

# Rudd

## *Scardinius erythrophthalmus*

Introduced

Sports fish

*Sports fish in Auckland and Waikato regions – Noxious fish elsewhere*

Rudd were illegally released into New Zealand sometime in the late 1960s and onwards by keen coarse anglers. They are classified as a noxious species except in the Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game region where they are considered sports fish.

Ecologically, adult rudd have the potential to significantly deplete streams of their macrophyte populations because of their herbivorous diet. Juveniles, however, feed on the benthic and mid-water invertebrates in the stream. The spawning capacity of females is large (up to 200,000 eggs). Rudd can grow up to 400 millimetres long but are more commonly found between 200 and 250 millimetres.

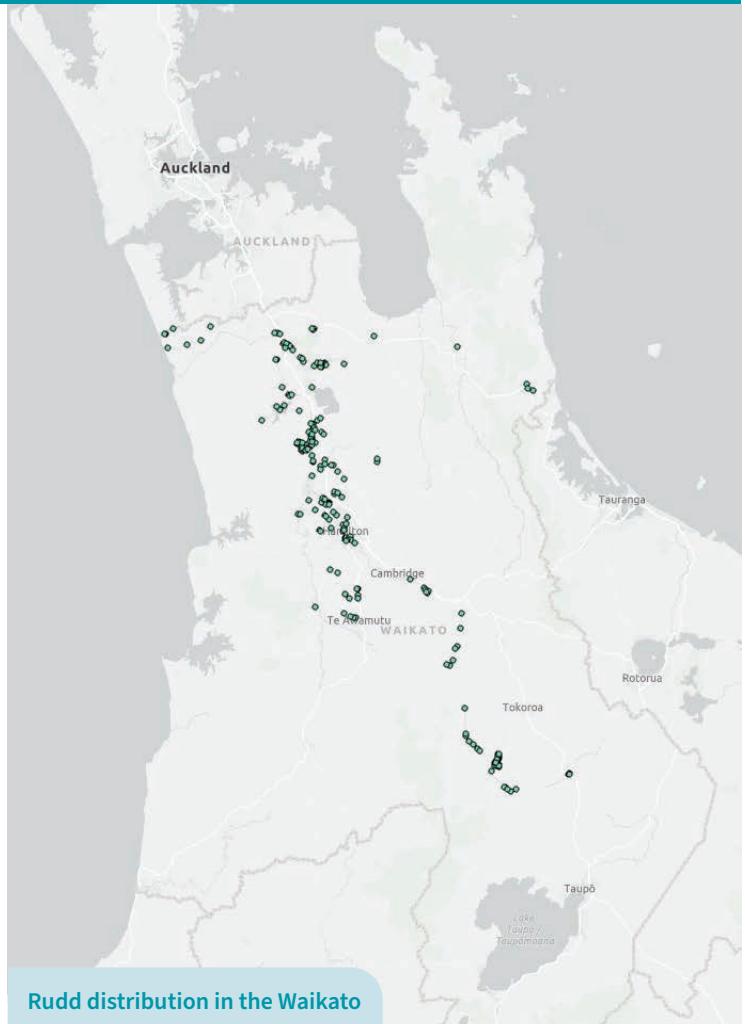


Photo: Mike Lake

