

Lake Okareka CULTURAL MAPPING REPORT

Prepared by Te Arawa Lakes Trust



Photo: NZHerald

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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.

It should be noted that prior to the Te Arawa Lakes Trust settlement iwi/hapū associated to the lakes had little or no input into the day-to-day management of the lakes, despite having many wāhi tapu and sites of significance in and around them. Thus little or no consideration was given to the appropriate location or placement of lake structures. This exercise by recognising and providing for the relationship of tangata whenua to their rohe, enables tangata whenua the opportunity, through Te Arawa Lakes Trust, to assess the cultural impact of existing lake structures on their roto and sites of cultural significance.

1.2 Report Purpose

There are approximately 66 resource consents for lake structures associated with Lake Okareka which expired in 2017/2018. For this report a clustered approach was taken to assess existing lake 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 Okareka
- Issues of significance and recommendations associated with lakes structures on or adjacent to Lake Okareka.
- Recommendations for BOPRC when considering the renewal of the resource consents

1.3 Methodology

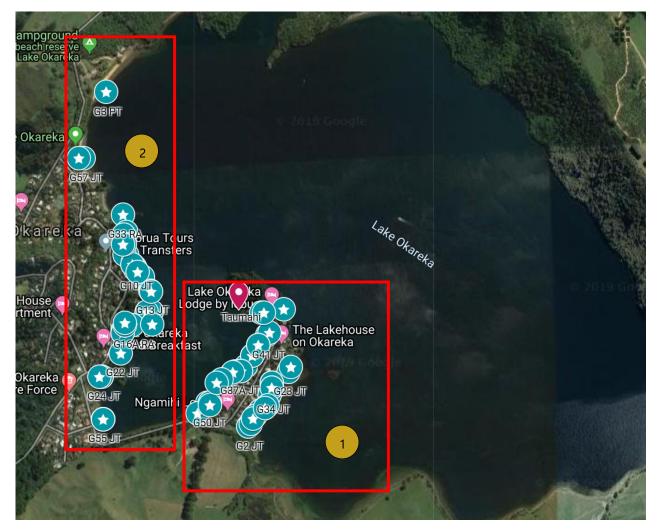
The following methodology was used:

- Display current resource consents information, as at November 2016, onto a GIS viewer dated December 2006 (post Te Arawa Lakes Trust settlement September 2006).
- Review base information about Lake Okareka e.g. relevant Iwi and hapū management plans.

• Engage with hapū to discuss the impact of lake structures on cultural values and associations.

2 Structures on Lake Okareka

Detailed maps in relation to these lake structures are provided in Section 4.3.



1. Taumaihi

2. Acacia Bay to Boyes Beach

3 Cultural Significance of Lake Okareka

Lake Okareka is of great significance to Tuhourangi and Ngāti Tarawhai.

95% of the lands surrounding Lake Okareka, known by tangata whenua as Akakahia-Okareka were occupied and cultivated extensively by the various Tuhourangi hapū Uruhina, Umararoa and Te Anumatao.

Taumaihi pa is a site of cultural significance and registered with the NZ Archaeological Association. This pa was once occupied by the Tangaroamihi hapū of which Hinemihi the ancestress belonged. Other pa sites surrounding Lake Okareka include Huiterangiora and Peria. Other sites of significance include Te Mutuiti (near Ohorongo), Te Kohatu near Taumaihi pa, Te Kaharoa, north side of Okareka, and Otahu west side of lake Okareka.

Mahinga kai sites include bird snaring forests Hineraupo, Tuwiriwiri and Matawhero. Matahaura, Te Kene, Te Papa, Te Whata, Te Whiu, Tahuri, Te Hopehuria and Merepeka were named cultivations. Indigenous fish, such as koaro and bullies, are present, along with koara and kakahi.

Lake structures existed when pa were established all around Lake Okareka. This included mooring areas from which Tuhourangi operated tours to and from the well travelled path from Okareka to Te Wairoa, Lake Tarawera and on to the Landing area to Te Otukapuarangi (Pink) and Te Tarata (White) Terraces on Lake Rotomahana.

