



# Kaitawa Scenic Reserve

Area: 556.8801 ha



<b>KAITAWA SCENIC RESERVE</b> for: scenery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bush <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> scrub/tussock etc <input type="checkbox"/> wetland <input type="checkbox"/> plants <input type="checkbox"/> animals <input type="checkbox"/> geology/soil <input type="checkbox"/> history/prehistory <input type="checkbox"/> water supply <input type="checkbox"/>		<b>GRID</b> REF N 157 651 752 - 655 706
<b>LOCATION</b> 5 km east of Waikanae on the western side of the Waikanae River.	<b>ACCESS</b> Off Mangaone South Road, along the Mangaone walkway from Mangaone North Road.	<b>AREA</b> ha/acre 556.8801 <b>L.D. No.</b> <b>STATUS</b> Scenic <b>RES sub-Cttee</b> <b>CONTROL</b> CCL
<b>OUTLINE &amp; TOPO</b> Steeply dissected mountain country on the western side of Waikanae River. The reserve is covered in mature kamahi dominant forest types.	<b>SURROUNDINGS</b> Similar forested area to the north and the east (Tararua State Forest). Farmland and reverting scrub to the south. Pine plantation on NW boundary. Maori land in dense forest separates Hemi Matenga Scenic Reserve from the southwest end of Kaitawa.	<b>GAZETTED</b> 1947/369, 370 1941 <b>RESERVED</b> Northern section was an Education endowment leased for timber felling. Whole area reserved for water conservation in 1941. <b>HISTORY</b>
<b>GEOLOGY</b> Greywacke, some loess and solifluction deposits on ridge tops.	<b>SPM</b> In situ greywacke, colluvium, weathered greywacke, loess.	<b>AIR PHOTO</b> SN 5309 A/2, SN 5497 J/8 date 1981 6.10.80.
<b>SOIL</b> Steepland soils related to central yellow-brown earths.	<b>DRAINAGE</b> Very good on steep slopes.	<b>nearby town</b> 5 km Waikanae <b>nearest reserve</b> 1.5 km Hemi Matenga <b>public road</b> 300 m <b>sea (km)</b> 6 <b>ALTITUDE</b> m/ft 166-650m. <b>ASPECT</b> East. <b>RAIN</b> mm/xx 1500 (approx) <b>NAT FERTILITY</b> Low - medium.

		MAIN HABITATS and FEATURES																	
RES	NOT	LD	NZ	LD	NZ		% area	area ha	native		ex	regen	NAT	trend	L	exotics			
									1 <sup>o</sup>	2 <sup>o</sup> ind									
						1. Kamahi-tawa forest on steep slopes and ridges. Tall kamahi and tawa up to 20m dominate the reserve. At the lowest altitudes (below 300m) there are occasional tall rimu and infrequent northern rata emergent above the forest canopy but most rimu has been logged from the lower slopes. Above 300m. miro is more common as an emergent above the forest canopy. There is a gradation in importance of tawa, toro, hinau and mahoe in the canopy with altitude. Tawa, hinau and mahoe are common in the canopy along with kamahi at the lower altitudes of the reserve whilst at the higher altitudes kamahi and toro are prominent.  The understorey is quite open with wheki, Smith's tree fern and <i>Pseudowintera axillaris</i> the most common species from 2m - 6 m. The ground floor contains scattered clumps of crown fern, bush rice grass, hook grasses and filmy ferns amongst a light litter layer.  Within the main forest type there are small stands of pole kamahi forest on the ridges and areas of dense black tree fern and kiekie in steep gullies.	77.9	433.8	✓	✓				M	M				
						2. Rewarewa/kamahi-tawa-black tree fern forest on lower slopes.  Milled over vegetation type 1. The podocarps have been milled from the lower slope forests and rewarewa is now emergent at 20m above a low canopy of tawa, kamahi, black tree fern, hinau, mahoe and putaputaweta.	12.2	67.9	✓	✓			M	M					
						3. Kamahi-toro-mixed broadleaved spp. forest on ridge tops above 630m. Low forest (up to 10m tall) dominated by kamahi and toro and with occasional miro, Hall's totara, puka and horopito. Some areas have been burnt and now support a low scrub of kamahi, toro, puka, stinkwood, horopito and pokaka. The ground floor is dominated by crown fern and bush rice grass.	9.4	52.4		✓			M	M					
						4. Wheki-marbleleaf tree fernland on wet terrace adjacent to Waikanae River at the southern end of reserve.	0.5	2.8		✓			M	M					
							100	556.9											

