

# Game bird hunting areas Rotorua lakes



Open to hunting (public land)
 Closed to hunting  
 Other areas of private land might be available to be hunted by gaining permission of landowner.

### Lake Rotorua

Open to game bird hunting with some closed areas as indicated on map. These areas are Sulphur Bay, Hamurana Stream and the lake within a radius of 800 metres of the Hamurana stream mouth and Mokoia Island plus a radius of 100 metres off the Island. When hunting on Lake Rotorua be aware of built-up areas and those used by the public and your responsibility pursuant to the Arms Act 1983. (see over)

### Lake Rotoiti

Open to game bird hunting. Shore based hunting is only permitted on the sections of Lake Rotoiti Scenic Reserve identified on the map, and a DOC game bird hunting permit is required. Maimais are not permitted on Lake Rotoiti.

### Lake Rotoehu

Open to game bird hunting. Shore based hunting is only permitted on the sections of Lake Rotoehu Scenic Reserve identified on the map, and a DOC game bird hunting permit is required. Temporary maimais may be constructed but no earlier than two weeks before the beginning of the game bird hunting season. All temporary structures must be removed no later than two weeks after the close of the game bird hunting season.

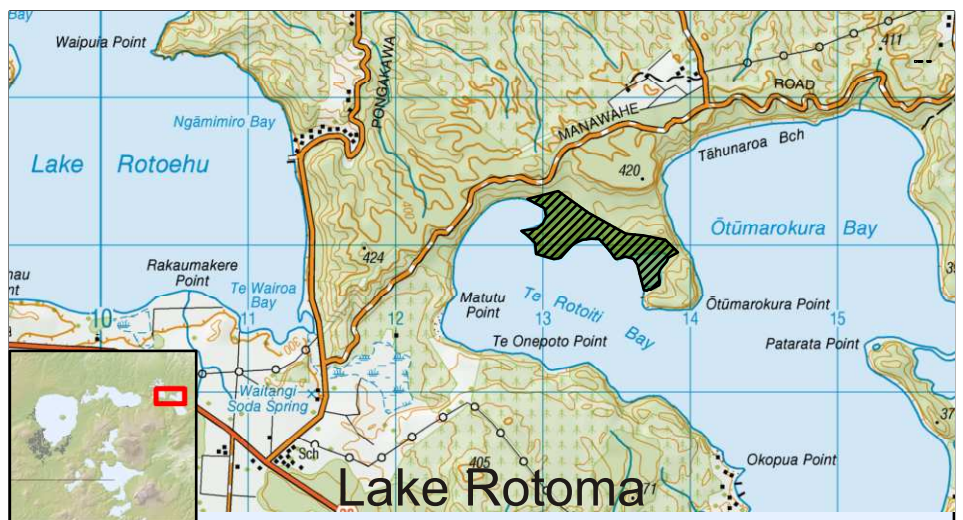
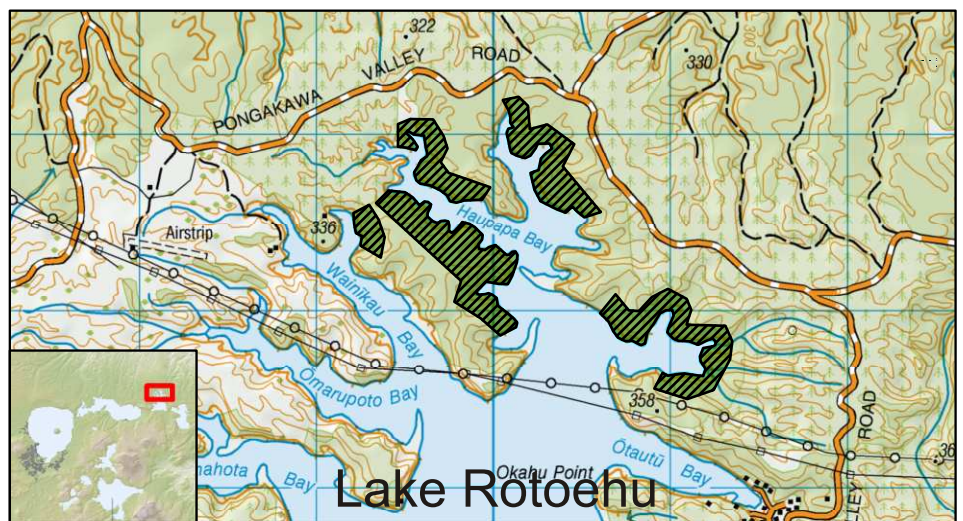
### Lake Rotoma

