



Lake Rotoehu

Cultural Mapping Report

Prepared by Te Arawa Lakes Trust



Photo: Phillip Capper, Flickr

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1 Introduction

1.1 Context

The Te Arawa lakes are culturally significant, which is evident by statutory acknowledgements for each of the lakes and the vesting of the lake beds to the Te Arawa Lakes Trust (TALT). The Bay of Plenty Regional Council, as consent authority, has responsibilities under both the Resource Management Act 1991 and Te Arawa Lakes Settlement Act 2006 to have regard to the statutory acknowledgements and the associated cultural values with these lakes. TALT also has responsibilities as owner of the lake bed to safeguard places of cultural and/or spiritual significance to Te Arawa.

1.2 Report Purpose

There are 13 resource consents for lake structures associated with Lake Rotoehu. Nine of these expire in 2017 or 2018. Therefore, a clustered approach was taken to the assessment of these structures in relation to cultural values and associations.

The purpose of this report is to collate and document:

- cultural values and interests associated with Lake Rotoehu
- issues of significance and recommendations associated with lakes structures on or adjacent to Lake Rotoehu.

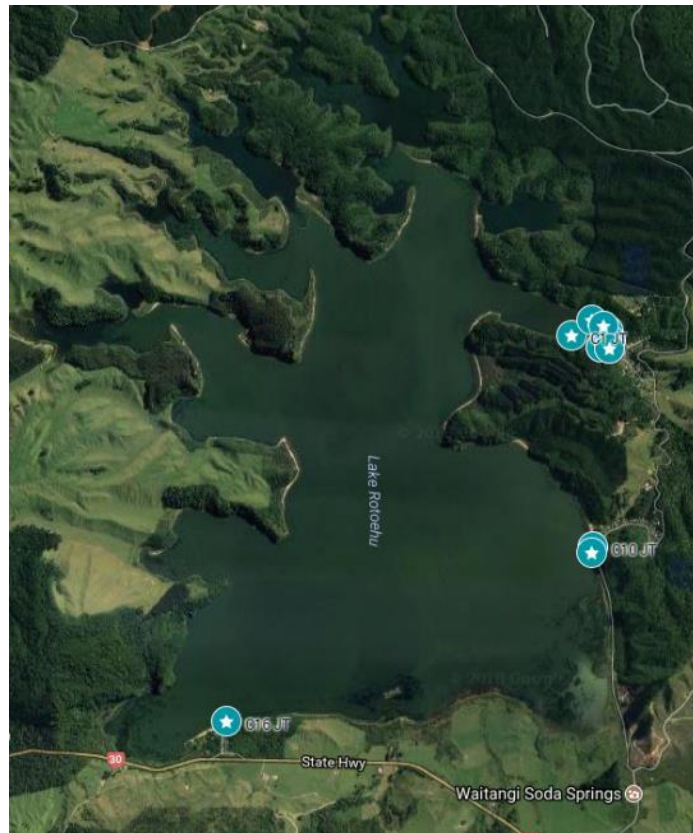
1.3 Methodology

The following methodology was used:

- Review base information about Lake Rotoehu e.g. relevant Iwi and hapū management plans.
- Engage with hapū to discuss the impact of lake structures on cultural values and associations. Feedback from engagement is provided in Appendix 1.

2 Lake Rotoehu lake structures

There are 13 resource consents for lake structures associated with Lake Rotoehu. Most of these are located in Otautu Bay. The remaining are located at Ngamimiro/Kennedy Bay and Te Pohue Bay.



3 Cultural Significance of Lake Rotoehu

Lake Rotoehu is a taonga of great significance to Ngāti Tamateatutahi, Ngāti Kawiti and Ngāti Makino. The following is intended to provide a broad overview about the cultural significance of Lake Rotoehu.

Lake Rotoehu is culturally rich in history and tradition and have played a significant role in providing for and sustaining tangata whenua over many, many generations. There are urupa, wāhi tapu and an abundance of other cultural sites of significance scattered throughout the Lake Rotomā catchment. These important landmarks underpin the culture and traditions of the tangata whenua and strengthens the connection that hapū/iwi have with Lake Rotoehu.

