



BLUE MOUNTAIN ROAD (ECCLESFIELD) SCENIC RESERVE

GRID
REF R 27 792 039

for: scrub bush tussock etc wetland plants animals geology/soil history/prehistory water supply

LOCATION Pinehaven, Hutt Valley

ACCESS Entrance off Blue Mountains Road

OUTLINE & TOPO
Toe of a small spur running into the Hutt Valley.

SURROUNDINGS
Wi Tako Scenic Reserve to the north-east, residential area elsewhere.

GEOLOGY Greywacke

SPM Loess and greywacke

SOIL Taita hill soils. Central yellow-brown earths.

DRAINAGE Good.

AREA ha/ac 4.7317

L.D. No.

STATUS Scenic

RES sub-Class

CONTROL Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society.

GAZETTED 1966 P. 1495

RESERVED

HISTORY Land donated to the Royal Forest and Bird Society

AIR PHOTO SN 5497 H/15
date 6.10.80.

nearby town 0.3 km Silverstream
nearest reserve 0 km Wi Tako Scenic Reserve
public road 0 km Blue Mountains Road
sea (km) 11 Forirua Harbour

ALTITUDE m/ft 80 - 100

ASPECT Northwest - southwest

RAIN mm/xx 1290 (approx)

NAT FERTILITY low - medium

RES		NDT		MAIN HABITATS and FEATURES	%	area	native	nat	H region	NAT	trend	L ¹ indices
<	>	<	>									
✓	✓	✓	✓	1. <u>Hard and black beech forest</u> on loess and strongly weathered greywacke. 2. Mixed broadleaved scrub on loess and strongly weathered greywacke.	70	3.3	✓	✓	H	M	I	L
				1. Remnant of beech forest. Trees up to 16 m tall. The understorey is varied but often sparse. Common species include mingimingi, heketara, kamahi, five finger, toro, Coprosma lucida, karamu and silver tree fern. Litter and hound's tongue are common on the floor. A small area of kanuka up to 10 m tall above mahoe, rangiora, five finger, lemonwood and bracken is present near the entrance to the reserve off Blue Mountains Road. 2. Scrub contiguous with larger area in adjacent Wi Tako Scenic Reserve. Kamahi, five finger, rangiora, rewarewa and mahoe are the main species of the small area of scrub in Ecclesfield Reserve although small areas of manuka are possibly also included within the reserve boundary.								
					100	4.73						

CONDITION Poor in beech forest due to over tracking and high use by local children as a play area.

FENCING Not necessary.

PRIORITY 3/A

RATING 0-10

SCIENTIFIC 1....

SCENIC 3... Small area but attractive backdrop to residential area.

RECREATION 6... Much used by local residents and their children.

CONCLUSIONS and RECOMMENDATIONS

A small area of beech forest adjoining the proposed Wi Tako Scenic Reserve. The area suffers from over use and vandalism by local residents.

Signs have been ripped out of the ground and a number of tall pole beech have been chopped. It appears that fallen logs have been removed from the reserve (probably for firewood).

This is a reserve where the presence of a local honorary ranger could be of great value in checking that vandalism is kept to a minimum.

¹ NATURALNESS ² TREND: D deteriorating; S steady; I improving

REFERENCES

% area	SUMMARY	HABITATS														ORGANISMS												
		WATER/SHORE		veg			substrate			pollution			access		INFER					OBSERVED								
		large	small	several	filled/stable	emergent	herbage	cill	rock	stony	freshly	mud	organic	lubbies	eutrophic	foot	boat	rat	a - adjoins reserve	N	S	M	N	L	M	H	initials	
79	tall conifer ¹ forest/trees conifer ² forest/trees beech forest/trees BL ³ forest/trees																		higher native plants	84								
30	scrub/shrubs < 6m tall tussocks/grassland short tussocks/grassland grassland/grasses sedge/land/sedges rushland/rushes/raupo herbland/harbs "tussock" herbland ⁴ fernland/ferns "moss" land bracken																		lower plants	26								
	exotic grassland ⁵ exotic herbland/woodland exotic scrub/shrubs exotic forest/trees introduced "native" cover																		exotic plants									
	bag/swamp/pakihi marsh sw/fw mudflat sw/fw bluff/rocks bluffs/rocks in bush waterfall cave/gorge gravel habitat/scrub dune/sand limestone ultrabasics geological site breeding ground rare/interesting animals rare/interesting plants historic site historic building prehistoric site camp/midden/pits terraces/earthworks burial/topu																		native mammals									
																			native birds									
																			introduced birds									
																			waterfowl s.l.									
																			introduced waterfowl									
																			reptiles									
																			native/introduced amphibia									
																			fw native fish									
																			fw introduced fish									
																			fw invertebrates									
																			terrestrial invertebrates									
																			saltwater life									
		OTHER FACTORS IN RESERVE																										
		(access)																										
																			signpost									
																			clear entry									
																			car									
																			4wd									
																			path									
																			marked track									
																			rough track									
																			ultrabasics									
																			paper road									
																			boat									
																			no obvious									
																			no legal									
																			(general)									
																			reserve notice									
																			information notice									
																			plant labels									
																			picnic + water									
																			ditto + car									
																			boating									
																			hut									
																			local ranger									
																			borrow pit									
																			mine									
																			road									
																			building									
																			pylon									
																			pole									
																			pipeline									
																			cut strip									
																			clearing-spot									
																			clearing-extensive									
																			translator etc									
																			other works									
																			grazing lease									
																			other lease									
																			unnatural noise									
																			visual pollution									
100																												