Open to game bird hunting. Shore based hunting is only permitted on the sections of Lake Rotoma Scenic Reserve identified on the map, and a DOC game bird hunting permit is required. Temporary maimais may be constructed but no earlier than two weeks before the beginning of the game bird hunting season. All temporary structures must be removed no later than two weeks after the close of the game bird hunting season.

### Lakes Okaro

Open to game bird hunting. Fish & Game issuing permits on behalf of RDC.

**No Game bird hunting** is permitted on lakes Okareka, Ngahewa, Rotomahana and Tikitapu (Blue Lake)



### Rotoehu Forest (DOC administered)

Game bird hunting is permitted, primarily for pheasants, on the majority of the Rotoehu Forest (Conservation Area).

### Rotoehu and Kaiangaroa Forest (Timberlands administered)

These forests are Timberlands Ltd production forests.

A permit is required from Independent Security Consultants Ltd (ISCL) in Rotorua, phone (07) 347 8880. ISCL require a current game bird hunting and firearm license. The office hours are Mon – Friday 0830 am – 0430 pm. Current information on pesticides work in these areas under ISCL administration will also be available. Permit issue is subject to fire risk and forest operations and activities.

## Gamebird hunting areas - Rotorua lakes

### Lake Rerewhakaaitu

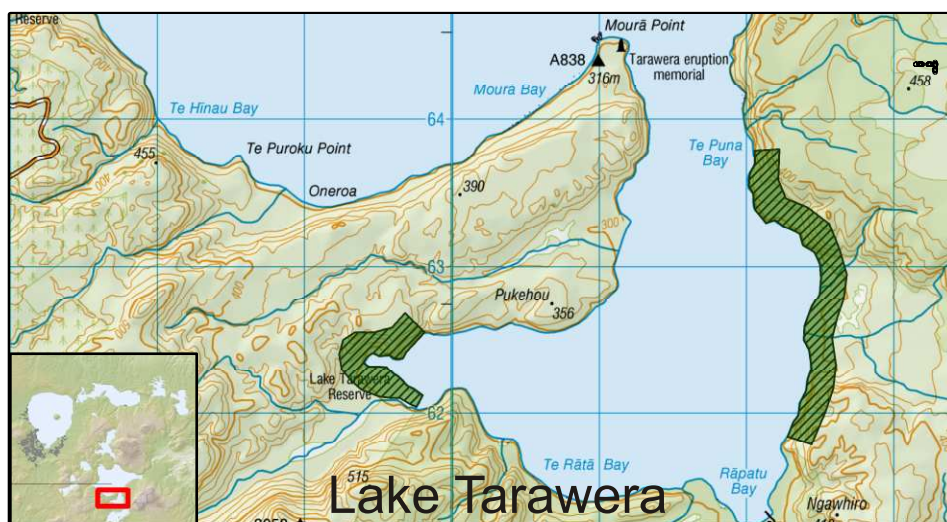
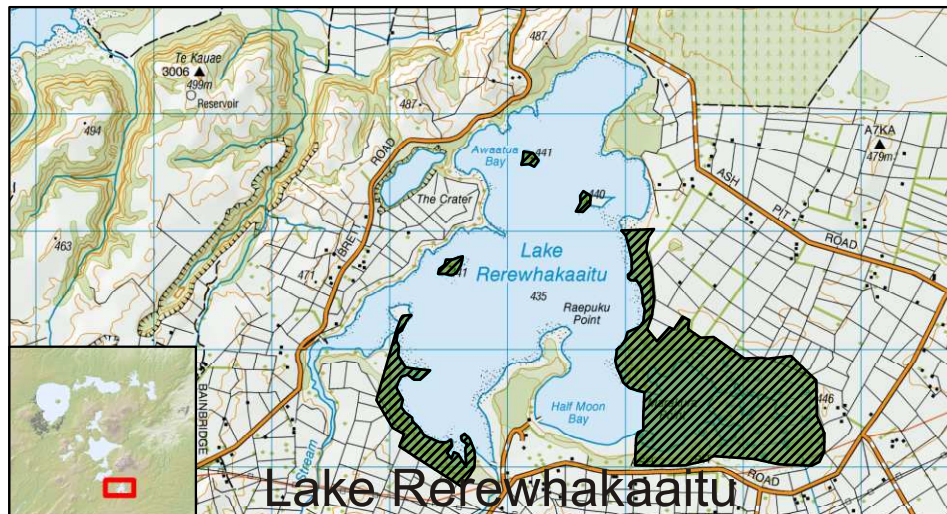
Open to game bird hunting. Shore based hunting is only permitted on the sections of Lake Rerewhakaaitu DOC Recreation Reserve identified on the map, and a DOC game bird hunting permit is required. Hunting is permitted on sections of the islands as shown on the map. Hunting is not permitted in Homestead Arm. Temporary maimais may be constructed but must be constructed no earlier than two weeks before the beginning of the game bird hunting season. All temporary structures must be removed no later than two weeks after the close of the game bird hunting season.