3.1 Engagement Feedback

The Ngati Pikiao Koeke provided feedback on the key issues that are of concern from a cultural values perspective and guidance on how they wished to provide input to the cultural mapping project.

There was particular regard given to the need to keep the details of the locations, events, or activities that established these sites as “sites of significance” to Ngati Pikiao. It was important that the report only confirm or otherwise that there was a specific value present and how a structure or associated activity might be causing an impact and following on how this might be mitigated or otherwise.

The key issues raised were as follows;

- The current structures in their current location are not causing a significant cultural impact.
- There is a concern about the impact of some structures on water quality. This is in regard to the nature and scale of activity associated with structures and the materials and age of some of these.
- The key cultural impact is access to and impacts on mahinga kai and taonga kai.

Raw feedback from Te Tūāpapa engagement 2015 “That there be continued access for all of us to the lakes”.

3.2 Hapū Management Plans

Only Ngāti Tamateatutahi-Ngāti Kawiti have an Iwi Planning Document lodged with the Bay of Plenty Regional Council.

The Ngāti Tamateatutahi-Ngāti Kawiti Hapū Management Plan¹ (HMP) is of specific relevance to Lake Rotoehu. It enables Ngāti Tamateatutahi and Ngāti Kawiti to express their rangatiratanga in order to exercise their kaitiaki roles and responsibilities within their rohe. The plan articulates for local authorities, the issues and aspirations of our physical and natural resources, providing guidance for the environmental sustainability of hapū.

¹ Te Taiao o Te Whatuoranganuku - The Environmental Resources of Te Whatuoranganuku. Ngāti Tamateatutahi-Ngāti Kawiti Hapū Environmental Management Plan 2015

3.3 Scheduled or Recorded Sites

Scheduled sites of significance are typically found within District Plans. The NZAA database also contains a record of any registered archaeological site of Māori origin.

District Plan

The structures are not located near sites of significance that are scheduled within the Rotorua District Plan.

NZAA Database

Based on a review of the NZAA database, no archaeological sites of Māori origin are located near the consented lake structures.

It is important to note that while the structures are not located near sites that are *registered* in the NZAA or scheduled within the Rotorua District Plan, there are numerous unregistered but known sites of significance around Lake Rotoehu.

3.4 Landmarks of Te Arawa Series

Stafford (1996)² is a significance resource of relevance for Lake Rotoehu. It illustrates and documents sites and areas of significance to Te Arawa hapū and whanau. Information of relevance to consented structures is provided in Section 4 of this Report.

² Landmarks of Te Arawa. Volume 2: Rotoiti, Rotoehu, Rotoma.

4 Impact of Lake Structures

4.1 Are any of the existing structures and/or activities causing significant cultural impacts?

There are no structures currently causing **significant** cultural impact on Lake Rotoehu, however the following concerns exists:

- An increase of on and in lake activity will cause an impact on water quality. Structures are a key mechanism for enabling an increase in activity in and on the lake.
- Current structures that are made from materials that have an impact on lake water quality should not be re-consented and will need to be replaced.
- An increase of on or in lake activity can mean access to mahinga kai is impacted as well as an impact on taonga kai.
- The behaviour and decision making of some structure owners or managers can cause an impact and better sharing of information may help this.

