Forest birds present include kererū, tui, and fantail. Several Threatened or At Risk bird species listed in Miskelly *et al*. (2008) are likely to utilise lakeshore and wetland habitat, including grey duck ('Threatened-Nationally Critical'), Australasian bittern ('Threatened-Nationally Endangered'), black-billed gull ('Threatened-Nationally Endangered'), red-billed gull ('Threatened-Nationally Vulnerable'), New Zealand pipit ('At Risk-Declining'), North Island fernbird, pied stilt ('At Risk-Declining'), spotless crake ('At Risk-Relict'), black shag ('At Risk-Naturally Uncommon'), and little black shag ('At Risk-Naturally Uncommon').
Notes on Overall Condition:	The site includes wetland vegetation surrounding Lake Rotoma, as well as indigenous forest which is either secondary, or modified following logging. Many of these areas were grazed in 1996. Most areas are contiguous with Lake Rotoma Scenic Reserve.
Change Relative to Shaw and Beadel (1998):	Part of the site mapped in the 1998 report is now protected by Nga Whenua Rahui.
Threats/Modification/ Vulnerability:	Many areas were grazed in 1996. Grazing and trampling damages the vegetation and lakeshore. Any areas which are grazed should be fenced to exclude stock.
Risk Assessment:	Grazing (if still present): Risk to site - high; Timeframe - high.
Significance Level:	National (Appendix 4 - Table 1 - Criteria 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13; Table 2 - Factors N5, N6, N9, N12).
Significance Justification:	This site is of national significance because the site contains areas of significant vegetation and wildlife habitat adjacent to Lake Rotoma (a nationally significant site), which form part of an important protective buffer to the lake. This site includes good quality examples of wetland vegetation which has been greatly reduced in extent in the Rotorua Lakes Ecological District, and on a nationwide basis. Its components are contiguous with a large tract of indigenous vegetation which includes several reserves (Lake Rotoma Scenic Reserve, Mangaone Scenic Reserve, and Rotoma Conservation Area), and another SNA - Maungawhakamana-Tikorangi RAP. The site also provides habitat for a diverse range of Threatened and At Risk bird species.

Field Work Required:	No field work is required to assess significance, but field work is required to update biodiversity and management information.
Notes:	This is part of a "Recommended Area for Protection" (RAP No. 87) identified in Beadel *et al*. (1998), which extends into the Whakatane District.
References:	Owen (1996); King (1984); Shaw and Beadel (1998); Beadel *et al*. (1998).