

Glossary

algae	a mainly aquatic photosynthetic organism that differs from plants in not having true leaves, roots, or stems
bacterial pollutant	pollutants such as human waste
benthic	very bottom of the lake where it is cold and dark
bioaccumulation	the process by which compounds accumulate or build up in an organism at a rate faster than they can be broken down
biodegradable	able to decompose naturally
caldera	large crater at the top of a volcano
catchment	land that drains into a lake or river
contaminant	substance that makes something not pure
cyanobacteria	a group of unicellular photosynthetic organisms without a well-defined nucleus; sometimes called “blue-green algae” although they are not actually algae
decomposer	an organism that breaks down organic matter into simpler compounds and eventually into inorganic matter; examples include bacteria and fungi
dispersal	the distribution or scattering of over an area
ecosystem	a community of living things along with their environment
epilimnion	warm low density water at the top of a lake
eutrophication	changes that occur after a water body receives nutrient inputs; usually includes high biological productivity resulting in reduced visibility of the water and decreased oxygen supply
fertiliser	any substance used to make soil more fertile
filtration	the process of passing through or putting something through a filter
food chain	a linear depiction of energy flow; each organism feeds on and derives energy from the preceding organism
food web	a complex network of many interconnected feeding relationships; a more realistic portrayal of energy flow than a food chain
greywater	waste water from such sources as a washing machine
groundwater	water that has been underground rather than surface water
habitat	the natural conditions and environment, for example forest or wetlands, in which a plant or animal lives
hinaki	net for catching eels
horticultural farming	farming plants
hypolimnion	the cold dense water at the bottom of a lake
ignimbrite	type of volcanic rock
ihi	shudder, power
inanga	smelt (freshwater whitebait)
inputs	something that enters a process or situation from the outside and is then acted upon or integrated

kakahi	freshwater mussel
kainga	home/houses
kaitiakitanga	guardianship of resources to ensure future use
karakia	prayer
kautiaki	spirit from blessed water
korapa	flat oval shape
koroua	a respected older man
kotare	kingfisher
koura	freshwater crayfish
kuia	a respected older women
land use	the use the land is being put to e.g. land use may be horticultural, residential etc
leaching	refers to substances such as nutrients oozing/leaking into a waterway
limnetic	open water area of the lake that still gets a lot of sunlight
littoral	shallow water area, near the lake edge
macroinvertebrates	animal large enough to see without a microscope
macrophytes	plant large enough to see without a microscope
Mana	power or prestige
manuka	teatree
mataku	fear or afraid
matuku	bittern (bird)
microorganisms	a tiny organism such as a protozoan, or bacterium that can only be seen under a microscope
monitoring	using various techniques to check for the presence and concentration of phytoplankton and/or toxins that have be related to harmful algal blooms
moteatea	lament
neutralise	to make something ineffective
nitrites	a chemical component of some fertilisers
non point-source discharge	source of pollution coming from a wide area (or a hard to specify a specific site)
nutrient	any number of inorganic or organic compounds used primary in nutrition; nutrients are cycled through food webs
organism	a living thing such as a plant, animal, virus, or bacterium
outputs	an amount of something produced or manufactured
patupaiarehe	fairy folk
pastoral farming	farming animals
phosphates	a chemical component of some fertilisers
photosynthesis	the process of using the sun's energy to convert carbon dioxide and water into carbohydrates and oxygen; carried out by green plants, algae and cyanobacteria
phytoplankton	very small free-floating aquatic plants such as one-celled algae

plankton	a mass of tiny animals and plants floating in lakes usually near the surface and eaten by fish and other aquatic animals. They are suspended or floating, and do not have sufficient swimming abilities to avoid transport by major water movements
point-source discharge	source of pollution coming from a single cause or place
pokeka	poetic saying or expression
pollution	the condition of being polluted, or the presence of pollutants
primary producer	an organism that makes organic material from inorganic material; an autotroph; examples include plants, phytoplankton, and some bacteria
profundal	deep open-water area of a lake
quality	the general standard or grade of something
raurauhe	bracken fern
renewable	something that can be used over and over again without running out
resource consent	permission needed for any activity that may affect the environment
raupo	water reeds
rhyolite	a fine-grained acid rock that is the volcanic form of granite
riparian strip	strip along the margin of a stream often fenced off and planted
run-off	fresh water from rain, snow and ice that flows on the ground into streams, lakes, wetlands and oceans
sediment	material eroded from preexisting rocks that is transported by water, wind, or ice and deposited elsewhere
stormwater	rain. It either becomes run-off on the surface or subsurface run-off under the ground. Both types of run-off flows into waterways or storm sewers
surfacewater	water that remains above ground
sustainable	exploiting natural resources without destroying the ecological balance of a particular area
taonga	treasure
tapu	sacred
tau	traditional device for catching koura
thermocline	this layer stops the mixing of the waters with the temperature decreasing from the top of the layer to the bottom
tohunga	high priest
top consumer	the terminal organism of a food web or chain; often does not have a natural predator
topographic map	the features on the surface of a particular area of land
toxic pollutant	chemical pollutant
toxin	a chemical compound from one organism that is harmful to another organism
trophic	relating to food or nutrition
trophic level index	TLI – index calculated from four measured lake water quality parameters: total nitrogen (TN), total phosphorus (TP), chlorophyll (CHLA) concentration, and secchi disc water clarity (SD)
waiata	song
waitai	sea water