4.2 Are there areas where no new structure should be located?

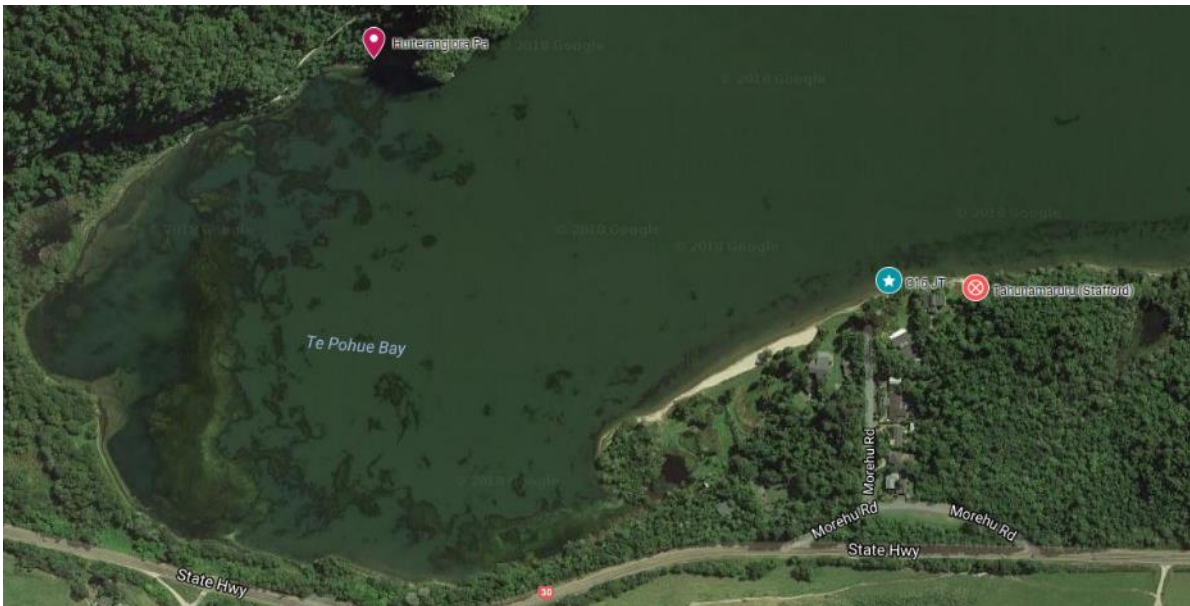
There should be no additional structures for private use located on Lake Rotoehu to ensure that the health and wellbeing of the lake is maintained. New structures that encourage shared use may be considered.

If replacement structures are built these should be in clusters or groups with other structures.

The hapū and iwi landowners reserve the right to erect a small number of structures at some time in the future however these will be in an area that has no impact on cultural values, and encourages shared use by hapū members.

4.3 Structures at Te Pohue Bay

There is one structure – a jetty – located at Te Pohue Bay.



Stafford (1996) documents the presence of a site called Tahunamaruru, a traditional cultivation (maara), settlement and fishing ground.

The structures are not located near sites of significance that are scheduled within the Rotorua District Plan.

Based on a review of the NZAA database, no archaeological sites of Māori origin are located near the consented lake structures.

Cultural effects assessment

Type	Plate ID	Consent holder	Location	Assessment
Jetty	C16 JT	██████████ ██████████	Morehu Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from any sites of cultural significance.

4.4 Structures at Otautu Bay

There are 12 structures located at Otautu Bay.



Stafford (1996) documents an old settlement called Otautu or Ngatautu. The Otautu valley was noted as a place for gathering aruhe and potatoes. Stafford also noted that “It was in the shallow waters near the settlement of Otautu, that the people of Rotoehu sank their canoes to hide them from the army of Hongi Hika in 1823.”

The structures are not located near sites of significance that are scheduled within the Rotorua District Plan.

Based on a review of the NZAA database, no archaeological sites of Māori origin are located near the consented lake structures.