**CONDITION** Overall good. Evidence of pig damage throughout the reserve.

**FENCING** Reserve is fenced at north eastern end. There is little possibility of stock access on other boundaries.

**PRIORITY** Low

**RATING 0-10**

**SCIENTIFIC** ..... 5

**SCENIC** ..... 6

**RECREATION** ..... 6 Mangaone walkway goes through the reserve. Limited hunting potential as the area is popular with walkers.

**CONCLUSIONS and RECOMMENDATIONS**

This is the largest scenic reserve in the Wellington-Horowhenua district. It contains a forest vegetation which is typical of the lower slopes of the western Tararua ranges. The reserve is contiguous with the forests of the Tararua State Forest and is very close to Hemi Matenga Scenic Reserve. Kaitawa Scenic Reserve is separated on the western side from Hemi Matenga Scenic Reserve by an area of forested Maori land. This area would make a worthwhile addition to Kaitawa reserve and would protect the complete forest sequence from coastal kohekohe forest to montane low kamahi-toro forest on Mt Field at the south west end of Kaitawa Scenic Reserve.

Two red beech seedlings and one sapling were seen on the highest ridges of the reserve. No adult beech trees were seen in the reserve.



TREES AND SHRUBS

Native

*Aristotelia serrata*  
*Ascarina lucida*  
*Beilschmiedia tawa*  
*Brachyglottis repanda*  
*Carpodetus serratus*  
*Cassinia leptophylla*  
*Coprosma colensoi*  
*C. foetidissima*  
*C. grandifolia*  
*C. lucida*  
*C. rhamnoides*  
*C. robusta*  
*C. rotundifolia*  
*Coriaria* sp.  
*Cordyline indivisa*  
*Dacrydium cupressinum*  
*Dysoxylum spectabile* (seedling)  
*Elaeocarpus dentatus*  
*E. hookerianus*

*Fuchsia excorticata*  
*Gaultheria antipoda*  
*Geniostoma rupestre* var.  
*Griselinia lucida*  
*Hebe stricta* var. *atkinsonii*  
*Hedycarya arborea*  
*Knightia excelsa*  
*Laurelia novae-zelandiae*  
*Leptospermum ericoides*  
*L. scoparium*  
*Leucopogon fasciculatus*  
*Lophomyrtus bullata*  
*Macropiper excelsum*  
*Meliccytus lanceolatus*  
*M. ramiflorus*  
*Metrosideros robusta*  
*Myrsine australis*  
*M. salicina*  
*Neomyrtus pedunculata*

*Nestegis cunninghamii*  
*Nothofagus fusca* (2 seedlings, 1 sapling)  
*Olearia rani*  
*O. solandri*  
*Pennantia corymbosa*  
*Podocarpus dacrydioides*  
 (= *Dacrycarpus dacrydioides*)  
*P. ferrugineus* (= *Prumnopitys ferruginea*)  
*P. spicatus* (= *Prumnopitys taxifolia*)  
*P. hallii*  
*Pseudopanax arboreus*  
*P. crassifolius*  
*P. edgerleyi*  
*P. simplex*  
*Pseudowintera axillaris*  
*P. colorata*  
*Schefflera digitata*  
*Weinmannia racemosa*

Adventive

*Berberis glaucocarpa*

*Erica lusitanica*

*Leycesteria formosa*

CLIMBERS, LIANES ETC.

