



Lakes380

Our lakes' health
past, present, future

Me hoki whakamuri,
kia haere whakamua



LAKE NGĀPOURI

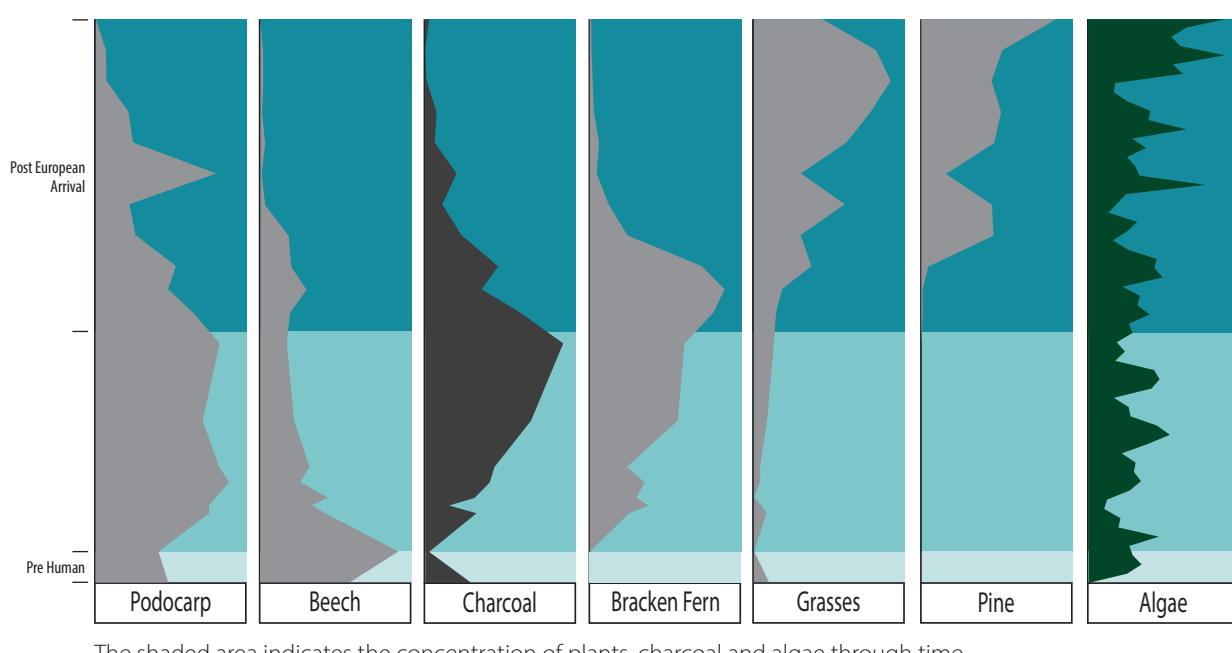
Region: Waikato **Location:** Rotorua **Coordinates:** 38°20'22 S 176°20'04 E **Depth:** 23 m

Lake Ngāpouri is a small lake in an elevated position near the thermal region of Waiotapu. Its catchment is now dominated by pasture. Traditionally this lake was valued as a mahinga kai (food bowl) site for Ngāti Tahu-Ngāti Whaoa.

The initial results from the sediment core suggest that prior to human arrival podocarp (primarily rimu and mataī) and beech forest were abundant in the region. After human arrival some forest clearance began in the region. This is highlighted in the graphic below by the increase in charcoal (burning) and pollen from bracken fern which is commonly

associated with landscape disturbance. During this period beech forest abundance decreased in the region. Post European arrival podocarp forests were replaced by pastoral land and non native trees such as pine were planted in the region. Algae have always been present in the lake but have increased slightly in the last 10 years.

POLLEN, CHARCOAL AND ALGAE LEVELS FOR THE PAST ~ 800 YEARS



The shaded area indicates the concentration of plants, charcoal and algae through time.