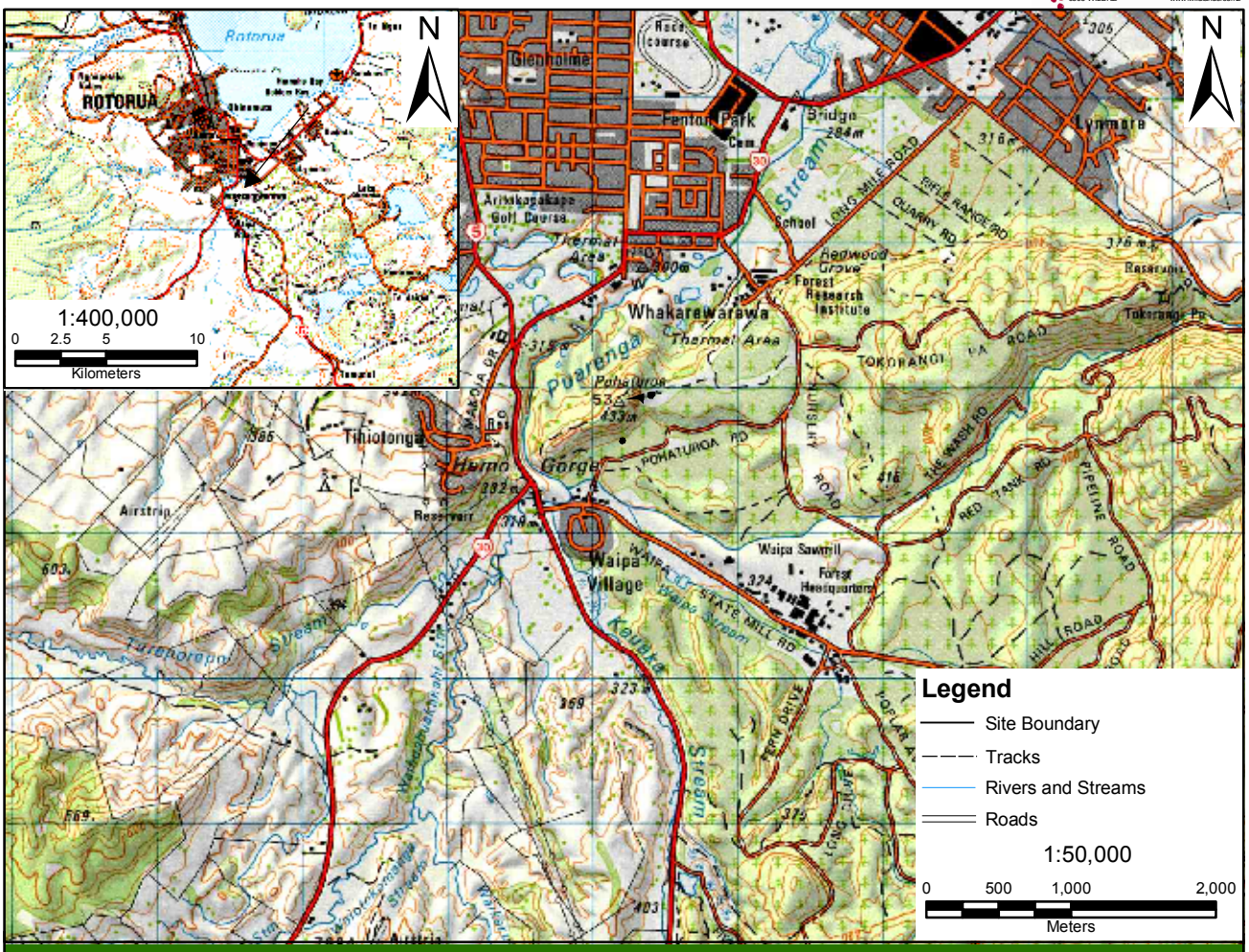
