

Lake Tikitapu

INFOSHEET 11, JANUARY 2018

This information sheet has been prepared for Te Arawa whānau to summarise information about:

- *research and monitoring occurring on Lake Tikitapu.*
- *projects occurring on, and adjacent to Lake Tikitapu, particularly efforts to reduce the impacts of land use on lake water quality.*

It will be reviewed and updated annually.

NAME MEANING

The name of this lake is in reference to a Tikitapu (sacred greenstone neck ornament). In ancient times, the daughter of a high born chief was bathing in the crystal waters of the lake. Her tikitapu was lost while she swam. The blue waters of the lake are believed to still be hiding the pendant.

IWI /HAPŪ

Tuhourangi, Ngāti Rangitihi

AT A GLANCE

Lake size:	150 ha
Catchment area:	570 ha
Elevation:	415 m
Average depth:	18 m
Deepest point:	27.5 m

WATER QUALITY MONITORING

The Regional Council carries out regular monitoring of Lake Tikitapu:

- **Swimming water quality** – One site measured from October to June. Any health warnings are posted on the Regional Council and Toi Te Ora Public Health websites.

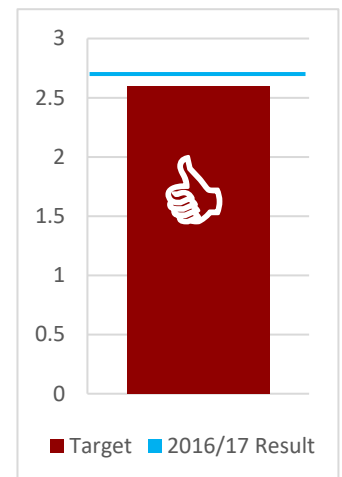


- **Scientific** – One site measured monthly for clarity, algae, phosphorous and nitrogen. Result articulated as an annual Trophic Level Index or TLI.

WATER QUALITY STATUS

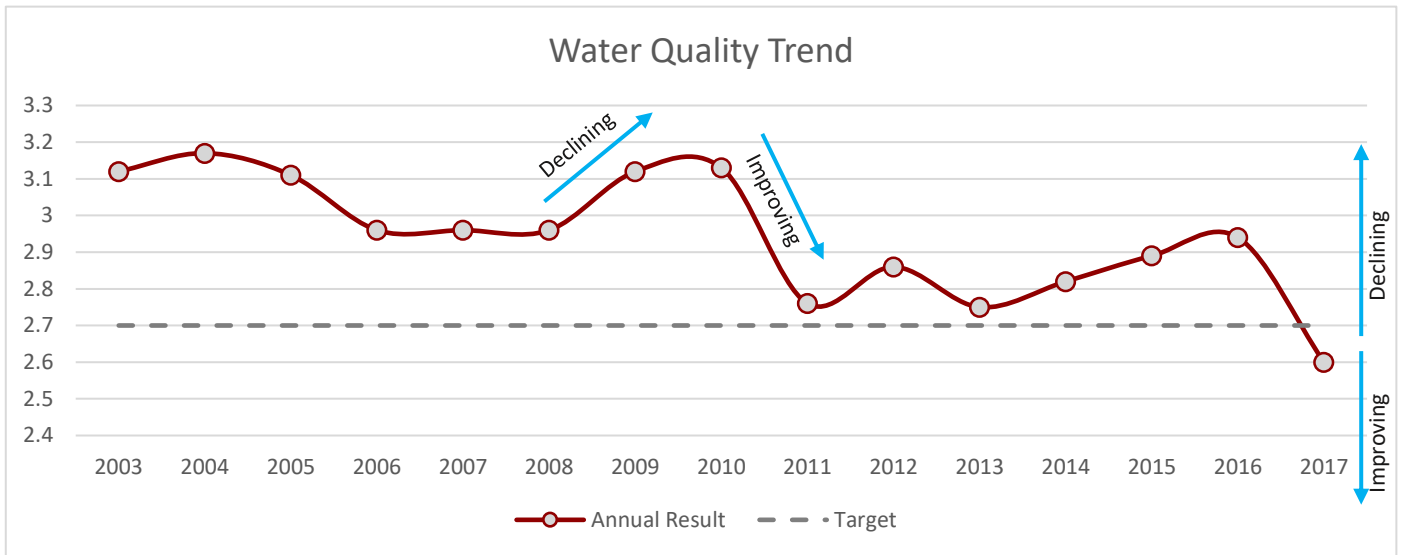
The Trophic Level Index (TLI) is used to give an overall picture of the health of Lake Tikitapu.

TLI target met. For the 2016/17 year, the TLI was 2.6, just below the target of 2.7.



WATER QUALITY TREND

Water quality has been progressively improving over the last 13 years.



TE ARAWA MONITORING

Te Arawa Lakes Trust is embarking on a project to measure and monitor the cultural health of Lake Tikitapu using indicators that are more meaningful to us. This may be based on the following:

- Can I swim here?
- Can I gather food here?

We will also continue working with Dr Ian Kusabs who monitors kōura populations in our lakes using tau (bracken fern bundles).

LAKE ACTION PLANS

Lake Tikitapu Action Plan 2011 - This Plan comprises five actions to improve the water quality in Lake Tikitapu. It includes projects and actions for the regional and district councils.

<http://www.rotorualakes.co.nz/vdb/document/74>

Lake Tarawera Restoration Plan 2015 - Lake Tikitapu is also covered by the actions within the Tarawera Lakes Restoration Plan as it is one of the outer catchment lakes.

<http://www.rotorualakes.co.nz/vdb/document/1049>

ACTION PLAN PROJECTS

Includes, but is not limited to:

Project	Status
Sewerage reticulation of existing toilet blocks and campground completed in October 2010	Completed
Cultural Monitoring - measure and monitor the cultural health of Lake Tarawera and all lakes that feed into it, including Lake Tikitapu. This project will be led by TALT.	In planning

WHERE TO FIND MORE INFORMATION

www.tearawa.iwi.nz
www.rotorualakes.co.nz
www.lawa.org.nz

Te Arawa Lakes Trust
 Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Programme
 Land Air Water Aotearoa