



Rotomanuka Lakes Community Restoration Action Plans



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To develop a Community Catchment Restoration Action Plan

The Rotomanuka Lakes are peat lakes situated in the Waipa Region of the Waikato.

They are linked hydrologically to Lake Serpentine as well as to the wider Waipa river catchment through an extensive drainage network. The Waipa River flows into the Waikato at Ngaruawahia. Therefore the water quality in these lakes has an effect on the Waikato River.

The Rotomanuka Lakes are made up of two open water areas - Rotomanuka North and Rotomanuka South. Rotomanuka North has 12.3 hectares of open water and a maximum depth of 8.7 metres, while Rotomanuka South has five hectares of open water and a maximum depth of 4.8 metres. The Rotomanuka catchment is pastoral, surrounded on all sides by intensive dairy farming.

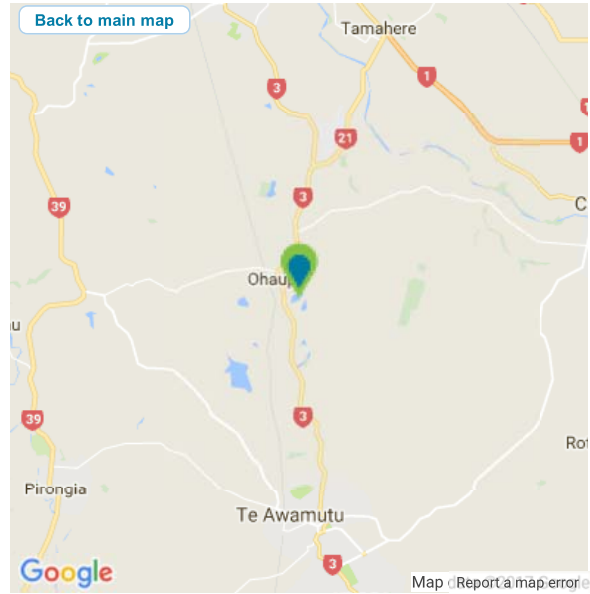
Results from water quality monitoring carried out by Waikato Regional Council show that Lake Rotomanuka North is eutrophic, and that Lake Rotomanuka South is hypertrophic. Water monitoring shows the water quality of the lakes is degrading over time due to increased nutrients and sediments entering the lakes mostly from surrounding land use. In order to improve the water quality and the surrounding wetland buffer of the Rotomanuka Lakes, the NZ Landcare Trust intends to develop a Community Catchment Restoration Action Plan.

This will focus directly on the farms within the catchment. The Community Catchment Restoration Action Plan will provide farmers and agencies working in the catchment with a prioritised list of what actions can be taken to improve the water quality of the lakes over time e.g. fencing drains and riparian planting.

The project will identify landowners willing to host community planting days. The project will carry out four planting days within wetland margins and at strategic locations on farms as well as one sustainable drainage management workshop.

This project has been funded by the Waikato River Authority (WRA 11-061)

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