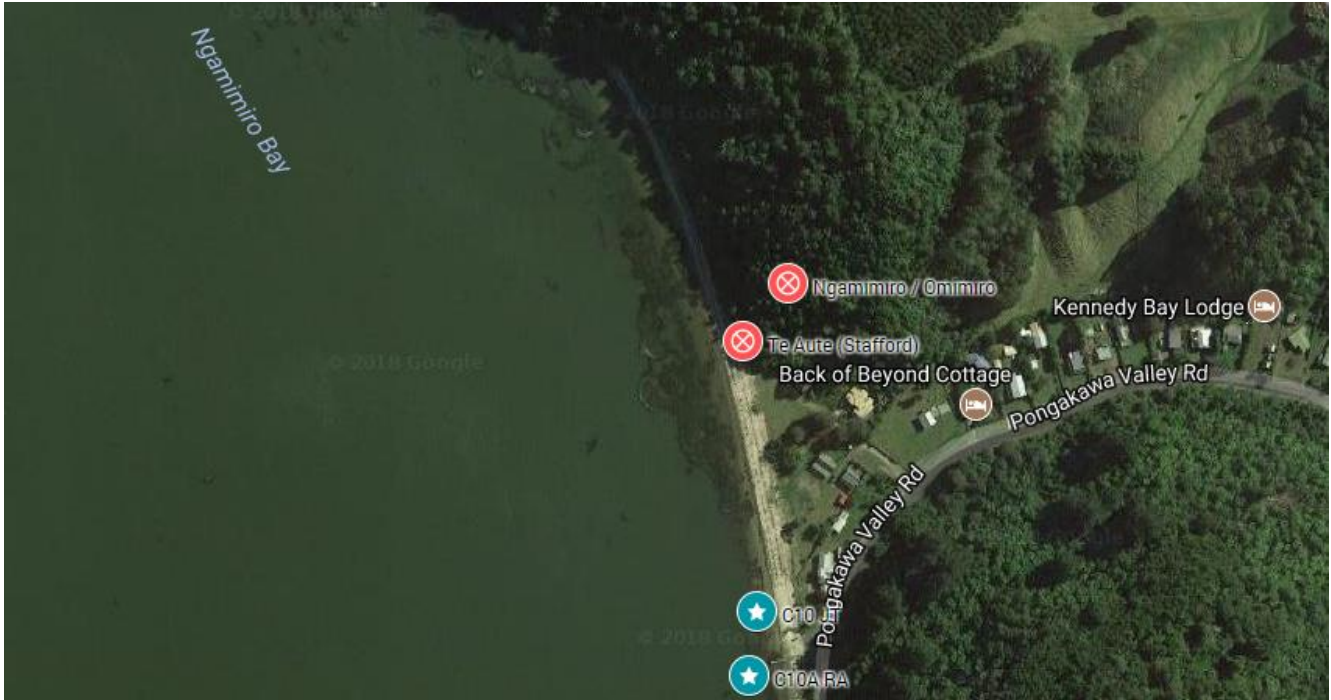
Cultural effects assessment

Type	Plate ID	Consent holder	Location	Assessment
Jetty	C1 JT	[REDACTED]	11 Tumai Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from any sites of cultural significance.
Jetty	C2 JT	[REDACTED]	Otautu Bay	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from any sites of cultural significance.

Type	Plate ID	Consent holder	Location	Assessment
Boat shed	C3 BS	██████████ ██████████	Otautu Bay	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from any sites of cultural significance.
Boat shed	C4 BS	██████████	Otautu Bay	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from any sites of cultural significance.
Boat shed	C4A BS	██████████ ██████████ ██████████	Otautu Bay	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from any sites of cultural significance.
Floating Wetlands	Floating Wetlands	██████████ ██████████	Otautu Bay	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from any sites of cultural significance.
Jetty	C6 JT	██████████ ██████████	Otautu Bay	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from any sites of cultural significance.
Ramp	C6 RA	██████████ ██████████	Otautu Bay	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from any sites of cultural significance.
Jetty	C10 JT	██████████ ██████████	Kennedy Bay	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from any sites of cultural significance.
Ramp	C10A RA	██████████ ██████████	Kennedy Bay	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from any sites of cultural significance.
Jetty	C5 JT	██████████ ██████████	11 Chingford Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from any sites of cultural significance.
Pontoon	C7 PF	██████████	11A Chingford Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from any sites of cultural significance.

4.5 Ngamimiro/Kennedy Bay

There are two structures located at Kennedy Bay. Rotorua Lakes Council holds the resource consents for the ramp and jetty.



Stafford (1996) documents the presence of an important settlement and cultivation area known as Ngamimiro or Omimiro. Its lake-edge garden was known as Te Aute with a thermal spring nearby. Cabbage tree, prized flax and aruhe (edible fern root) were grown there.

