



Lake Rotongata

Site Number: SNA663
Ecological District: Otanewainuku
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. 663
Current Tenure: Unprotected
Site Area: 1.6 ha
Altitude Range: 320-340 m
Bioclimatic Zone: Lowland
Grid Reference: NZTM E1887019, N5790661

VEGETATION		LANDFORM	EXTENT
CODE	TYPE		
1	<i>Eleocharis sphacelata</i> - <i>Juncus effusus</i> rushland (with locally common creeping buttercup (<i>Ranunculus repens</i>)).	Wetland	0.4 ha
2	Open water (with locally common <i>Azolla filiculoides</i>)	Open water	0.8 ha
3	Kanuka-(manuka) scrub (one ti kouka and one grey willow present; common <i>Sphagnum</i> and scattered kiokio, <i>Paesia scaberula</i> and <i>Hypolepis ambigua</i> form the ground cover).	Flat, wetland; gentle hillslope	0.2 ha
4	Indigenous plantings (including ti kouka, tarata (<i>Pittosporum eugenioides</i>), and harakeke (<i>Phormium tenax</i>))/ <i>Juncus effusus</i> rushland	Flat, wetland; gentle hillslope	0.2 ha

Indigenous Flora: No threatened or at risk species, as listed in de Lange *et al.* (2009), have been recorded from this site.

Fauna: Pied stilt ('Threatened - Nationally Vulnerable' in Miskelly *et al.* 2008) has been recorded from this site (Shaw and Beadel 1998). Other wetland birds, including pukeko, white-faced heron, paradise shelduck, and mallard duck, utilise this site (Shaw and Beadel 1998).

Notes on Overall Condition: Small example of highly modified indigenous wetland vegetation occurring in and around two ponds.

Change Relative to Shaw and Beadel (1998): Unknown, the site is probably similar in size to what it was in 1996 (Shaw and Beadel 1998).

Threats/Modification/Vulnerability: This site is currently grazed by sheep; trampling has occurred around the margins of the ponds, but the rushland and scrub in the centre of the eastern pond remains intact (Shaw and Beadel 1998).

Indigenous species have been planted on an embankment along part of the margin of the western pond; this pond is the more modified of the two and has very little naturally occurring indigenous vegetation (Shaw and Beadel 1998).

Risk Assessment: Information relevant to the ecological values of this site is dated.

Grazing: Risk to site - high; Timeframe - high.

Significance Level:	Local (Appendix 4 - Table 1 - Criteria 1, 2, 6; Table 2 - Factor R9, L1).
Significance Justification:	The site is of local significance because it contains indigenous wetland habitats, which have become uncommon in New Zealand due to human activity. Though a threatened bird species has been recorded from this site, it is unlikely to represent critical habitat for this species.
Fieldwork Required:	No fieldwork required to assess significance, but fieldwork required to update biodiversity and management information.
Notes:	None
References:	Shaw and Beadel (1998)