



Lakes380

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



LAKE KAHUPARERE

Region: Northland **Location:** Pouto Peninsula **Coordinates:** 36° 22'8" S 174° 9'26" E **Depth:** 7 m

Lake Kahuparere is a dune lake located at the south eastern tip of Pouto Peninsula, on Kaipara Harbour's North Head. The lake's catchment is a mixture of pasture and pine forest with areas of native emergent forest and a small wetland area on the south side.

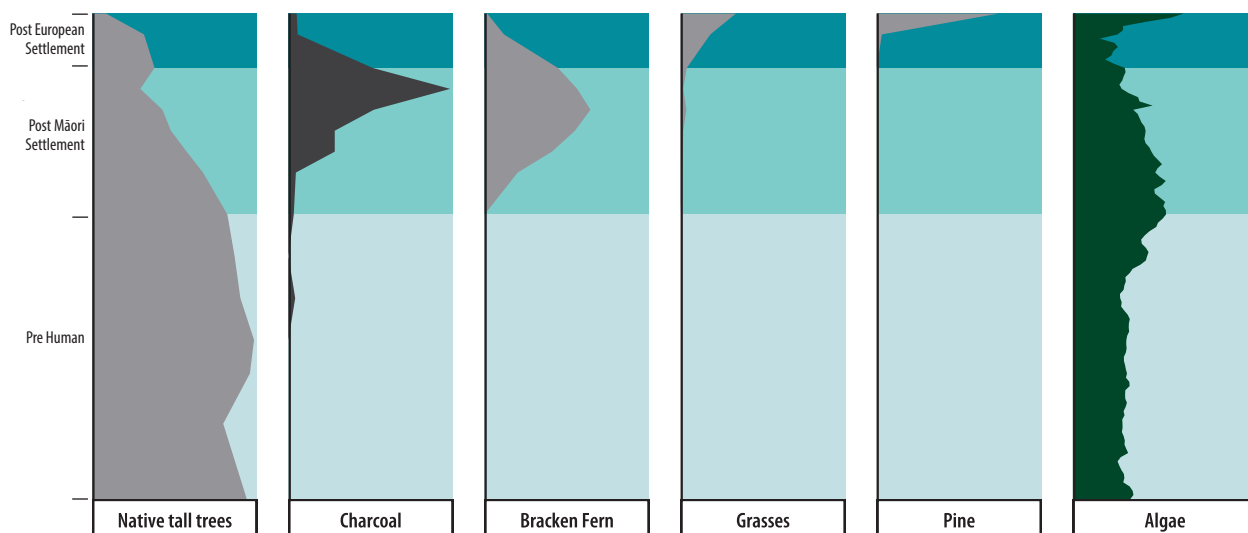
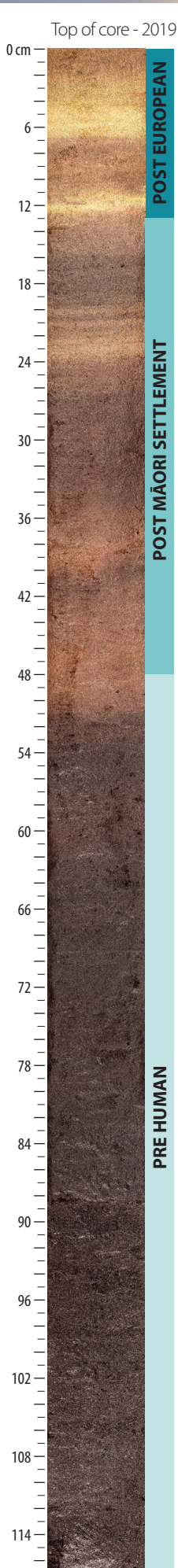
Initial results from the sediment core suggest that prior to human settlement Lake Kahuparere was surrounded by lush native forest abundant in podocarp, kauri, pohutakawa, maire and mānuka.

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

Post European settlement forest clearance increased. The native species were replaced by grasses and non-native trees such as pine, which were planted in the region.

Algae have always been present in the lake at variable levels. The level appears to increase with human activity in the landscape, and a more abrupt rise is observed in the last 50-70 years.

POLLEN, CHARCOAL AND ALGAE LEVELS FOR THE PAST ~3000 YEARS



This graphic indicates the changes in abundance of plants, charcoal and algae through time.