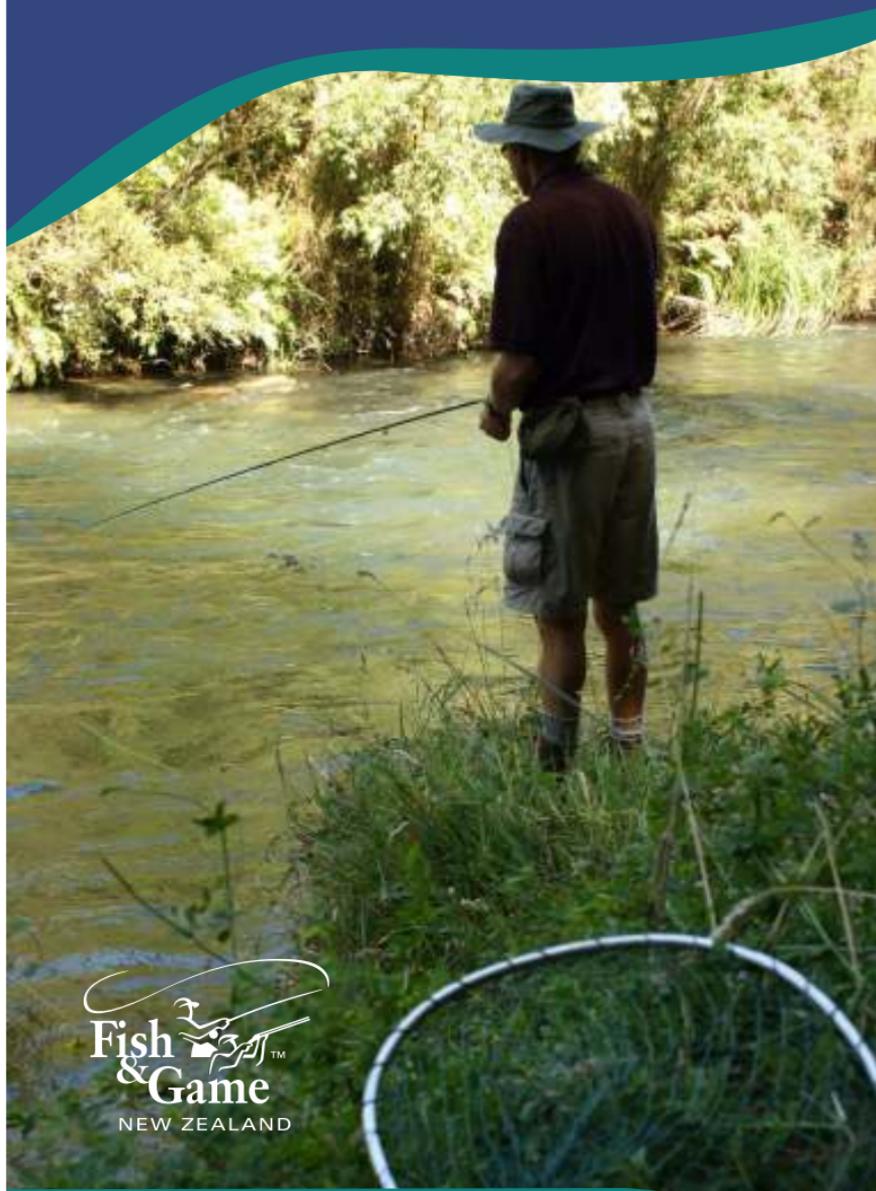


RANGITAIKI RIVER SYSTEM, HOROMANGA AND WHIRINAKI



EASTERN REGION

Rangitaiki River Fishery

Lower Rangitaiki River – river mouth at Thornton up to Matahina Dam. This section of river can be fished from the banks or by boat. A boat launching ramp is situated at the river mouth area at Thornton (sites 1). The lower tidal zone is big water best fished with heavier gear including spinners. Brown and rainbow trout may be caught. Upstream towards the Matahina Dam riverside vegetation gets heavier and most access is through private land.

Lake Matahina

Lake Matahina (site 3) is a deep hydro power generation lake; a boat ramp is located near the dam. Suggested methods are deep trolling and spinning although fly fishing in summer may also be productive.