Native

*Clematis paniculata*  
*Freycinetia baueriana* ssp. *banksii*  
*Metrosideros colensoi*  
*M. diffusa*

*Metrosideros fulgens*  
*M. perforata*  
*Muehlenbeckia australis*  
*Parsonsia heterophylla*

*Ripogonum scandens*  
*Rubus australis*  
*R. cissoides*

Adventive

*Rubus fruticosus*

GRASSES, RUSHES AND LIKE PLANTS

Native

*Carex virgata*  
*Cortaderia fulvida*  
*Dichelachne crinita*  
*Gahnia pauciflora*  
*G. setifolia*  
*Juncus gregiflorus*  
*J. pallidus*

*Juncus planifolius*  
*J. sarophorus*  
*Luzula picta*  
*Microlaena avenacea*  
*Rytidosperma nigricans*  
*R. unarede*  
*Schoenus maschalinus*

*Scirpus inundatus* (= *Isolepis inundata*)  
*S. prolifer* (= *Isolepis prolifer*)  
*S. reticularis* (= *I. reticularis*)  
*Uncinia banksii*  
*U. ferruginea*  
*U. uncinata*

Adventive

*Agrostis tenuis*  
*Anthoxanthum odoratum*

*Carex ovalis*

*Juncus articulatus*

HERBS

Native

*Acaena novae-zelandiae*  
*Astelia fragrans*  
*A. solandri*  
*Caladenia catenata*  
*Cardamine* sp. (*C. debilis* agg.)  
*Centella uniflora*  
*Chiloglottis cornuta*  
*Collospermum hastatum*  
*Dendrobium cunninghamii*  
*Earina autumnalis*  
*E. mucronata*

*Epilobium nerteroides*  
*E. rotundifolium*  
*Galium propinquum*  
*Gnaphalium audax*  
*G. limosum*  
*Helichrysum filicaule*  
*Hydrocotyle moschata*  
*Lagenifera pumila*  
*Microtis unifolia*  
*Nertera depressa*  
*N. setulosa*

*Oreomyrrhis* sp.  
*Oxalis* sp.  
*Pseudognaphalium luteo-album*  
*Pterostylis graminea*  
*Ranunculus hirtus*  
*Raoulia glabra*  
*Thelymitra* sp.  
*Urtica incisa*  
*Wahlenbergia gracilis*

Adventive

*Ellis perennis*  
*Callitriche stagnalis*  
*Carduus tenuiflorus*  
*Centaurium erythraea*  
*Cirsium arvense*  
*C. vulgare*

*Digitalis purpurea*  
*Lotus pedunculatus*  
*Nasturtium officinale*  
*Plantago lanceolata*  
*Prunella vulgaris*

*Ranunculus repens*  
*Rumex acetosella*  
*Stellaria alsine*  
*S. graminea*

FERNS AND ALLIES

Native

*Alsophila smithi* (= *Cyathea smithii*)  
*A. tricolor*  
*Asplenium bulbiferum*  
*A. flaccidum*  
*A. oblongifolium*  
*A. polyodon*  
*Blechnum chambersii*  
*B. colensoi*  
*B. discolor*  
*B. fluviatile*  
*B. membranaceum*  
*B. nigrum*  
*B. sp.* (= *Lomaria latifolia*)  
*B. sp.* (*B. capense* agg. - common sp.)

*Ctenopteris heterophylla*  
*Dicksonia squarrosa*  
*D. fibrosa*  
*Grammitis billardieri*  
*G. ciliata*  
*Histiopteris incisa*  
*Hymenophyllum demissum*  
*H. dilatatum*  
*H. ferrugineum*  
*H. flabellatum*  
*H. multifidum*  
*H. revolutum*  
*H. sanguinolentum*  
*H. scabrum*

*Hypolepis rufobarbata*  
*H. tenuifolia*  
*Lastreopsis glabella*  
*L. hispida*  
*Leptopteris hymenophylloides*  
*L. superba*  
*Lycopodium scariosum*  
*L. varium*  
*L. volubile*  
*Paesia scaberula*  
*Phymatosorus diversifolius*  
*P. scandens*  
*Pneumatopteris pennigera*  
*Polystichum vestitum*

FERNS AND ALLIES (Continued)

*Pteridium esculentum*  
*Pteris macilenta*  
*P. tremula*  
*Pyrrhosia serpens*

*Rumohra adiantiformis*  
*Sphaeropteris medullaris*  
*Sticherus cunninghamii*

*Tmesipteris elongata*  
*T. tannensis*  
*Trichomanes venosum*

BIRDS

belibird  
blackbird  
chaffinch  
fantail  
goldfinch

greywarbler  
harrier hawk  
New Zealand pigeon  
paradise shelduck  
pied tit

silvereve  
song thrush  
tui  
white-backed magpie