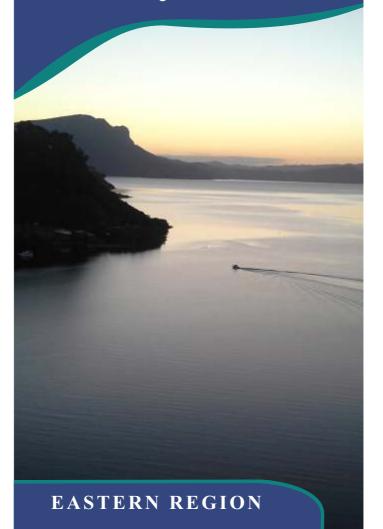
Waikaremoana Lakes Fishery Fish Game NEW ZEALAND



Waikaremoana Lakes fishery – general fishing information

The lake Waikaremoana fishery consists of four lakes and several tributary streams. Lakes Waikaremoana and Waikareiti are wilderness experiences whereas lakes Kaitawa and Whakamarino (known as Tuai) are stocked hydro-electric lakes.

Lake Waikaremoana was formed when a landslide blocked the Waikaretaheke River over 2,000 years ago. Hydro-electric power generation has been in place since the 1920's.

Waikaremoana is an idyllic location for boating and offers superb wilderness fishing experiences year-round. The lake has four boat ramps (shown overleaf) and camping, huts and toilet facilities.

Lake Waikareiti is a walk of about 1.5 hours. The lake is pristine and offers some excellent trout fishing especially during the summer.

Lake Waikaremoana

The lake provides extensive fishing opportunities for several different fishing methods. Boaties may enjoy success trolling and harling within the many sheltered bays and inlets around the lake's 100 km of twisting, bush clad shoreline. The majority of the lake also is deep which lends itself to jigging however much of the bed is covered in sunken trees so anglers are best advised to find a suitable location before commencing. The use of downriggers, paravanes and metal-cored or wire lines is prohibited in Lake Waikaremoana. Shallow trolling with monofilament or LED lines are proven methods and a combination of tassie style lure, toby and fly work well year-round. Four easy access boat ramps can be found located at Mokau Landing, Home Bay, Rosie Bay and Onepoto. Lake Waikaremoana is situated at an altitude of 600m so the weather can change without notice.

Lake users should be prepared for any conditions, check the forecast and know that the lake can become extremely rough during high winds. Fluctuations in the lake's water level due to hydro-electric generation can also cause navigational hazards for boat users.



Fly and spin fishing from the shoreline is popular at a multitude of locations. Waikaremoana is known for it's sighted brown trout fishing especially between spring and autumn when large fish slowly cruise the lake edge in clear water looking for food. During the summer browns can be caught on dry flies and nymphs twitched in front of cruising fish. At other times, fish are in search of bullies or dragonfly larvae so small wet flies or dragonfly larvae immitations work well. Rainbow trout tend to forage in the deeper water just beyond the drop-off and often feed on mid water smelt. Spinning or fly fishing into deep water from peninsulas can prove successful throughout the year and the rainbow trout are hard fighting and often aerial on light tackle. During winter trout congregate at the stream mouths before their spawning runs commence.

Brown trout average 1.5kg and rainbow trout about 1kg.



Lake Waikaremoana tributary streams

The Hopuruahine, Mokau, Aniwaniwa and Te Korokoroowhaitiri streams are Lake Waikaremoana's main trout spawning tributaries. Fish will congregate at these stream mouths during the hottest part of summer seeking cool water inflows. From May onward trout are in prime condition and will begin their spawning migrations. Spawning will continue through winter until early spring after which time spent fish will return to the lake to feed. Fishing the streams with nymphs and small wet flies in winter or dry flies and nymphs during summer can be rewarding. The Mokau and Hopuruahine feature very attractive water for summer nymph and dry fly and can fish well with glo bugs during autumn. Various regulations apply to Waikaremoana's spawning streams so check the regulation guide for your intended angling location.



Lake Waikareiti

The lake is accessed via a 1 hour uphill walk north of Waikaremoana on a well-formed track which begins at Aniwaniwa. Lake Waikareiti provides a true wilderness experience boasting unsurpassed water quality and clarity. Shoreline fishing access is limited when the lake level is high however rowing dinghies can be hired during suitable weather conditions from the Te Urewera visitor centre at Home Bay. Waikaremoana.

Lake Waikareiti contd.

Shallow trolling lures and flies from a dinghy, spin or fly fishing all work well and the lake produces hard fighting, well conditioned rainbow trout. The use of downriggers, paravanes and metal-cored or wire lines is prohibited in Lake Waikareiti.

Lake Kaitawa

Access to Lake Kaitawa is via Kaitawa Rd, off SH38. This small hydro-electric generation lake features clear water and good shoreline access. It is stocked annually with rainbow and brown trout and spin and fly methods work well. A small row boat or kayak can be useful however motorised boats and use the of anchors are prohibited. Season duration is 1 October to 30 June. As Kaitawa and Whakamarino are hydro-electric lakes, water levels can change without warning, caution is advised.

Lake Whakamarino (Tuai)

Lake Whakamarino, at Tuai is part of the hydro-electric generation scheme and is stocked annually with rainbow and brown trout. The fish here grow well and the lake sometimes produces trophy brown trout which will sit below the power station during periods of high flow. The lake is fly fishing only and open 1 October to 30 June. A small row boat or kayak can be useful however motorised boats and the use of anchors are prohibited. The lake is accessed from Tuai main Rd, off SH38. As Kaitawa and Whakamarino are hydro-electric generation lakes, water levels can change without warning, caution is advised.



Waikaremoana Lakes Fishery

Lake Waikaremoana and surrounding waters are situated in the south eastern part of Te Urewera. Clear waters surrounded by native forest, bluffs and mountain ranges make the Waikaremoana fisheries spectacular. A wide range of angling experiences exists including fly fishing lakes and streams and boat fishing by trolling and spin fishing.

The lake is accessed via a 3 hour drive from Rotorua on SH38, 2.5 hours from Gisborne and 3 hours from Napier. The Rotorua road is narrow, winding and mostly gravel but the destination makes the trip worthwhile!

Accommodation is available at Waikaremoana holiday park or by camping at various permitted locations around the lake. Users should check for camping locations at the Te Urewera visitors centre.

Te Urewera is the traditional homeland of the Tuhoe people. Please pay respect to Te Urewera and the Tuhoe people as tanata whenua and kaitiaki. Visitors to the area should check the Te Urewera website for updated information.



Eastern Region

Private Bag 3010 Rotorua Email: eastern@fishandgame.org.nz Website: http://fishandgame.org.nz/eastern/

0800 POACHING

Telephone 07-357 5501