Central Rangitaiki

Between Lakes Matahina and Lake Aniwhenua the Te Teko/Murupara Road provides access to three main areas (sites 4 to 6). The Rangitaiki River may be accessed where the main road crosses it (site 4) and the river here is large and suited to spin fishing or fly fishing. The Waihua and Mangamako Streams (sites 5 and 6) are small streams which can fish well particularly early or late season.

Lake Aniwhenua

Lake Aniwhenua (sites 7 to 9) is a hydro lake on the Rangitaiki River at Galatea. It is fairly shallow except for some areas along the old river channel, and does have large weed beds. However good fishing can be found around the weed beds, particularly targeting cruising brown and rainbow trout, either boat or shorebased fishing. Trolling can also be productive. A camp site is available at the dam end of the lake off Black Road, and a boat ramp is also situated here. Small boats can be launched at the upstream or southern end of the lake near the road bridge known as 'Rabbit Bridge'.

Horomanga River

The Horomanga River (sites 10 to 12) flows out of Te Urewera, across the Galatea plains and into the Rangitaiki River. The Horomanga fishes best early or late season, and the river within Te Urewera provides a wilderness-style experience. A track runs alongside the river in this area, however there are many river crossings and the river is prone to rising rapidly in heavy rain. Alternatively the river may be accessed from the bridges on Troutbeck and Galatea Roads.

Haumea Stream

The Haumea Stream (sites 13 and 14) is a very small stream that can be accessed from road bridges; it fishes best in May through to the end of June.

Whirinaki River

The Whirinaki River (sites 15 to 21) is a large tributary of the Rangitaiki which flows out of the Whirinaki Forest Park, through Minginui and Te Whaiti area, and out onto the Galatea plains near Murupara. It offers extensive angler opportunities with scenic surroundings. The river holds both brown and rainbow trout, and favoured methods are fly fishing, both nymph and dry fly, and spin fishing.



Rangitaiki River within Kaingaroa Forest

From Murupara (SH38) upstream to the Napier – Taupo Road (SH5) the Rangitaiki River flows for approximately 70km through the Kaingaroa Forest. This is privately owned forest with limited legal public access, and vehicular access through the forest is by permit only. The permitted forest access is generally only available during times of low fire risk, weekends only, during the winter, so usually about May through to the end of September. Check with Eastern Fish & Game office for details of access permit availability, or check our website : <http://eastern.fishandgame.org.nz/> and check 'Forest Access information'.

The river system within Rangitaiki Forest offers a huge range of opportunity from heavy water best suited to spin fishing, the Wheao Hydro scheme canals and Flaxy Lakes, through to the upper river system and tributaries.

From Murupara heading along Kiorenui Road there are several signposted angler access points leading to the river. One of these is to the Ngahuinga Road access point, which is the only public access easement for vehicles, to the river, within the forest. This is the only access point within the forest accessible without an access permit and is generally only closed to access due to forest work in the area.

The Rangitaiki and Wheao canal system is an ideal location for less experienced anglers and the Flaxy Lakes is a unique fishery that often produces large fish. Fly fishing is the most commonly used method, and fish up to 5 kg have been caught in these lakes.

At the downstream end of the canal the road ends at the Wheao Power Station, this is also the start of the 4.5km walking track along the Wheao River to Wheao North Rd. The Wheao River can be accessed at a number of points off this track although much of the river has bush to the waters edge. This is a very scenic location which can offer good fishing.

Upper River

Downstream from the road bridge at Te Awa there is access to some nice water suitable for fly and spin fishing. The old Te Awa camp ground is now a picnic area with no overnight camping permitted. From the Te Awa area upstream there is plenty of access along the river, with many major access points marked by signs or blue and white poles. In many areas the river is clearly accessible and anglers may explore and make their way along it within a river side marginal strip.

The upper Rangitaiki, and tributaries such as Dry Fly Stream and the Otamatea offer good fly fishing, for brown and rainbow trout commonly up to about 2 kg, and at times heavier. However in many areas these small streams have vegetation along the banks restricting access.

The upper Rangitaiki River may also be accessed from River Road which follows the river for several kilometres. It can also be accessed off SH5 by a 1.4 km walk from the highway along River Road,(access point opposite Lochinver Station) and may be fished both up and downstream. Walking access into the forest to the river is available all year round unless closed by forest managers for extra ordinary reasons, and this area is an option during summer when access may not be available to the rest of the forest.

Major Access points for fishing in the Rangitaiki system.

