

Have your say on the draft Strategy for the Rotorua Lakes

The lakes of the Rotorua district are our taonga or treasures, and it is vital they be preserved for the enjoyment and use of present and future generations.

The Strategy for the Lakes of the Rotorua district has been refreshed, and we want your feedback.

Vision for the future of the Rotorua Lakes

The lakes of the Rotorua district and their catchments are preserved and protected for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations, while recognising and providing for the traditional relationship of Te Arawa with their ancestral lakes.

What is the Strategy?

The Strategy for the Lakes of the Rotorua district provides an overall management strategy for the lakes. It is an overarching policy document that gives a vision for the future, with some practical steps to achieve that vision.

The status and importance of the Strategy was formalised through the Deed of Settlement 2004 and the Te Arawa Lakes Settlement Act 2006. In this Act a joint committee, the Rotorua Te Arawa Strategy Group, was established made up of decision makers from Te Arawa Lakes Trust, Rotorua District Council and Bay of Plenty Regional Council. This Group is charged with overseeing the Strategy and providing leadership in implementing the vision.

The Strategy sets out why people value the lakes, their concerns and a vision for the future of the lakes. It also connects all the partner agencies involved with protecting and restoring the lakes and how they will manage the Rotorua lakes catchments.

Why a new strategy?

The existing strategy is now over 10 years old. While the vision remains as relevant today as it was in the past, many other things have changed. Relationships, knowledge and innovation have evolved since the first Strategy was developed.

A refreshed Strategy has been developed that retains the original vision. The new Strategy builds on the commitment of partner organisations to provide an integrated approach to managing the lakes and their catchments.

How was the new Strategy developed?

A collaborative project team with representatives from Rotorua District Council, Te Arawa Lakes Trust and Bay of Plenty Regional Council have overseen the development.

The community has also been involved. Workshops and meetings have captured what the community wants to achieve for the lakes and guide development of the Strategy.

Have your say

The draft Strategy for the Lakes of the Rotorua district sets out what the community wants to achieve for its lakes.

We want to know what you think about the Strategy. In particular:

- Has the Strategy captured how the vision for the lakes will be implemented?
- Have the key aspects in the themes - connected, iconic, prosperous – been captured?
- Are any of the goals and targets in the three key areas more important than others?
- Any other feedback you may have.

Send us your feedback by Friday 17 May 2013. Go to www.rotorualakes.co.nz to provide feedback online, email info@rotorualakes.co.nz or post a feedback form to Bay of Plenty Regional Council, PO Box 364, Whakatane.

Find out more

For a copy of the draft Strategy for the Lakes of the Rotorua district or a feedback form, visit www.rotorualakes.co.nz/strategy or pick up a copy from Bay of Plenty Regional Council office in Arawa Street, Rotorua District Council or Te Arawa Lakes Trust.

