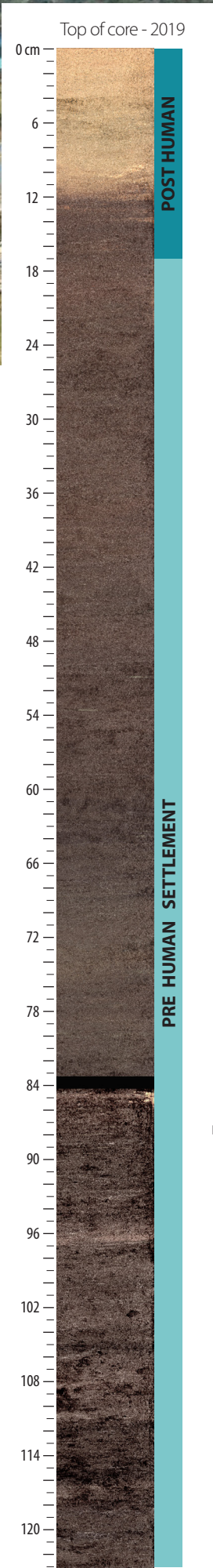




Lakes380

Our lakes' health past, present, future
Me hoki whakamuri,
kia haere whakamua



LAKE TA HAROA

Northland
REGIONAL COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera ā rohe o Te Taitokerau

Region: Northland **Location:** Dargaville **Coordinates:** 35° 48' 28" S 173° 38' 46" E **Depth:** 38 m

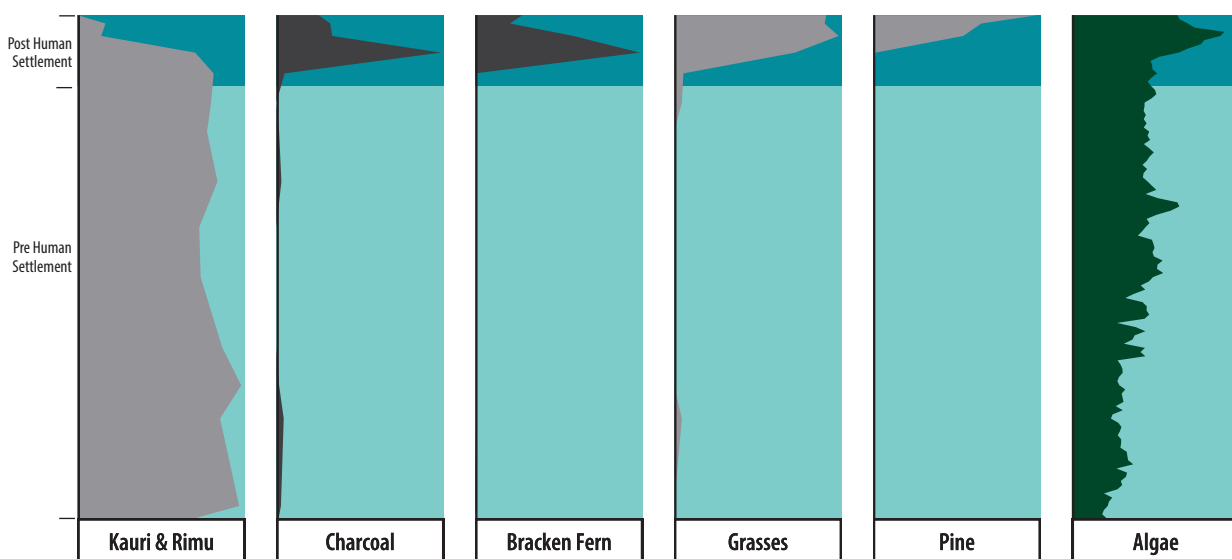
Lake Taharoa is New Zealand's third largest and deepest dune lake. It has the deepest recorded submerged vegetation of any lake in the North Island. With no known natural inlets or outlets over 70% of its water is sourced from rainfall.

The initial sediment core results suggests prior to human arrival rimu (podocarp) and kauri forests were abundant in the region. After human arrival some forest clearance began in the catchment. The graphic below shows an increase in charcoal (burning) and pollen from bracken fern, commonly associated with landscape disturbance. Post European settlement pastoral land replaced much of the remaining forest and

non-native trees such as pine were planted in the region.

Algae have always been present, but the abundance has increased markedly in recent decades. Maintaining the excellent lake health is of high priority with cultural and integrated management programmes in place to address nutrient and biosecurity challenges.

POLLEN, CHARCOAL AND ALGAE LEVELS FOR THE PAST ~5000 YEARS



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