In 1878, a visitor to Lake Okareka, Loch Katrine of Scotland wrote "Okareka is romantically pretty. There are canoes on Okareka, and by arranging with the natives, tourists may embark on the lake, and inspect its manifold, and then, if it is thought proper, start from the other side of it for the Wairoa settlement."

This launching area at the southern end of Lake Okareka was a kāinga inhibited by the Tuhourangi people. Namely Te Marua Opawhero block was made up of numerous pa kainga, cultivations, and many wahi tapu.

Mooring structures, tau koura pou, fishing and boundary marker posts are examples of traditional structures which were present in Lake Okareka prior to the crown acquisition of lands since the Tarawera eruption in 1886 and the built up development and settlement of non-maori to the area.

3.1 Engagement Feedback

Interviews and hui were held with hapū and iwi members whose rohe extends around the shores of Lake Okareka and Lake Tarawera.

Particular care must be given to keep the details of the locations, events, or activities that established these sites as "sites of significance" with the specific hapū and iwi. It is important that the report confirms there is a specific value associated with a site and that an existing structure or associated activity might be causing an impact and following on how this might be mitigated or otherwise.

3.3 Iwi Environmental Management Plans

The <u>Tuhourangi iwi planning document</u> outlines the area of interest for Tuhourangi. By maunga their rohe encompasses Moerangi featuring the northern boundary to Haparangi and the Horohoro bluffs to the west, south to Kakaramea or Rainbow Mountain to the eastern identity of Ruawahia more commonly known as Tarawera. Waterways feature in the IMP as an important taonga to Tuhourangi and states Okareka as part of the area of interest.

It should be noted that Tuhourangi Tribal Authority are currently reviewing their lwi Management Plan which will assist local and central government in assessing cultural impacts around their lakes.

<u>Ngāti Tarawhai</u> are in the process of scoping the development of an lwi Environmental Management Plan.

3.3 Scheduled or Recorded Sites

Lake Okareka is covered under the Lakes A Zone of the Rotorua Lakes Council District Plan. There are many known Maori archaeological and heritage sites around Lakes Okareka, two are listed with the NZAA.

Equally there are many sites of significance around Lake Okareka only known by tangata whenua. Their locations have not been made public as they are of high cultural value and identification may undermine the integrity of the site. Direct consultation with lwi is therefore required to ensure activities do not impact these undisclosed sites.

4 Impact of Lake Structures

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

There are a number of bays on Lake Okareka where there exists an over abundance or proliferation of structures that inhibit tangata whenua from accessing materials and mahinga kai and continuing their tradition of harvesting koura. These are highlighted in Appendix 3 Maps and Assessments.

The installation of structure and retaining walls made of timber and concrete inhibit the recruitment of koura in the lake fringes. The use of rocks as a construction material is preferred by hapū and iwi in creating habitat for taonga fish i.e koura. Any existing retaining walls requiring repair and or maintenance must incorporate this material to provide for this impact to be mitigated over time. The installation of walls for aesthetic purposes i.e beyond areas requiring repair is prohibited.

Lake Structures that are for public access are valued as they enable greater access for hapū and iwi to their Lakes. It is noted however that hapū and iwi consider the lands and waters where the structures are located as their traditional lands and waters which are now available for use by all.

Being known for manaakitanga and generosity is of great importance to hapū and iwi and the sharing of these areas is considered in this context. The issue is the lack of recognition of the traditional and historical association of the hapū and iwi with these places. Mitigation at these sites could include the installation of Pou, story telling mechanisms and other features to enhance the understanding of residents and visitors to the area of the original occupants and their mana whenua. These could be placed on the land near the structure or in the water. In the past Pou would be placed in the lake to mark events, sites of importance, fishing grounds etc. Reinstatement of this practice would be an important symbol with regard to acknowledging the relationship between hapū and iwi and the lakes and land.