ROTORUA TE ARAWA LAKES PROGRAMME

For more information
call 0800 884 880 or
rotorualakes.co.nz



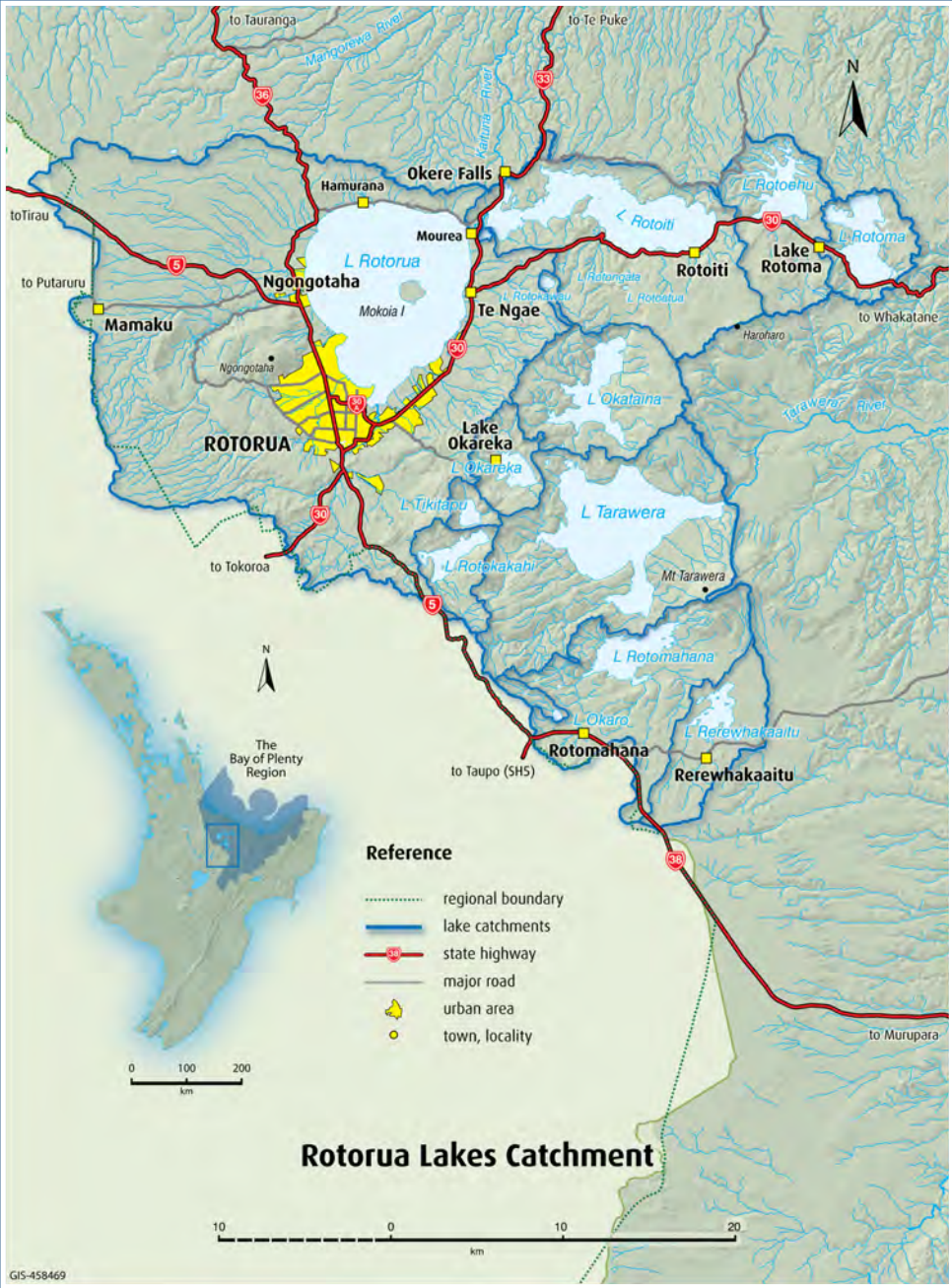
ROTORUA TE ARAWA LAKES PROGRAMME

What the Strategy covers

The area covered is the Rotorua lakes catchment, including rivers, streams, tributaries and land that feed into the 12 lake catchments. What happens in these catchments has downstream effects (Kaituna River, Maketū Estuary and Tarawera River). The Strategy acknowledges the concept Mai i nga maungā ki te moana – from the mountains to the sea.

The Rotorua lakes catchment¹ includes:

- Lake Ōkāreka
- Lake Ōkaro (or Ngākarō)
- Lake Ōkataina (te Moana-i-kataina-a-Te-Rangikaroro)
- Lake Rerewhakaaitu
- Lake Rotoehu
- Lake Rotoiti (Te Roto-kite-a-Ihenga-i-Ariki-ai-a-Kahumatamomoe)
- Lake Rotokakahi²
- Lake Rotomā
- Lake Rotomahana
- Lake Rotorua (Te Rotorua-nui-a-Kahumatamomoe)
- Lake Tarawera
- Lake Tikitapu



What's in the Strategy?

The Strategy aims to be clear, simple and easily understood. It sets out how the partner organisations will deliver the vision. The Strategy belongs to everyone who has an interest in the lakes, it is a holistic document that represents the voice of the Rotorua district community.

Consultation with the community has provided a modern interpretation of the protection, use, enjoyment and management themes outlined in the 2000 Strategy. The revised key elements are:

Connected	Iconic	Prosperous
Key focus areas		
Working together	Use and enjoyment	Sustainable economic opportunities and innovation
Recognise lakes catchment complexities	Water quality	Whanau/marae/hapu development
Integrating Te Arawa/iwi values	Natural environment	Certainty

Goals		
The Lakes Strategy is implemented collaboratively	The lakes catchment offer residents and lake users a range of high quality experiences	A developing lakes economy that supports resource use efficiency and improved water quality
The community is engaged and informed about lakes catchment issues	Nutrient inputs are reduced to levels which ensures water quality meets community expectations	A lakes catchment management framework that enables iwi to pursue sustainable business ideas and initiatives
Knowledge is linked to action and adaption occurs	The health of ecosystems including habitat for kai roto has improved since 2013	The lakes catchment makes a positive contribution to lake communities' sense of pride and belonging
The lakes catchment is managed through Te Arawa values		A lakes catchment management framework that provides certainty and enables landowners to plan for the future.

The Strategy seeks to achieve the vision by setting targets for each of these goals. Principles to guide the approach to lakes catchment management and implementation of the Strategy are included – a reflection of the importance to the community of participatory and collaborative processes.

¹ The Rotorua Lakes catchment excludes Lakes Ngahewa, Lake Ngapouri and Lake Tutaeinanga.
² Under legal guardianship of the Rotokakahi Control Board.