

Orchids on  
abase ✓

## Indigenous vascular flora in the vicinity of the glowworm caves Blue Rock Road.

Map Ref. Centred on S27 097830 Alt. 240 – 280m

Pat Enright, Olaf John, Peter Beveridge (3hrs) 9/6/01  
Pat Enright, Tony Silbery, Olaf John (3hrs) 15/9/01

### Site Description:

This site encompasses some limestone bluffs and boulders above the road, a limestone gorge and the area around the cave entrances. The area is grazed except for a small area fenced off to protect stock consequently most palatable species are restricted to ledges and cliff edges and areas in the limestone gorge.

Most tree species are represented by a few mature specimens in an area outside the caves. Part of this area is boggy at the moment and there seems to be a permanent seepage that provides the water. The drought effects are evident in the almost dead epiphytic orchid species *Earina mucronata* which is growing in a large black maire (*Nestegis cunninghamii*).

The clefts, crevices and areas under the limestone cliffs and boulders provide the refuge for some of the more interesting species notably *Ranunculus multiscapus* (not currently listed from Eastern Wairarapa) and the fern *Asplenium lyalli* (uncommon in the Wellington conservancy).

A further search of the boggy area in the spring may yield some of the smaller species, which show up when in flower.

### Gymnosperm trees and shrubs

*Dacrycarpus dacrydioides* (unc)  
*Prumnopitys taxifolia*

kahikatea  
matai

### Dicotyledonous trees and shrubs

*Alectryon excelsus* subsp. *excelsus*  
*Aristotelia serrata* (unc)  
*Brachyglottis repanda*  
*Carpodetus serratus*  
*Coprosma areolata*  
*Coprosma rhamnoides*  
*Coprosma robusta*  
*Coriaria arborea*  
*Fuchsia excorticata* (unc)  
*Gaultheria antipoda* (unc)  
*Griselinia littoralis* (unc)  
*Hebe stricta* var. *atkinsonii*  
*Hedycarya arborea* (unc)  
*Helichrysum aggregatum*  
*Hoheria sexstylosa*  
*Kunzea ericoides*  
*Leptospermum scoparium*  
*Leucopogon fasciculatus* (unc)  
*Macropiper excelsum* subsp. *excelsum*  
*Meliccytus ramiflorus* subsp. *ramiflorus*  
*Myoporum laetum* (unc)  
*Meliccytus ramiflorus*  
*Myrsine australis*  
*Nestegis cunninghamii*  
*Ozothamnus leptophyllus* s.s.  
*Pennantia corymbosa*  
*Pittosporum eugenioides*  
*Pittosporum tenuifolium* (unc)  
*Pseudopanax arboreus*  
*Sophora microphylla* (unc)  
*Urtica ferox*  
*Weinmannia racemosa* subsp. *racemosa* (unc)

titoki  
makomako, wineberry  
rangiora  
putaputaweta, marbleleaf  
  
karamu  
tree tutu  
kotukutuku, tree fuchsia  
  
broadleaf  
koromiko  
porokaiwhiri, pigeonwood  
  
narrow leafed lacebark  
kanuka  
manuka  
  
kawakawa  
mahoe  
ngaio  
mahoe  
red matipo  
black maire  
tauhinu  
kaikomako  
tarata, lemonwood  
kohuhu  
five finger  
kowhai  
ongaonga, tree nettle  
kamahi

### Monocotyledonous trees and shrubs

*Cordyline australis* (unc)

te kouka, cabbage tree

Monocotyledonous lianes

Ripogonum scandens (unc)

supplejack

Dicotyledonous lianes and related trailing plants

Clematis forsteri

Metrosideros colensoi

Metrosideros diffusa

Muehlenbeckia australis

Parsonsia heterophylla (unc)

Rubus cissoides

Rubus schmidelioides (unc)

akatea

pohuehue

N.Z. jasmine

tataramoa, bush lawyer

tataramoa, bush lawyer

Psilopsids, Lycopods and Quillworts

Ferns

Adiantum cunninghamii

Asplenium flabellifolium

Asplenium flaccidum

Asplenium gracillimum

Asplenium hookerianum

Asplenium lyalli

Asplenium oblongifolium

Azolla filiculoides

Blechnum chambersii

Blechnum fluviatile

Blechnum pennamarina (unc)

Blechnum triangularifolium

Ctenopteris heterophylla (unc)

Hymenophyllum cupressiforme (unc)

Hypolepis ambigua

Lastreopsis glabella

Microsorium pustulatum

Pellaea rotundifolia

Pneumatopteris pennigera

Polystichum richardii

Pteridium esculentum

Pteris macilenta

Pteris tremula

Pyrrhosia eleagnifolia

maidenhair fern

necklace fern

hanging spleenwort

huruwhenua, shining spleenwort

nini

kiwakiwa

comb fern

kowaowao, hounds tongue

tarawera, button fern

pakauroharoha, gully fern

pikopiko

rauaruhe, bracken

turawera, shaking brake

ota, leather leaf fern

Orchids

Corybas macranthus ✓

Earina mucronata (unc) ✓

Microtis unifolia ✓

onion leaved orchid

Grasses

Poa anceps subsp. anceps

Sedges

Uncinia uncinata (unc)

Rushes and allied plants

Juncus gregiflorus

Juncus planifolius

Juncus sarophorus

Remaining Monocotyledonous plants

Libertia ixioides (unc)  
Phormium cookianum

mikoikoi

Daisy-like herbs (Composites)

Anaphaloides trinervis (unc)  
Euchiton gymnocephalus  
Helichrysum filicaule  
Lagenifera pumila  
Pseudognaphalium luteoalbum  
Rauulia glabra (unc)

Dicotyledonous herbs other than Composites

Cardamine sp. (*C. debilis* agg.) ("Long Style" of Pritchard 1957)  
Dichondra brevifolia agg.  
Epilobium nummulariifolium  
Epilobium pedunculare  
Epilobium pubens (unc)  
Galium propinquum  
Geranium sessiliflorum  
Geranium sp. (microphyllum /potentilloides)  
Hydrocotyle elongata  
Hydrocotyle moschata  
Hydrocotyle novae zelandiae  
Hypericum japonicum  
Nertera depressa  
Oxalis exilis  
Plantago raoulii  
Pratia angulata  
Ranunculus multiscapus  
Ranunculus reflexus  
Stellaria decipiens  
Wahlenbergia violacea

tukorehu

**Lichens:** (Compiled by Barbara Polly)

Flavoparmelia haysomii  
Neofuscella pulla  
Pseudocyphellaria ardesiaca  
Tephromela atra  
Xanthoparmelia substrigosa

**Liverworts:**

Targionia hypophylla ?

**Mosses:** (Compiled by Peter Beveridge)

Racopilum robustum

**Birds:**

eastern rosella  
fantail  
grey warbler

A stoat and a wild cat were seen in and around the rocks

