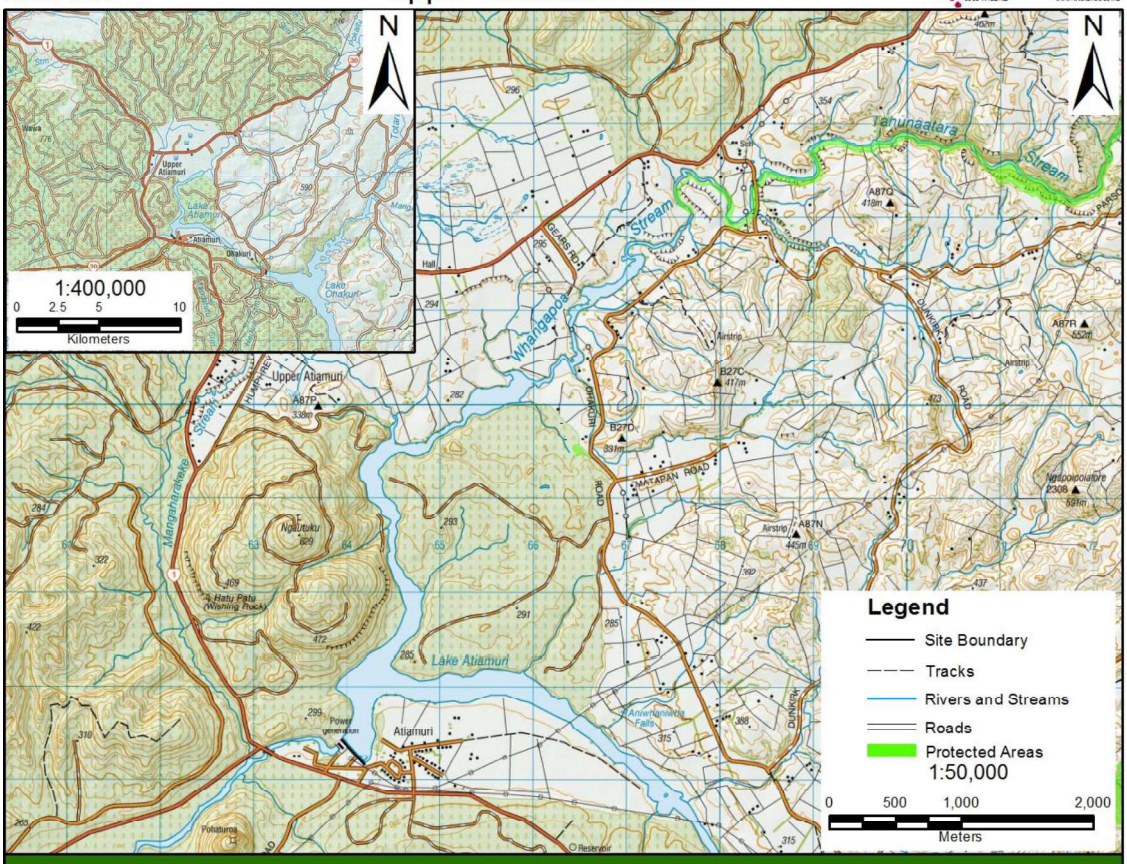
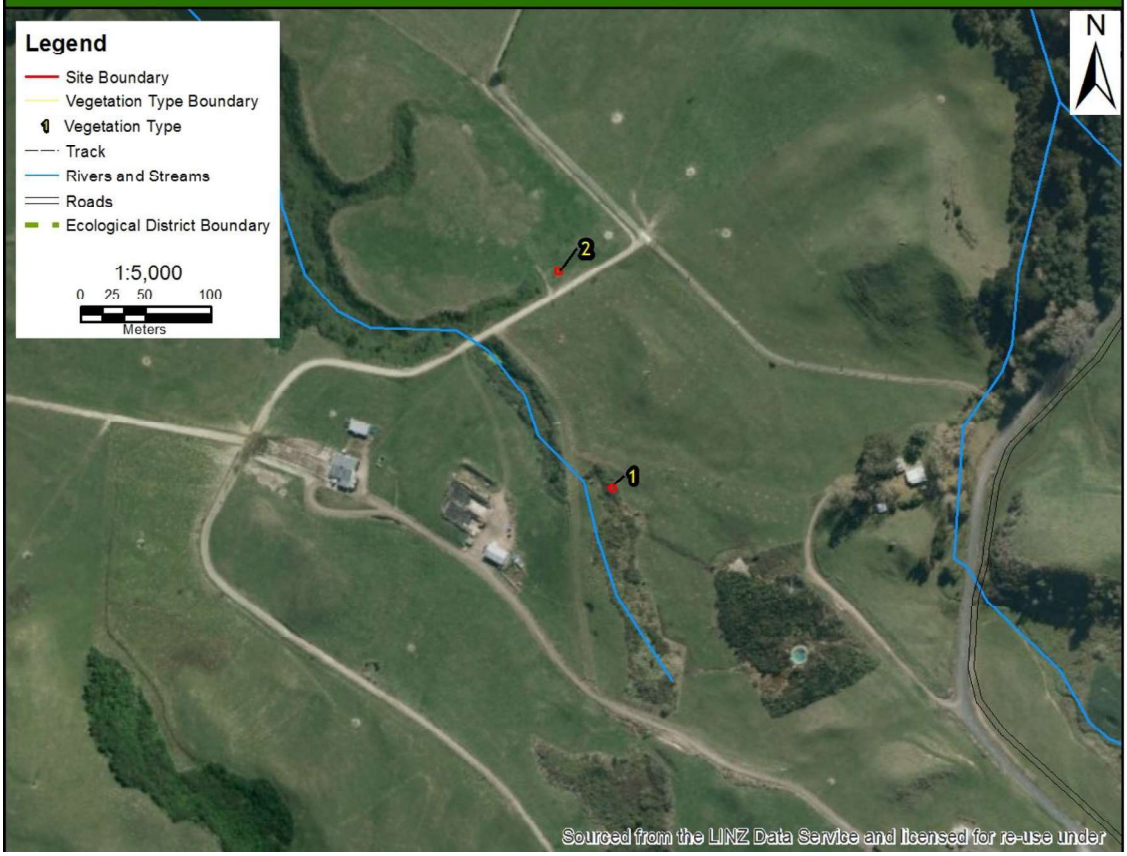
SNA 717 Upper Atiamuri West





