



Lake Mangakaware: Improving the quality of inflowing Catchment water.

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To install sediment traps on the inflowing drains to remove suspended solids and nutrients from water entering the lake, improving water quality.

This will enhance biodiversity and aesthetic values and acknowledge the significant cultural and historic heritage associated with the Swamp Pa (dating back to the late 1500's) on the shores of the lake.

The lake was ranked highly in a recent biodiversity assessment process undertaken by Wildlands Consultants (2011). It ranked 4th of 31 peat lakes in the Waikato Region; 4th of 17 lakes in the Waipa District, and = 9th out of 71 shallow lakes of the region for their biodiversity value.

The lake has declined in condition in recent years. Submerged plant communities collapsed in the lake between 2005 and 2010, but there is evidence that some native and exotic plants still occur in confined areas at low densities. Recent water quality monitoring indicates that the lake is hypertrophic. Removing nutrients from inflows will assist in restoring water clarity and water quality.

The sediment traps will have a combined volume of 12,404m3. Resource consent has been obtained from WRC to construct the sediment ponds.

Council has recently installed a weir on the lake outlet to maintain minimum lake levels. The lake has also been fenced to protect a riparian buffer around 20m av. Width. Willows have been removed from the lake margins; pest plants are under control and the community and volunteers have been engaged in ongoing planting of the riparian margins.

This project is funded by the Waikato River Authority (WRA 13-058).



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