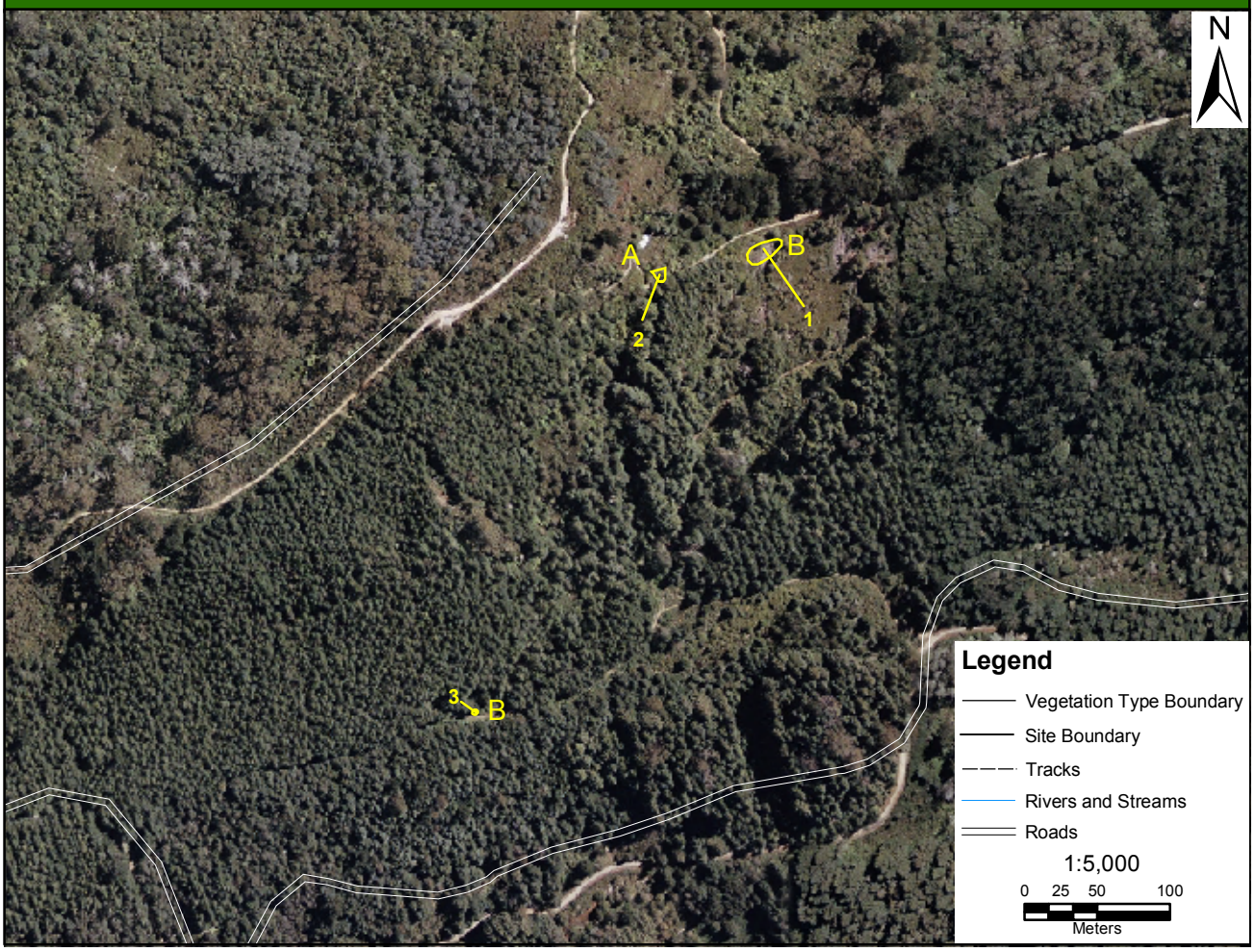
SNA 177