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

There should be <u>no additional structures for private use</u> located on Lake Okareka to ensure that the health and wellbeing of the lake is maintained. <u>This includes new structures attached to existing</u> <u>structures e.g. boatlifters which exclude public access to those areas of structures including the lakebed area directly below.</u>

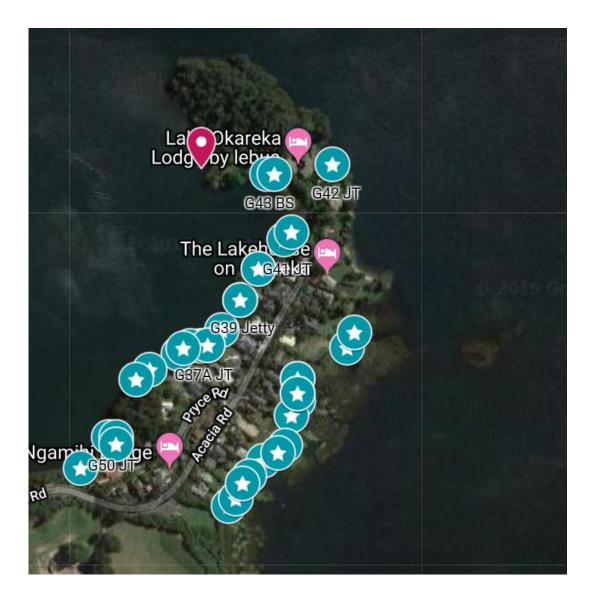
The current policy of the Te Arawa Lakes Trust is to reduce the number of structures having an impact on cultural values. Structures that encourage shared use will be considered.

All policies relating to new structures are outlined in the Te Arawa Lakes Structure policy. It should be noted that the Te Arawa Lakes Trust Environment Management Plan and its policies relating to structures will supersede the Lake Structure policy from August 2019.

The hapū and iwi landowners reserve the right to erect a small number of structures at some time in the future and will enhance cultural values and encourage shared use by hapū members.

Appendix 3 Area Maps and Assessments

Map 1. Taumaihi



Туре	Plate ID	Consent holder	Location	Assessment
Jetty	G2 JT		59 Acacia Bay	Less than minor adverse effects.
			Road	Based on current information sources, the structure is located
				away from sites of significance

Cultural Mapping Report: Lake Okareka, July 2019

		however within 100m of an existing structure
G4 JT	61 Acacia Bay Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from sites of significance however within 100m of an existing structure
G5 JT	63 Acacia Bay Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from sites of significance however within 100m of an existing structure
G48 JT	65 Acacia Bay Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from sites of significance however within 100m of an existing structure
G47 JT	69 Acacia Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from sites of significance however within 100m of an existing structure
G52 JT	69 Acacia Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from sites of significance however within 100m of an existing structure. Formation of structures inhibit access to shoreline
G49	71-73 Acacia Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from sites of significance however within 100m of an existing structure. Proliferation of structures inhibits access to shoreline. Excessive.

G35 BS	75 Acacia Bay Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located away from sites of significance however within 100m of an existing structure
G34 JT	77 Acacia Bay Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G46 JT	79 Acacia Bay Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G46A JT	79 Acacia Bay Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure

	Note - appears to be an unmarked/unconsented structure either side of Jetty G146 – please provide furthe information.	ЭГ
G45 JT	81 Acacia Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure. Jetty surrounded by vegetation with no clear access to or from lake without disturbing vegetation. Reassess length of jetty required, if redundant.
G45A BS	81 Acacia Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G23 JT	89 Acacia Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G44 JT	91 Acacia Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G42 JT	103 Acacia Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance

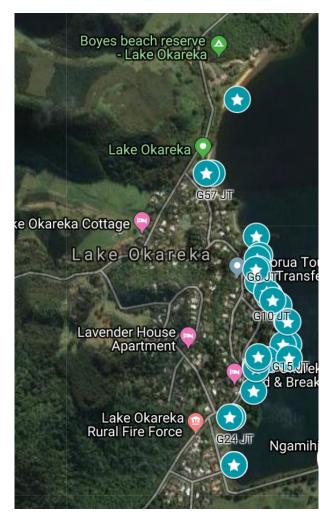
		and within 100m of an existing structure
G43A RA	103 Acacia Road	More than Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G43 BS	103 Acacia Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G41A BS	Acacia Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G41A BS	Acacia Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G41 JT	Acacia Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G40 JT	76 Acacia Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G40A RA	76 Acacia Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure. Private Boat Ramps pose significant bio-security risks.

