Central and East Northland

Uretiti Sand Quarry Lake (East Northland), NRC Lake No. 247B



Uretiti Sand Quarry Lake.

Summary	Uretiti Sand Quarry Lake
Surveyed:	2007
Overall ranking:	Low : Artificial water body with limited values. Likely to improve over time provided there is no further mining of the immediate area.
Threats:	Alligator weed had already colonised the lake, other introductions are seen as a low risk.
Management recommendations:	No monitoring.

Description

A 3 ha sand quarry lake (1731340E, 6023215N) adjacent to State Highway 1. The depth was not determined but is likely to be in excess of 5 m. Access was through private, with a track leading to the southern shore.

Wetland vegetation

Limited emergent vegetation was found, with Juncus *pallidus, Typha orientalis* and *Ludwigia palustris* recorded. The introduced invasive alligator weed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*) was locally established.

Submerged vegetation

Potamogeton ochreatus and Chara globularis were the only submerged vegetation noted.

Water birds

Australasian bittern, New Zealand dabchick and Australasian little grebe were recorded at the lake between 1999 and 2007 (Ray Pierce pers. comm.) (Waipu PNA surveys). The 2007 reconnaissance visit reported dabchick, shoveler, oystercatcher, nesting black-backed gulls and black swan.

Fish

None seen.

Aquatic invertebrates

None seen.

Endangered species

The At Risk Recovering dabchick were seen in 2007.

Lake Ecological Value

Lake Ecological Value score of 2 "Low", with limited values, although values are likely to improve over time provided there is no further mining of the immediate area.

Threats

Artificial water body, alligator weed had already colonised the lake, other introductions are seen as a low risk.

Management recommendations

No monitoring.