

Waitaki~Mataura Living Lakes

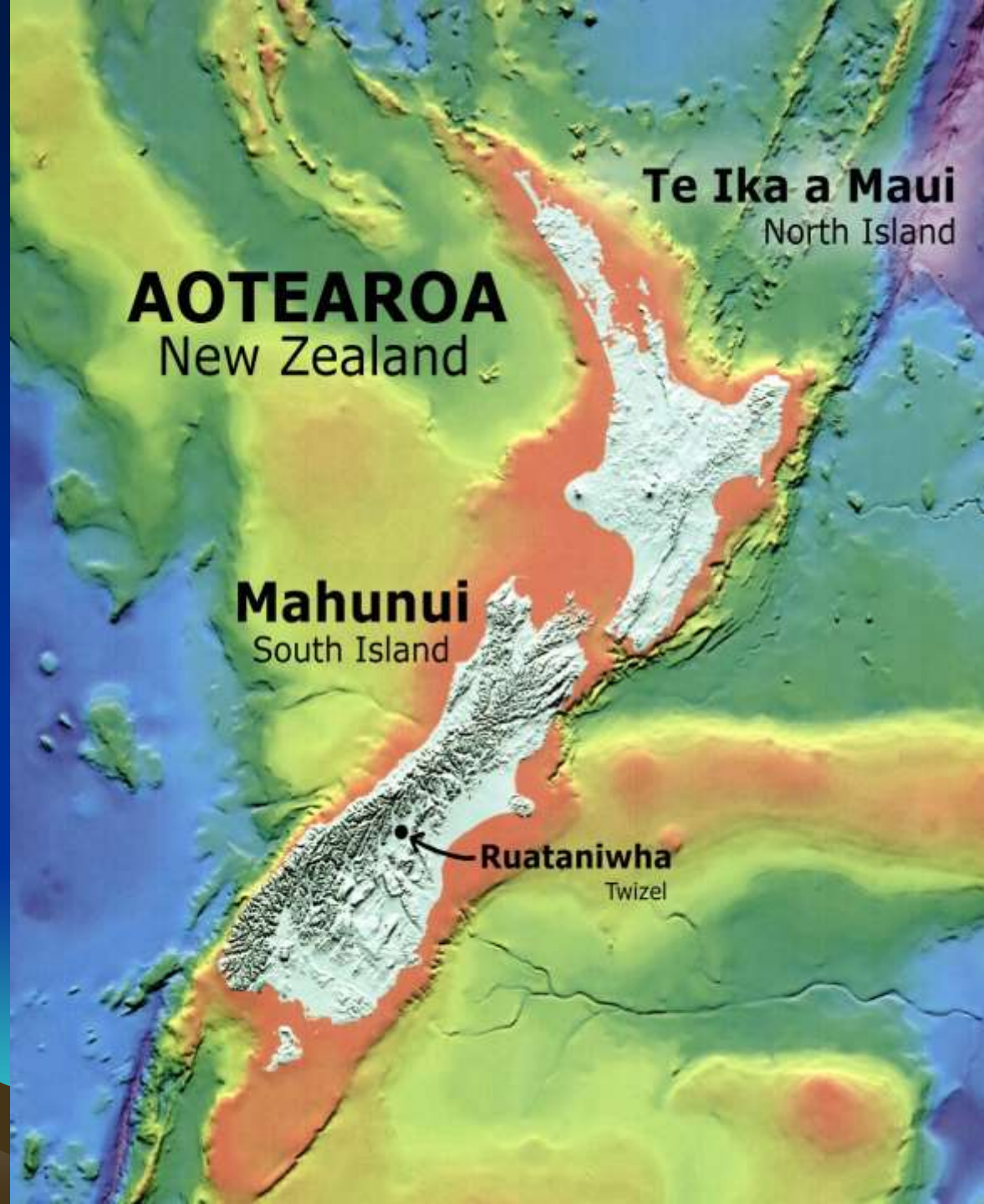
Haikai Tane
Watershed Systems
LIVING WATER
Foundation
Aotearoa Oceana



Geologics

Pacific Rim plate edge
tectonics ~ inter-
montane rift valleys

Glaciated mountain
rangelands ~ loess
covered landscapes
Deep glacial lakes ~
marine trench origins



Waitaki~Mataura Living Lakes

Southern High Country Mountain~River~Lakes District

Iconic Rangeland Lakes

Featured in the

- **Lord of the Rings Trilogy**
And
- **The Hobbits**



Mountain River Lake Reservoirs

The Waitaki~Mataura Living Lakes are the main source of water and hyro power for the land of the long white cloud dragon ~ Aotearoa



Healthy functioning terraqueous habitats and riparian ecotones are essential for healthy mountain-river-lake ecosystems



While some wildfowl like wood ducks have adapted to grassland/pond habitats, their natural habitats are the woodland fringes of wetlands



Deforestation and pastoral grazing have transformed extensive areas into cultural deserts



After pastoral desertification came feedlot factories generating algal blooms in our rivers and lakes



Floodplains, recharge basins, discharge springs, ponds & streams are fatally compromised by tracking, treading, and surface compaction ~ left pix.

Right pix: NZ high country glacial gravel riverbed 35 years after eliminating grazing and planting trees.



Overview **Human Impacts**

Less than 200 years of colonial clearing trees and forests, draining wetlands and grazing everywhere possible has

- severely compromised mountain-river-lake ecosystems; they no longer produce fresh clean water.**
- Pastoral rangelands have severely damaged and depleted aquifer storage systems.**
- River engineering and ecotoxic agrochemicals are destroying our streams, rivers and lakes in droves.**



Global Calamity

- Ban Ki Moon Secretary General of the UN issued the following warning for three consecutive years
- **The planet is facing an unprecedented calamity from human induced desertification**
- In April 2014 NSA warned the US government a unavoidable global environmental and economic crash will happen within 10 years.



Restoring the Waitaki~Mataura Lakes

- **Dying lakes can be saved by taking appropriate action promptly**
- **Dead lakes require miracles beyond human capabilities**
- **We need your help to prevent our living lakes dying from abuse and misuse**