Pohaturoa





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Site Number: SNA177
Ecological District: Rotorua Lakes
Source of Information: Wildland Consultants (2005c) - Geothermal Site No. 67
Digital Scale: 1:2,000
Data Source: RDAM 2006
Regional Council: Bay of Plenty
1998 Site Number: Not identified as a site in Shaw and Beadel (1998).
Current Tenure: Unprotected
Site Area: <0.1 ha
Altitude Range: 340-380 m
Bioclimatic Zone: Lowland
Grid Reference: NZTM E1885271, N5770421

VEGETATION		LANDFORM	EXTENT
CODE	TYPE		
1	Macrocarpa/prostrate kanuka forest Macrocarpa to 8 m tall dominates over prostrate kanuka. Heather, narrow-leaved carpet grass and Chinese privet dominate the margins.	Gently sloping	<0.1 ha
2	Prostrate kanuka scrub Prostrate kanuka is dominant with scattered patches of Chinese privet and heather (both *c.* 10% cover). Bracken, broom, manuka and turutu are also common. Occasional plants of *Lycopodiella cernua* and patches of Japanese honeysuckle are present.	Hillslope	<0.1 ha
3	Bracken-kiokio-blackberry-wheki-*Paesia scaberula* fernland A small unit of mixed fern and shrub species surrounding an isolated geothermal mud pool. Common ferns include bracken, kiokio, wheki, *Paesia scaberula* and *Hypolepis distans*. Common shrubs include blackberry, broom and Himalayan honeysuckle.	Crater	<0.1 ha
4	Nonvegetated raw-soilfield Geothermally-influenced bare ground and steam vents.	Gently sloping, hillslope	<0.1 ha

Indigenous Flora: The site has a population of prostrate kanuka ('At Risk - Naturally Uncommon' in de Lange *et al*. 2009). Prostrate kanuka is endemic to geothermal sites in New Zealand. Other species typical of geothermal habitats are present, including manuka, bracken, turutu, *Lycopodiella cernua, Morelotia affinis,* kiokio, *Histiopteris incisa* and *Hypolepis distans.*

Fauna: No threatened or at risk species as listed in Miskelly *et al*. (2008) are known from this site. Indigenous and exotic species typical of the habitats are present, including bellbird, tui fantail, grey warbler, Australasian harrier, shining cuckoo, greenfinch, blackbird, house sparrow, goldfinch, and chaffinch.

Notes on Overall Condition: The site is in poor condition (in terms of geothermal vegetation) as it is being managed as a plantation forest and a recreation area.

Change Relative to Shaw and Beadel (1998): This site was not surveyed in 1996 (Beadel *et al.* 1996b), therefore no assessment of change of extent or composition of geothermal vegetation can be made.

Threats/Modification/ ***Invasive Exotic Plants***: Exotic plants dominate all of the least heated soils.

Vulnerability:	Patches of heather dominate margins and have invaded into prostrate kanuka shrubland and scrub in places. Planted macrocarpa occurs over prostrate kanuka at one location. Chinese privet, Japanese honeysuckle, blackberry, broom, and gorse are common on margins of geothermal vegetation. Scattered trees of radiata pine and black wattle are also present. ***Human Impacts***: The site occurs amongst managed plantation forest. Formed and unformed tracks are present in geothermal vegetation.
Risk Assessment:	Pest plants: Risk to site - medium; Timeframe - medium.
Significance Level:	See accompanying map for demarcation of areas A and B. A. Regional (Appendix 10 - Table 1 - Criteria 4, 6; Table 2 - Factor R9). B. Local (Appendix 10 - Table 1; Criteria 6; Table 2 - Factor L1).
Significance Justification:	A. This part of this site is of regional significance because it contains a population of prostrate kanuka ('At Risk – Naturally Uncommon'). B. These parts of the site are of local significance because they contain geothermal habitat, an uncommon habitat type nationally.
Fieldwork Required:	No fieldwork is required.
Notes:	None
References:	Wildland Consultants (2005c)