



Lakes380

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



Top of core - 2020



# LAKE KOHANGAPIRIPIRI

**Region:** Wellington **Location:** East Harbour Regional Park **Coords:** 41° 21' 43"S 174° 51' 23"E **Depth:** 2 m

Lake Kohangapiripiri is a shallow coastal lake located in Greater Wellington's East Harbour Regional Park. The lake is home to a wide range of native plants and animals, including some threatened species. The lake contains no introduced freshwater fish.

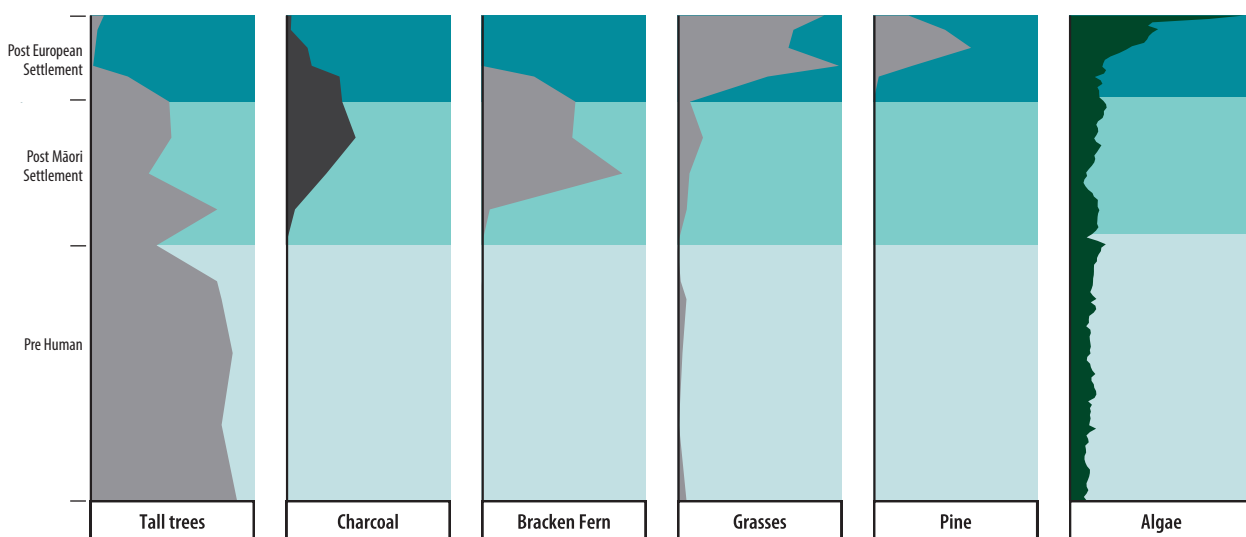
Initial results from the sediment core suggest that prior to human settlement Lake Kohangapiripiri was surrounded by mixed native forest abundant in rimu, matai and beech.

Post Māori settlement some vegetation clearance began. This is highlighted in the graphic below by charcoal (fire) and an increase in bracken fern, commonly associated with landscape disturbance.

Post European settlement native forest was cleared and replaced with pastoral land (grasses). Non native trees such as pine were planted in the wider region.

Algae have always been present in the lake, but their levels are increased markedly in the last 50 years.

## POLLEN, CHARCOAL AND ALGAE LEVELS FOR THE PAST ~2000 YEARS



This graphic indicates the changes in concentration of plants, charcoal or algae through time.