

## Poutō Peninsula

Lake Wainui South 1 and 2 (Poutō), NRC Lakes No. 305A and B.



Lake Wainui South 1 and 2 adjacent to Lake Wainui. Note the steep sided pasture catchment. Google Earth 2019.

Summary	Wainui South 1 and 2
<b>Surveyed:</b>	2021 (reconnaissance of margins)
<b>Overall ranking:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Low:</b> A small turbid lake with apparently limited submerged vegetation, prone to nutrient enrichment. Fully fenced with narrow emergent fringe.</li><li><b>Moderate to Low:</b> A small clear lake with well-developed submerged vegetation. Fully fenced with narrow emergent fringe.</li></ol>
<b>Threats:</b>	Risk of pest introduction is low, but should these be introduced there would be major impacts on the lakes.
<b>Management recommendations:</b>	No monitoring.

## Description

Two small water bodies (1 – 0.36 ha 1679715E, 6004335N; 2 – 0.61 ha 1679810E, 6004215N) that would have been part of a much larger lake including Wainui. Situated in fully fenced, steep-sided pastoral catchment. An ephemeral surface inflow to the S of lake 2. Access across 1 km private farmland by 4-WD with no apparent boat launching areas.

## Wetland vegetation

Lake 1: Narrow (up to 5 m) marginal fringe around the shoreline dominated by *Eleocharis sphacelata* and *Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani*. The pest plant primrose willow (*Ludwigia peploides*) and the native *Persicaria decipiens* were noted at the western end of the lake.

Lake 2: Narrow (up to 5 m) marginal fringe around the shoreline dominated by *Eleocharis sphacelata*, *Typha orientalis* and *Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani*, with lower growing *Isolepis prolifera*, primrose willow and *Persicaria decipiens*.

## Submerged vegetation

Lake 1: Very turbid with limited submerged vegetation. Surface reaching *Potamogeton ochreatus* and *P. cheesemanii* were noted as sparse amongst *E. sphacelata* beds.

Lake 2: Clear water with a completely vegetated bottom. *Chara australis* was the dominant species, with local areas dominated by *Potamogeton ochreatus* or *P. cheesemanii*.

## Water birds

Two introduced mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) and endangered grey ducks (*A. superciliosa*) were seen on Lake 2.

## Fish

No species were seen.

## Aquatic invertebrates

No species were seen.

## Endangered species

A pair of the Nationally Critical grey duck was recorded. These had all the distinctive features of this species, although hybridisation with mallards is common and the main cause of grey duck decline.

## Lake Ecological Value

The lakes were small and of low value (Lake 1: Low; Lake 2 Moderate to Low).

## Threats

The risk of pest plant and fish introduction is low due to isolation and difficult access. The catchment is fenced grazed pasture, but Lake 1 appeared to be impacted by poor water quality.

## Management recommendations

No lake ecological assessment monitoring recommended.