Refer to map:

1. Boat Ramp. Turn off Thornton Road on to Thornton Beach Road.
2. River Mouth. Turn off Thornton Road on to Thornton Hall Road.
3. Lake Matahina Boat Ramp.
4. Te Teko/Murupara Road bridge.
5. Waihua Stream. From the Te Teko/Murupara Road access can be gained on both sides of the road. Stay within the stream bed when fishing both up and down stream.
6. Mangamako Stream. Access from the road bridge. Stay within the stream bed when fishing both up and down stream.
7. Lake Aniwhenua. Boat ramp and camping area off Black Road.
8. Lake Aniwhenua. Walking access from the camp ground/boat ramp around the lake edge going upstream.
9. Lake Aniwhenua, Rabbit Bridge. Access off Kopuriki Road, both sides of bridge, and small boats such as dinghies or kayaks can be launched here.
10. Lower Horomanga. The bridge on Galatea Road provides access to the River.

11. Horomanga River. The Horomanga can be accessed from the bridge on Troutbeck Rd.
12. Upper Horomanga River can be accessed by turning off Troutbeck Road on the south side of the bridge and following a rough gravel road to the area where the river flows out of the bush. A D.o.C track starts here and follows the river upstream.
13. Haumea Stream. Access from bridge on Galatea Road.
14. Haumea Stream. Access from bridge on Haumea Road.
15. Lower Whirinaki. Accessed from the end of Ngatimanawa Road at Murupara.
16. Whirinaki River . From the bridge on Troutbeck Road, access is available both up and down stream.
17. Whirinaki River. Approximately 2.5 km north of Te Whaiti a gravel track (Okui Road) leads off the main Road (Te Whaiti Rd). While the track is initially in D.o.C land further on it crosses some private land before it again reaches D.o.C land and the area near the Okui Hut. The river may be reached from a number of points off this track.
18. Te Whaiti Rest area. The Whirinaki River may be accessed from this rest area.
19. Whirinaki River – Mangamate Camp ground. Turn off the Minginui Road approximately 1 km north of Minginui, and follow the gravel road to the D.o.C campground near the Mangamate Falls beside the Whirinaki River. The river may be accessed up and downstream and good fishing had in scenic surroundings.
20. Whirinaki River – River Road. Drive past the Minginui turn off, cross the river and turn left onto River Road. A number of access points are available off this road to the river.
21. Whirinaki track. Near the end of the Road, a carpark is situated at the start of the D.o.C walking track to the Whirinaki River. The track goes up the river, much of the time near or beside it, enabling access for trout fishing. Trout are present at least up to the area of the Central Whirinaki Hut, about a 4 to 5 hours walk from the Minginui carpark.

Access points within Kaingaroa Forest- Note forest access permit required;

22. Off Kiorenui Road . Rimu Rd.
23. Off Kiorenui Road. Tautika Rd.
24. Off Kiorenui. Ngahuinga Rd.
25. Wheao North Rd. Forest tracks lead to the river and a variety of access points.
26. Wheao Bridge. Off Wheao North Rd, and access to the downstream end of the Wheao walking track which starts just before the bridge on the upstream side.
28. Wheao River. Walking track starts near the Wheao Power station.
27. Rangitaiki Canals and Flaxy Lakes.
29. Te Awa area. Access downstream via angler access sign and markers.

30. Te Awa picnic area. Located at northern end of Eastern Boundary Rd beside river.

31. Eastern Boundary Road. Runs parallel to the Upper Rangitaiki River from Te Awa to the Otamatea confluence, with a number of access points off the Road.

32. Otangimoana Stream – also known as Dry Fly Creek. Can be accessed by crossing the Rangitaiki River from Eastern Boundary Rd (take care if doing this) or from the bridge on Dry Fly Road.

33. Otamatea River. Upstream of Rangitaiki confluence, Eastern boundary Road follows the river but accessed from its southern end due to the bridge over the Rangitaiki being foot use only. A number of access points from the road.

34. Rangitaiki River at Waipai Rd. Access both up and down stream from the road bridge.

35. River Road. The road follows the river for a distance, with access available in many areas, the river is also accessible from SH5 via a 1.4 km walk.



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Protect our waters



Unwanted aquatic weeds, algae and pest fish threaten freshwater environments for the trout fishery, native species, and all recreational users. Be a responsible user...