Cultural effects assessment

Type	Plate ID	Consent holder	Location	Assessment
Jetty	C10 JT	[REDACTED]	Kennedy Bay	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from any sites of cultural significance.
Ramp	C10A RA	[REDACTED]	Kennedy Bay	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from any sites of cultural significance.

5 Recommendations

5.1 Recommendations for existing lake structures

1. Duration of consents to not exceed 10 years.
2. Replacement of existing structures only is allowed and ensures consistency with respect to size, age and shared use.
3. Replacement structures should be located in clusters or groups with other structures.
4. Structures are supported that encourage shared use of the Lakes and minimise the need for an increase for private use.
5. Work with Ngati Pikiao to identify alternative access to mahinga kai areas and enable shared use of lake structures for this purpose.
6. Encourage weed spraying/management occurs around structures and along other shoreline areas to support better access for mahinga kai.
7. Require removal of those structures that are made from materials causing a detrimental effect on the lake water quality.
8. Require removal of structures that are no longer in use and/ or can cause a hazard to Lake users.
9. Seek alternative more sustainable and environmentally friendly timber/materials to build and replace structures.
10. Require monitoring and removal of siltation as a result of structures being present.
11. Structure owners/applicants to be provided with and asked to familiarise themselves with iwi environmental management plans and Te Tūāpapa on nga Wai o Te Arawa.
12. Signage placed on public boat ramps and near places of interest with regard to hapū and iwi relationship with the area.

5.2 New Structures on Lake Rotoehu

1. There should be no additional structures for private use located on Lake Rotoehu to ensure that the health and wellbeing of the lake is maintained.
2. New structures that encourage shared use may be considered.
3. The hapū and iwi landowners reserve the right to erect a small number of structures at some time in the future however these will be located in an area that has no impact on cultural values, encourages shared use by hapū members.

Appendix 1 Engagement Feedback

1 November– TALT, Haupapa Street

Present – [REDACTED]

ROTOEHU

- Cap at current number of structures, replacement of existing
- Primarily Maori Landowners
- Ensure consistency
- Support 10 years consent not 35 years
- Same provisions for Rotoma

9 October – TALT, Haupapa Street

Present – [REDACTED]

ALL LAKES incl ROTOEHU/ROTOMA

- Blanket position no new structures, health first and foremost
- Currently 'more wood than water'
- Concern around commercial activity and structures. NP advised there is significant value in our water, commercial free reign by all, NP missing out on these opportunities also
- Leasing and royalties, how can NP be included in this process
- Support a Te Arawa wide perspective in this exercise to ensure a cover all approach
- Re-establish Marae mandate
- For mapping of cultural sites refer [REDACTED] and Don Stafford Volume 2

21 July 2017– Taheke Marae, Koeke Hui

ALL LAKES incl ROTOEHU/ROTOMA

- Seek alternative more sustainable and environmentally friendly timber/materials to build structures as opposed to tanalised wood
- Issue with build-up of silt around structures
- Weed spraying targets only areas around structures, remaining kilometres of shoreline an issue
- Structure owners/applicants to familiarise themselves with iwi environmental management plans

Te Tuapapa Engagement 2015

The process of developing Te Tuapapa o nga wai o Te Arawa (Te Arawa Cultural Values Framework) involved engagement with Te Arawa whānui from February to April 2015. This included three hui-a-Iwi, an online survey, a rangatahi hui and an advisory group hui.

Engagement feedback of relevance to lakes structures:

Aspirations regarding recreational use:	Active involvement	Rangatahi Feedback
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More walkways • Maintain access to the lakes • More waka, less motors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our people are fully engaged and active in the management and restoration of the lakes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More jumping spots • Too much rocks (riprap) • More toilets around swimming spots • Want water slides like Tikitapu used to have

22 February – Ngati Makino Iwi Trust meeting

The Ngati Makino Iwi Trust wish to undertake a hui-a-iwi and wānanga with their koeke in relation to Lakes Structures and cultural mapping. There process will include an assessment of the impacts of the structures on the mauri of the lake.

Unfortunately at the time of submitting this report this wānanga had not been undertaken and a direct conversation with Ngati Makino in relation to this report will be required to include their input.