### Lake Tarawera

Shore based hunting is only permitted on the sections of Lake Tarawera Scenic Reserve identified on the map, and a DOC game bird hunting permit is required. Maimais are not permitted on Lake Tarawera.

### Lake Okataina

A deep lake with not much waterfowl habitat. See map of areas open for game bird hunting. Some shore based hunting is only permitted on the south-eastern section of Lake Okataina Scenic Reserve identified on the map, and a DOC game bird hunting permit is required. Maimais are not permitted on Lake Okataina.



### Legal game bird hunting access

A hunter with a current game bird hunting and firearms licence can legally hunt on the Rotorua Lakes if it is on the lake bed or water surface. Exceptions to this are closed game area sanctuaries or scenic reserves that include the lake bed. To hunt from the shore you need landowner or land manager permission. This includes private landowners, leaseholders, regional councils, district councils, DOC and Maori lands. Fish & Game New Zealand Eastern Region has negotiated with DOC shoreline hunting opportunities on the reserves identified on the map. One DOC game bird hunting permit covers all areas as permitted in this document, the details to obtain a permit are included below.

### Hunting Close to Dwellings

The Arms Act 1983 does not refer to actual distances you must be from a dwelling. However Section 48: 'Discharging firearm in or near dwelling house or public place', states that 'Every person commits an offence who without reasonable cause, discharges a firearm in or near a dwelling, or a public place, so as to endanger property or to endanger or frighten any person'. Game bird hunting is reasonable cause to discharge a firearm. Following the firearms code, rule 5, which is 'check your firing zone', will ensure you do not endanger property or any person. As for 'frighten', if you feel you are close enough to perhaps cause disturbance to occupiers of a dwelling, inform them as to your purpose and activity. This is courtesy and peace of mind for you and the occupiers of any dwelling. If you still have concerns a call to the local Police Arms Office advising of where you intend to hunt will assist with Police dealing with any public enquiries or concerns.

To summarise, if you are game bird hunting where you can legally do so with appropriate permission and have a current game bird hunting licence then you are not breaking any laws.

### Hunting Close to a Public Road

You cannot discharge a firearm from, along, or across any road. It is unlawful to carry a loaded firearm in a vehicle.

### DOC game bird hunting permits

Permits and detailed maps of permitted hunting areas can be obtained from the Rotorua Lakes Area Office, 99 Sala Street, Rotorua. It is important to remember that a valid New Zealand game bird licence must be obtained in order for the DOC permit to be valid. While detailed, the maps are only a guideline and it is the hunters responsibility to ensure they are permitted to be where they hunt. On the lakes where temporary maimais are permitted, the permit only gives permission for temporary structures on DOC land. The construction of any structure on any

other land requires landowner permission.

### Contact numbers:

Rotorua Police Arms Office: (07) 349 9475  
For permits to hunt land administered by the Department of Conservation contact: Rotorua Lakes Area Office, DOC – (07) 349 7400  
For permits to hunt Rotoehu and Kaingaroa Forests:  
Independent Security Consultants Ltd. (07) 347 8880