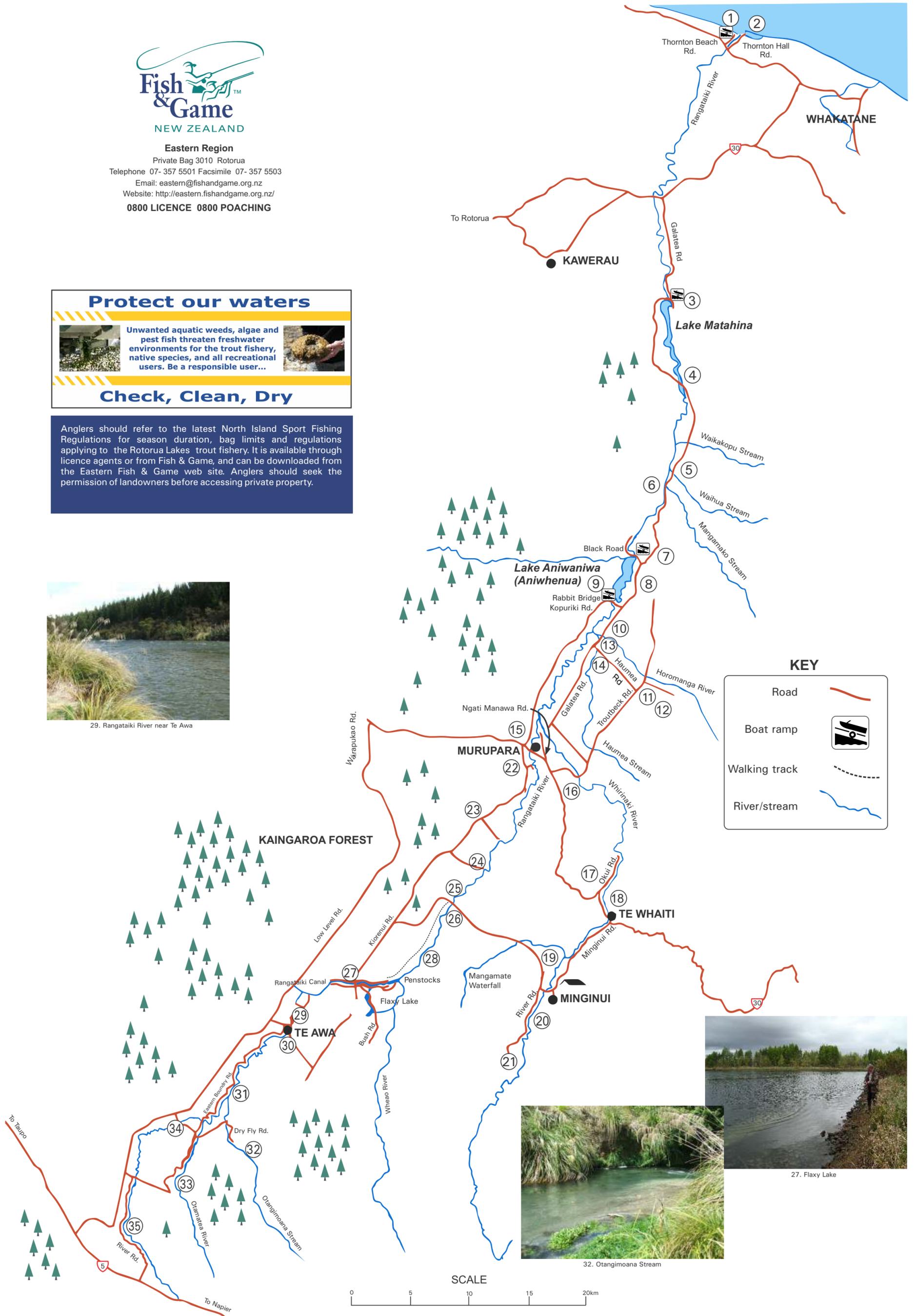


Check, Clean, Dry

Anglers should refer to the latest North Island Sport Fishing Regulations for season duration, bag limits and regulations applying to the Rotorua Lakes trout fishery. It is available through licence agents or from Fish & Game, and can be downloaded from the Eastern Fish & Game web site. Anglers should seek the permission of landowners before accessing private property.



29. Rangataiki River near Te Awa



KEY

Road	
Boat ramp	
Walking track	
River/stream	



27. Flaxy Lake



32. Otangimoana Stream

SCALE

