

Te Hiku

Morehu South 1 (Aupouri), NRC Lake No. (33).



Morehu South 1, a coastal dune lake set in wetland margin of Morehu mobile sand dunes, scrub and pine plantation forestry (photo 2010).

Summary	Morehu South 1
Surveyed:	2010 and 2016.
Overall ranking:	Moderate-Low: A small remote lake, with no submerged vegetation.
Threats:	Limited, due to the lake's isolation.
Management recommendations:	No monitoring

Description

The lake (2511075E, 6728439N) is small (0.71 ha), shallow 2.3 m deep, with a wetland and narrow shallow water connection to Morehu. The catchment is plantation forestry, lake and wetland. Access is along a very rough forest track, with no boat access except via Morehu.

Wetland vegetation

Emergent species encircled the lake in a band 30 to 70 m wide and was dominated by *Eleocharis sphacelata* (growing to a depth of 2 m) but also included *Machaerina juncea*, *M. arthropylla* and *Typha orientalis*.

Submerged vegetation

No submerged vegetation was present in 2016. In 2010, there were a few plants of *Nitella leonhardtii* and *Potamogeton cheesemaniae* in the shallows; otherwise *U. gibba* formed dense mats across the lake.

LakeSPI

Morehu South 1 is categorised as being in a non-vegetated condition with a LakeSPI Index of 0%.

Water birds

Fernbirds (*Bowdleria punctata vealeae*) were heard in 2010.

Fish

No fish were seen in 2016, but visibility was low. Common bullies (*Gobiomorphus cotidianus*) were seen in 2010.

Aquatic invertebrates

None reported in 2016. *Sigara* and three species of Odonata (1 damselfly and 2 dragonflies) were seen in 2010.

Endangered species

Apart from the At-Risk Declining fernbird, no endangered species were recorded.

Lake Ecological Value

Lake Ecological Value rating was 4 (Moderate to Low). There was no submerged vegetation recorded and water clarity was about 0.5 m and the water heavily stained.

Threats

Water quality impacts from catchment activities of forestry managers.

Access for vectors of pest species is difficult but introduced pest species could impact on this lake.

Management recommendations

No monitoring recommended at this lake as it is of low ecological value, very remote and additional impacts are unlikely.