

Checklist of indigenous vascular plants seen at: Forest Flat Reserve

Grid Ref.: NZMS 260 T25 594 567

Altitude 180m.asl

Visited: 13 September 1999, T. Silbery, A. Rebergen

Time on site: 4½ hours

LIST # 36

Site description:

The site is on the west bank of the Tiraumea River, generally facing south.

The base rock is mudstone. At the eastern end of the reserve there are some deeply incised small streams cutting through a steep slope rising to a ridge. The topography in the western end is less steep with gentler crests to the leading ridges along with shallow gully heads and some relatively flat areas.

There is a small area of river flat, but the vegetation here is the most damaged in the reserve. Here, past disturbance has been compounded by repeated flooding and a number of weeds have established and appear to be persisting. Pasture grasses predominate, but ivy (*Hedera helix*), stinking iris (*Iris foetidissima*) and willow (*Salix sp.*) are present.

There are a number of small, spindly blackberry plants throughout, probably a remnant from former grazing damage and in decline, as opposed to active invaders, but their presence means that any disturbance to the canopy and understorey will allow the spread of the weed to be both rapid and over a large area.

Though the abundance of ferns and mosses in the understorey, and the presence of some larger epiphytes, point to moist conditions, the ridge crests are surprisingly dry. The presence here of *Arthropodium candidum* and *Libertia ixioides* was a feature. Totara (*Podocarpus totara*) and kahikatea (*Dacrydium dacrydioides*) seedlings were also a feature of these sites.

Dominant trees were totara, kahikatea, matai (*Prumnopitys taxifolia*), often as large trees, with rimu (*Dacrydium cupressinum*) and miro (*Prumnopitys ferruginea*) occasionally present. Lancewood (*Pseudopanax crassifolius*), tawa (*Beilschmiedia tawa*), mahoe (*Melicytus ramiflorus*), and kanuka (*Kunzea ericoides*) are common associates.

There was an electric fence on at least part of the boundary and no sign of recent stock trespass.

Search effort

Recce

Moderate

Thorough

Nomenclature generally follows Indigenous Higher Plants of New Zealand, 8th revision, 1992 by A.P. Druce

* indicates species listed on the Wellington Conservancy plant database

(unc) = uncommon, one or few plants seen.

Gymnosperm trees and shrubs

Dacrycarpus dacrydioides*
Dacrydium cupressinum
Podocarpus totara*
Prumnopitys ferruginea
Prumnopitys taxifolia

Monocotyledonous trees and shrubs

Cordyline australis*

Dicotyledonous trees and shrubs

Alectryon excelsus var. excelsus
Aristotelia serrata
Beilschmiedia tawa
Brachyglottis repanda
Carmichaelia australis
Carpodetus serratus
Coprosma areolata
Coprosma grandifolia
Coprosma rhamnoides
Coprosma rigida*
Coprosma robusta
Coprosma rotundifolia
Coprosma rubra
Elaeocarpus dentatus
Fuchsia excorticata*
Fuchsia excorticata × F. perscandens
Geniostoma ligustrifolium
Hebe stricta var. atkinsonii
Hedycarya arborea
Hoheria populnea var.
Hoheria sixtylosa
Knightia excelsa
Kunzea ericoides
Leptospermum scoparium
Leucopogon fasciculatus
Lophomyrtus obcordata*
Melicope simplex*
Melicytus micranthus*
Melicytus ramiflorus subsp. ramiflorus
Myrsine australis
Neomyrtus pedunculata*
Nestegis cunninghamii*
Nestegis lanceolata
Nestegis montana*

Olearia rani var. colorata
Pennantia corymbosa
Pittosporum eugenioides
Pittosporum tenuifolium*
Plagianthus regius
Pseudopanax crassifolius
Raukua anomalus
Schefflera digitata
Solanum laciniatum
Sophora microphylla
Streblus heterophyllus
Urtica ferox

Dicotyledonous lianes and related trailing plants

Calystegia tuguriorum
Clematis foetida
Fuchsia perscandens*
Metrosideros colensoi
Metrosideros diffusa
Muehlenbeckia australis*
Parsonsia capsularis
Parsonsia heterophylla
Passiflora tetrandra
Rubus cissoides

Ferns

Adiantum cunninghamii
Asplenium bulbiferum
Asplenium flaccidum
Asplenium hookerianum
Asplenium oblongifolium
Asplenium polyodon
Blechnum chambersii
Blechnum filiforme
Blechnum fluviatile
Blechnum novae-zelandiae
Cyathea dealbata
Dicksonia fibrosa*
Dicksonia squarrosa
Hymenophyllum demissum
Hypolepis ambigua
Hypolepis millefolium
Hypolepis ambigua x H. rufobarbata
Hypolepis sp. (Large triangular fronds (H. dicksonioides?))
Lastreopsis glabella
Leptopteris hymenophylloides
Pellaea rotundifolia
Phymatosorus pustulatus
Pneumatopteris pennigera

Polystichum richardii
Pteridium esculentum
Pteris tremula
Pyrrosia eleagnifolia

Orchids

Earina autumnalis
Earina mucronata

Grasses

Cortaderia sp. (young plants only seen)
Microlaena avenacea
Microlaena polynoda*
Poa anceps ssp. anceps

Sedges

Carex geminata
Carex secta*
Carex virgata*
Isolepis reticularis
Uncinia uncinata

Monocotyledonous herbs other than orchids, grasses, sedges, rushes and allied plants

Arthropodium candidum
Astelia fragrans
Collospermum microspermum
Libertia ixioides

Dicotyledonous herbs - composites

Senecio minimus
Senecio sp. (large purple stained leaves)

Dicotyledonous herbs other than composites

Acaena anserinifolia
Australina pusilla
Cardamine sp. (*C. debilis* agg.) ("Long Style" of Pritchard 1957)
Cardamine sp. (unnamed; aff. *C. corymbosa*)
Epilobium insulare
Haloragis erecta
Hydrocotyle elongata
Hydrocotyle heteromeria
Hydrocotyle novae-zelandiae*
Oxalis exilis
Pratia angulata
Ranunculus reflexus
Stellaria decipiens
Urtica incisa