G39 Jetty	74 Acacia Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G39A Boat shed	74 Acacia Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G38	70 Acacia Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G37A JT	66 Acacia Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G37 BS	66 Acacia Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G37B SW	66 Acacia Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G58 JT	1 Pryce Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G56 JT	5 Pryce Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m

		of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G36	Lake Okareka	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G62 JT	7 Pryce Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G51 JT	Lake Okareka	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G50 JT	■ 19 Pryce Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
G50A SW	19 Pryce Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 400m of a cultural site of significance and within 100m of an existing structure
GEO JT GEO JT GEO JT GEOLARA	Note - appears to be an unmarked/unconsented pontoc G50 Jetty– please provide detail	
G61A RA	17 Pryce Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within within 100m of an existing structure.

	Private Boat Ramps pose
	significant bio-security risks.

Map 2. Acacia Bay to Boyes Beach



Туре	Plate ID	Consent holder	Location	Assessment
	G60 JT		50 Acacia Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure
	G55 JT		Acacia road	Less than minor effects. Public structures provide lake access for

		our people. Recent resource consent approval given for the upgrade of structures
G55A RA		Less than minor effects. Public structures provide lake access for our people. Recent resource consent approval given for the upgrade of structures
G55B RA		Less than minor effects. Public structures provide lake access for our people. Recent resource consent approval given for the upgrade of structures
G55C RA		Less than minor effects. Public structures provide lake access for our people. Recent resource consent approval given for the upgrade of structures
G25 BS	Okareka Loop Road	Less than minor effects. Public structures provide lake access for our people. Recent resource consent approval given for the upgrade of structures
G62 JT	Okareka Loop Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure
G24 JT	Okareka Loop Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure
G24A BS	Okareka Loop Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure
G22 JT	Okareka Loop Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure
G20 JT	Lake Okareka	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information

		sources, the structure within 100m of an existing structure however away from sites of significance
G19 BS	Lake Okareka	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure within 100m of an existing structure however away from sites of significance
G17 BS	Lake Okareka	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure within 100m of an existing structure however away from sites of significance
G26 JT	Lake Okareka	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure within 100m of an existing structure however away from sites of significance
G53 BS	Lake Okareka	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure within 100m of an existing structure however away from sites of significance
G16A RA	1 Calder Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure. Private Boat Ramps pose significant bio- security risks.
G16 JT	1 Calder Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure
G15 JT	5 Calder Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure

G15A BS	5 Calder Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure
G59 JT	11 Calder Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure
G13 JT	13 Calder Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure
G12 JT	15 Calder Rd	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure
G11 JT	Calder Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure
G54 JT	19 Calder Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure
G10 JT	21 Calder Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure
G10A SW	21 Calder Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure
G009 BS	43 Okareka Loop Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure

G8 J1		45/47 Okareka	Less than minor adverse effects.
		Loop Road	Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure
G8A	RA	45/47 Okareka Loop Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure. However, private boat ramps pose a significant biosecurity risk.
G7 J1		49 Okareka Loop Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure
G78	SW	49 Okareka Loop Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure
G6B	RA	51 Okareka Loop Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure. However, private boat ramps pose a significant biosecurity risk.
G6 JT		51 Okareka Loop Road	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure
G33	RA	57 Okareka Loop Road	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure. However, private boat ramps pose a significant biosecurity risk.
G57 .	JT	21 Steep Street	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure
G57A	A BR	23 Steep Street	Minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the

			structure is located within 100m of an existing structure. However, private boat ramps pose significant biosecurity risks.
G	i3 PT	Boyes Beach Reserve	Less than minor adverse effects. Based on current information sources, the structure is located within 100m of an existing structure

