

Lake Ngāhewa

INFOSHEET 12, DECEMBER 2017

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

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

It will be reviewed and updated annually.

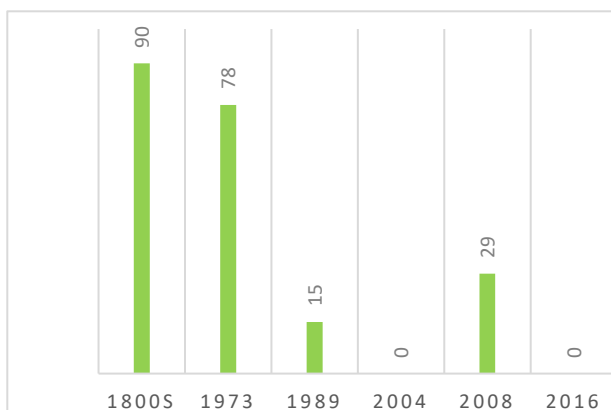
Lake Ngāhewa is a small shallow lake located just north of the Waioatau Thermal Area. It is a significant lake to Ngāti Tahu-Ngāti Whaoa.

WATER QUALITY MONITORING

The condition of the three Te Arawa Lakes within the Waikato Region, including Lake Ngāhewa, are assessed using the Submerged Plant Indicator or SPI. This looks at the amount of native and invasive plants and assigns a score – the higher the SPI, the better the water quality.

WATER QUALITY TREND

The water quality within Lake Ngāhewa declined significantly from the 1970's to the 1990s. In 2004 and 2016 the LakeSPI score is 0, which indicates a lake environment that is significantly degraded for plant growth.



3 LAKES ACTION PLAN

The 3 Lakes Action Plan seeks to protect, enhance and restore Lakes Ngāhewa, Tutaeinanga and Ngāpōuri. It involves an interagency approach, is led by Ngāti Tahu-Ngāti Whaoa Runanga Trust and funded by the Waikato River Authority.

ACTION PLAN PROJECTS

Includes, but is not limited to:

Project	Status
Wetland restoration of lake catchment –led by adjacent landowner and funded by the Waikato River Authority.	In Progress

RESEARCH

Research	Findings
NIWA Taonga Fish species, 2007	Kōaro were not present
NIWA Use of kākahi to reduce algae	Pilot study recommended for a small, shallow lake such as Lake Ngāhewa.
Tau kōura Monitoring 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No kōura captured in this survey. • Lake water quality improvements required before kōura populations can be re-established in the lake. • Common bullies were abundant.

