



Ngapuna Wetlands

Site Number:	139
Ecological District:	Rotorua Lakes
Source of Information:	Field work 2016
Digital Scale:	1:5,000
Data Source:	BOPLASS Ltd 2011
Regional Council:	Bay of Plenty
1998 Site Number:	Not identified as a site in Shaw and Beadel (1998)
Current Tenure:	Unprotected
Site Area:	3.58 ha
Altitude Range:	290 m
Bioclimatic Zone:	Lowland
Grid Reference:	NZTM E1887141, N5774055

VEGETATION		LANDFORM	EXTENT
CODE	TYPE		
1	<p>Grey willow-alder-crack willow forest and treeland Willow forest with alder and occasional eucalyptus in the canopy. <i>Carex geminata</i>, gypsywort (<i>Lycopus europaeus</i>), <i>Carex virgata</i>, and <i>Carex sinclairii</i> are also scattered throughout the understorey, with gorse, blackberry, and mānuka on the margins.</p>	Wetland	3.58 ha

Indigenous Flora: No threatened or at risk plant species as listed in de Lange *et al.* 2013 have been recorded from this site.

Fauna: Three threatened bird species - banded dotterel (*Charadrius bicinctus bicinctus*), red-billed gull (*Larus novaehollandiae*) (both Threatened-Nationally Vulnerable) and black-billed gull (*Larus bulleri*; Threatened-Nationally Critical) - breed in a protected area contiguous with this site and may use this site occasionally, but are unlikely to use this area for breeding. At least three other threatened species - New Zealand dabchick (Threatened-Nationally Vulnerable), black shag and little black shag (both At Risk-Naturally Uncommon), and little shag (Not Threatened) are likely to utilise lake and lake margin habitat on the boundary of the site.

Notes on Overall Condition: Highly modified wetland that has been degraded by invasive pest plants (including willow and exotic grass) and increased nutrient inflow. The site provides a buffer for Lake Rotorua from the surrounding land use.

Change Relative to Shaw and Beadel (1998): Unknown

Threats/Modification/Vulnerability: There are local patches of blackberry and gorse present in drier areas. Willows and alder dominate the canopy of the site. Eucalyptus are also present. Grey willow has been controlled at the western end of this site, and has mostly collapsed; there are a few saplings regenerating. Exotic grasses and herbs (Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*), creeping bent (*Agrostis stolonifera*) and marsh bedstraw (*Galium palustre*) are scattered throughout.

Risk Assessment: Pest plants: Risk to site - low; Timeframe - low.

Significance Level: Local (Appendix 8 - Table 1 - Criteria 3.6, 3.9; Table 2 - Factor L).

Significance Justification: This area is of Local significance as it contains wetland habitat, a much reduced vegetation type in Rotorua Lakes Ecological District and nationally. It provides a somewhat degraded habitat buffer to Lake Rotorua from adjacent land use.

Field Work Required: No field work required.

Notes: This site is contiguous with a larger Ngā Whenua Rāhui kawenata which includes a wetland and geothermal area.

This site was identified as a “Recommended Area for Protection” (RAP no. 51) in the natural area survey of Rotorua Lakes ED (Beadel *et al.* 1998).

References: Beadel *et al.* (1998), Wildland Consultants 2005b, 2010, and 2011.