

Rudd

Scardinius erythrophthalmus

Introduced

Sportsfish

Photo: Mike Lake

Rudd were illegally released into New Zealand some time in the late 1960's 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, rudd has the potential to significantly deplete streams of their macrophyte populations because of the herbivorous diet adopted by the adults. Juveniles however, feed on the benthic and mid-water invertebrates in the stream, but because of the large spawning capacity of females (up to 200 000 eggs), this too could be an issue.