Upper Atiamuri West

Site Number: 717
Ecological District: Atiamuri
Source of Information: Wildland Consultants (2014a)
Digital Scale: 1:5,000
Data Source: WRAPS Ltd 2012
Regional Council: Waikato
1998 Site Number: Not identified as a site in Shaw and Beadel (1998)
Current Tenure: Unprotected
Site Area: <0.1 ha
Altitude Range: *c*.240 m
Bioclimatic Zone: Lowland
Grid Reference: NZTM E1866297, N5749798; E1866338, N5749636

VEGETATION		LANDFORM	EXTENT
CODE	TYPE		
1	**Blackberry scrub** This area comprises a tomo with a geothermal spring at the base (2 m wide and 2.5 m deep). Dense blackberry in association with Himalayan honeysuckle and broom surround the tomo, and scattered *Hypolepis distans* occurs on the sides of the tomo. A sinter deposit which extends c.1 m into the tomo is also present.	Geothermal pit	<0.1 ha
2	***Polygonum maculosa* herbfield** A small fumarole (0.3 m diameter) surrounded by a dense patch of *Polygonum maculosa*, with smaller patches of black nightshade (*Solanum nigrum*) and occasional Yorkshire fog.	Quenched fumarole; geothermal pit	<0.1 ha

Indigenous Flora: No threatened or at risk plant species as listed in de Lange *et al.* 2013 have been recorded from this site. However, *Hypolepis distans*, a characteristic species of geothermal wetlands is present.

Fauna: No threatened or at risk bird species as listed in Robertson *et al.* 2013 have been recorded from this site. Common indigenous and introduced bird species typical of the habitat are likely to be present.

Notes on Overall Condition: The geothermal sites are fenced, but are dominated by exotic plant species.

Change Relative to Shaw and Beadel (1998): Unknown

Threats/Modification/ Vulnerability: Blackberry, Himalayan honeysuckle, and broom dominate the site, together comprising over 90% of the vegetation cover. The geothermal areas are fenced from stock. The site is surrounded by farmland.

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

Significance Level: Local (Table 1 - Criterion 5; Table 2 - Factor 19).

Significance Justification: Upper Atiamuri West is of local significance because it contains a nationally uncommon habitat type (fumaroles; Williams et al. 2007; Holdaway et al. 2012). However the geothermal features are very small and highly modified,

with few indigenous species present.

Field Work Required: This site is a high priority for field survey. Inspection of 2012 aerial photographs indicates that additional areas of geothermal activity may be present in the gully west/northwest of the mapped area.

Notes: A geophysical assessment of the surface geothermal manifestations at this site is presented in Appendix 4 (Wildland Consultants 2014a). This assessment was undertaken in 2007.

References: Hochstein (2007a); Wildland Consultants (2004c, 2007a 2012 & 2014).