¹ tall conifer: kahikatea, kauri, matai, miro, rimu, totara ² remaining 11 tree-sized spp ³ broadleaved ⁴ e.g. flax ⁵ incl. rough grassland, pasture etc

TREES AND SHRUBS

Native

Aristotelia serrata
Beilschmiedia tawa
Brachyglottis repanda
Carpodetus serratus
Cassinia leptophylla
Coprosma grandifolia
C. lucida
C. microcarpa
C. rhamnoides
C. robusta
Cordyline banksii
Cyathodes juniperina
Dacrydium cupressinum
Elaeocarpus dentatus
~~*E. hookerianus*~~

Fuchsia excorticata
Gaultheria antipoda
Geniostoma rupestre var.
Hebe stricta var. *atkinsonii*
Hedycarya arborea
Hoheria populnea var. (planted)
Knightia excelsa
Leptospermum ericoides
L. scoparium
Leucopogon fasciculatus
Lophomyrtus bullata
Meliccytus ramiflorus
Myrsine australis
M. salicina
Nestegis lanceolata

Nothofagus solandri var. *solandri*
N. truncata
Olearia rani
Pittosporum eugenioides
P. tenuifolium
Podocarpus ferrugineus
(=*Prumnopitys ferruginea*)
Podocarpus totara
Pseudopanax anomalus
P. arboreus
P. crassifolius
Schefflera digitata
Sophora microphylla (planted)
S. tetraptera (planted)
Weinmannia racemosa

Adventive

Cotoneaster sp.
Cytisus scoparius

Erica lusitanica
Pinus radiata

Salix sp.
Ulex europaeus

CLIMBERS, LIANES ETC.

Native

Calystegia tuguriorum
Clematis paniculata
Freycinetia baueriana ssp. *banksii*

Muehlenbeckia australis
Ripogonum scandens

Rubus australis
R. cissoides

Adventive

Lonicera japonica

Rubus laciniatus

GRASSES, RUSHES AND LIKE PLANTS

Native

Carex dissita
Cortaderia fulvida
Gahnia pauciflora

Gahnia setifolia
Juncus planifolius
Rytidosperma setifolia

Uncinia angustifolia
U. banksii
U. uncinata

Adventive

Agrostis tenuis
Anthoxanthum odoratum

Dactylis glomerata

Holcus lanatus

HERBS

Native

Astelia solandri
Dianella nigra

Euphrasia cuneata

Thelymitra sp.

Adventive

Centaurium erythraea
Crepis capillaris
Duchesnea indica
Gnaphalium spicatum
Hypochaeris radicata

Plantago lanceolata
P. major
Prunella vulgaris
Ranunculus repens
Senecio jacobaea

Sisyrinchium iridifolium
Taraxacum officinale
Trifolium pratense
T. repens

FERNS AND ALLIES

Native

Alsophila tricolor
Asplenium flaccidum
A. oblongifolium
A. polyodon
Blechnum discolor
B. sp. (*B. capense* agg.)
(common sp.)

Cardiomanes reniforme
Dicksonia squarrosa
Grammitis ciliata
Hymenophyllum demissum
H. sanguinolentum
H. scabrum
Lindsaea trichomanoides

Lycopodium varium
L. volubile
Paesia scaberula
Phymatosorus diversifolius
Pteridium esculentum
Pyrrhosia serpens
Sphaeropteris medullaris

BIRDS

fantail

tui

waxeye

Scenic Reserves of the Lower North Island

A BOTANICAL SURVEY OF SCENIC AND ALLIED RESERVES
OF WELLINGTON, HOROWHENUA AND WAIRARAPA.

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by

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PART 2.

WAIRARAPA

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