5 Recommendations

5.1 Recommendations for existing lake structures

- 1. Assessments of these structures are made on the basis they are within their original footprint as at Sept 2006, the TALSA. All structures maintained and or extended outside of the original footprint and have not received prior approval from Te Arawa Lakes Trust will require assessment and approval.
- 2. Consistency with respect to size, age and shared use is expected with replacement structures. A new consent will be required if the replacement structure is not within the current footprint and the character of the structure is not consistent with what is existing.
- 3. There is a separate process for retaining walls that re not consented.
- 4. Duration of consents not to exceed 10 years
- 5. Replacement structures that encourage shared use of the Lakes and minimise the need for an increase for private use will be considered favourably.
- 6. Work with the hapū and iwi of Lake Okareka to identify alternative access to mahinga kai areas and enable shared use of lake structures for this purpose.
- 7. Encourage weed management occurs around structures and along other shoreline areas to support better access for mahinga kai.
- 8. Require removal of structures that are no longer in use.
- 9. Require removal of rail lines where they are no longer in use and cause hazards.
- 10. Require monitoring of koura populations and undertake removal of siltation.
- 11. Structure owners/applicants to be provided with and asked to familiarise themselves with iwi environmental management plans and Te Tūāpapa.

- 12. In regard to public structures it is recommended that there is installation of Pou and appropriate signage to acknowledge the hapū and iwi. These can act as markers for sites of significance and near places of interest in the vicinity. This will be undertaken with hapū and iwi associated with each part of the Lake.
- 13. An inventory of structures is undertaken on Lake Okareka as there appear to be Structures on the Lake that do not have a current consent or plate number.
- 14. Existing public infrastructure is maintained and developed to ensure hapū and iwi have ongoing and enhanced access to Lake Okareka
- 15. A minimum standard for the maintenance and upgrade of retaining walls that are specifically for erosion control is developed to enable structure owners to install, maintain and manage erosion Effectively. This protects the sedimentation control into the lake and provides habitat protection for taonga fish species.
- 16. The above recommendations do not apply to retaining or structure walls for aesthetic, private access or recreational purposes.

Section 4 of this report provides the detail of the assessment of effects for each Structure. The table below provides recommendations based on the assessment of effects.

Effects of Existing Structures	Recommendations		
Located on wahi tapu sites of significance	 Non-renewal and removal of structures 		
Location within 100m of existing structures	 Non-renewal of consents and removal of "like" structures to maintain 100m minimum distance. Aligns to TALT lake structure policy to reduce number of structures and encourage sharing. Consent conditions or advice note includes monitoring (community wide) and removal of pest weeds to maintain habitat for taonga species ie koura and kākahi Removal of structures that are illegal and or no longer in use 		
Location within 400m of sites of significance	 Non-renewal of consents and removal to maintain 400m minimum distance 		
Commercial and Public Structures	 Commercial and local authority access structures are to be accessible for public use 		

5.2 New Structures on Lake Okareka

- 1. Assessment of structures maintained and or extended outside of the original footprint post Te Arawa Lakes Settlement Act (TALSA) of 2006 and has not received approval from Te Arawa Lakes Trust.
- All owners of new structures and structure extensions post TALSA, regardless of the scale of extension, must hold a lease with Te Arawa Lakes Trust. Section 41 (1)(a) of the Te Arawa Lakes Settlement Act states new structures "in or on" the lakebed require written consent of Trustees.
- 3. It is preferred that future structures on Lake Okareka enable shared use. Structures that encourage shared use will be considered favourably.
- 4. The hapū and iwi landowners reserve the right to erect structures at some time in the future however these will be located in areas that have no impact on cultural values, and encourages shared use.
- 5. Structures that support the ability of Te Arawa hapū and iwi to undertake cultural practices reinstate traditional activities and enable whakapapa connections to be strengthened and celebrated should be allowed.
- 6. A minimum standard for the installation of walls that are control erosion and create a habitat for taonga fish i.e koura is developed
- 7. Those hapū and iwi who have mana whenua will be consulted in respect of any new structures on the Okareka Lake Bed particularly in design should the structure meet the Lakes Structure Policy minimum requirements.
- 8. Any future structures and consents must make mandatory environmental contribution to the on-going health and wellbeing of Lake Okareka.

Appendix 1 Engagement

2018

Te Tūāpapa Engagement 2015

The process of developing Te Tūāpapa 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 Active involvement Rangatahi Feedback recreational use: - More walkways - Our people are fully - More jumping spots engaged and active in the - Maintain access to the lakes - Too much rocks (riprap) management and restoration - More waka, less motors - More toilets around of the lakes swimming spots - Want water slides like Tikitapu used to have