

1. totara, with kahikatea and rimu in 171 over lacebark, ribbonwood; devoid of understorey in 175. Shaded zone... denser podocarp. Abundant *Metrosideros colensoi*.

2. Lacebark-mixed broadleaved, mature in 171 with prolific sycamore, elderberry and little understorey; immature in 175, with dense vines.

3. Grassland with ragwort, thistle and herbaceous weeds.

4. 2° mixed broadleaved - lacebark, tawa, *Coprosma* spp, rangiora, putaputaweta and *Pennantia* etc abund. ferns and stinging nettle. Sheep tracks. Good picnicking clearings off track. Podocarp stumps only.

5. Marginal zone of robust, divaricating shrubs up to 3m; *coprosma* spp.

Makuri Township Scenic Reserve

Area: 10.8834 ha

MAKURI TOWNSHIP SCENIC RESERVE								GRID REF T24 331744	
for: scenery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bush <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> scrub/tussack 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"/>								AREA ha 10.8834 L.O. No. Sections 166, 171 Bik XIV, Makuri SD STATUS Scenic RES sub-Clas	
LOCATION Two blocks, one on the banks of Makuri River between the Pahiatua-Akitio-Pongaroa Rd and Owahanga Rd, the other is 1km N from there. 17 km E of Pahiatua. ACCESS Roadside access. The only gate is on the N fence of Section 175.								CONTROL CCL GAZETTED 1912/2650, 1956/528, 1956/529 RESERVED	
OUTLINE & TOPO Sections 171 and 175 are on flat river terraces and banks dissected by the Makuri River and a small creek. Section 171 rises gently to Owahanga Road and although half the area has been heavily grazed it still contains mature totara, rimu and younger kahikatea. Section 161 is on a steep south-facing hillside that rises above the road. Mostly light secondary tawa -broadleaved species, but it also contains pasture.								HISTORY See notes.	
SURROUNDINGS Both blocks are situated in the Makuri River valley near Makuri Township. Much of the surround land is pasture, with several large blocks of native vegetation. The valley is enclosed by steep ridges.								AIR PHOTO 5139 H/32 date 29.9.77. nearest town 15 km Mangaroa nearest reserve 0.5 km Makuri Gorge public road Makuri Road and Owahanga Road spz (km) 32 ALTITUDE mxm 260-380	
GEOLOGY Coquina limestone.								ASPECT Section 166 Sth, Section 171 Nth	
SPM Weathered limestone, colluvium and river silts.								RAIN mm 1650 (approx) NAT FERTILITY Medium to High.	
SOIL Central yellow-brown earths and related steepland soils; Mahoenui-Pahiatua									
DRAINAGE Poor to good.									

				MAIN HABITATS and FEATURES															
RES	NOT	ID	NZ	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	%	area	native		ex	regen	NAT	trend	exotics		
											1°	2°/ind							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1. Totara - rimu - kahikatea/lacebark and ribbonwood, severely grazed understorey.					23	2.5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	L	L		D	M	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2. Secondary growth tall scrub or light bush predominantly of lacebark, vines and exotics (sycamore and elderberry).					19	2.1		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	H	L		I	M	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3. Exotic grassland with weeds - grazed and rank.					29	3.1		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	M	L		S	H	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4. Secondary mixed-broadleaved bush. A few juvenile podocarps. Similar to 2 but older, few exotics, recently grazed; dense vines and stinging nettle.					26	2.8		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	M	M		S	M	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5. Narrow buffer zone of robust, woody divaricating shrubs <3m.					2	0.2		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	L	M		S	M	
										99	10.7								

CONDITION The protected areas show promising recovery from past grazing although weed infestation in Section 171 is a problem and native creepers and vines are smothering open scrub in Section 175. The grazed portion has deteriorated seriously. Sycamore and Clematis vitalba pose a serious threat. Some slumping of stream banks. Range from poor to good condition.

FENCING 166 alone requires fencing. Evidence of stock present.

PRIORITY High in 166 only.

RATING E-10

SCIENTIFIC 2... Small pocket of valley floor mixed podocarp but little regeneration and bad weed infestation.

SCENIC 2... Picturesque but would be more aesthetically appealing without the sheep.

RECREATION 4... Local use: some good picnic sites.

CONCLUSIONS and RECOMMENDATIONS Probably owing to the proximity of these two small blocks to the scenically superior Makuri Gorge Scenic Reserve, they have been neglected, infested with weeds and Section 175 is still being grazed. They are useful for picnicking where stinging nettle isn't too prolific, and provide a pleasant 'bushy' outlook for Makuri Township although their present merit as scenic reserves is minimal. They are important for soil erosion control along the course of the Makuri River. If the banks of Section 175 were able to support undergrowth which at present is grazed, the slumping of the banks and susceptibility to flood damage might be averted. If the grazed area were reduced to the open grassed areas, the spread of ragwort and nettle in particular would be uncurbed. However, native regrowth in other sections has been vigorous enough to choke out many of the smaller problem weeds and it may be worth attempting this in Section 175; perhaps with some replanting in the areas still retaining canopy and shrub species. Sycamore at the eastern end of Sections 175 and 171 needs to be removed and there is Clematis vitalba in the same area which will be more difficult to eradicate. Further spread of these weeds will threaten Makuri Gorge Scenic Reserve also. Section 166 would benefit from the replacement of the dilapidated fence; the present number of sheep tracks through the bush is indicative of future degradation if sheep remain. The future of this land as a scenic reserve is dependent upon long-term weed control which is time-consuming and costly. A certain amount of involvement might be possible from the local school and community. Tighter control and management might be gained by adding this land to the Makuri Gorge Scenic Reserve. (Continued..)

3 hours Wet, overcast conditions IG 1981

NATIVE SPECIES

Trees and shrubs

Aristotelia serrata
Beilschmiedia tawa
Brachyglottis repanda
Carmichaelia sp.(arborea)
Carpodetus serratus
Corprosma grandifolia (= *C. australis*)
C. rhamnoides
C. rigida
C. robusta
C. rotundifolia
Cordyline australis
C. banksii
Dacrydium cupressinum
Fuchsia excorticata

Geniostomaligustrifolium
Griselinia littoralis
Hebe stricta
Hedycarya arborea
Hoheria populnea var. *lanceolata*
Leptospermum scoparium
Lophomyrtus bullata
~~*L. obcordata*~~
L. bullata X *L. obcordata*
Melicope simplex
Meliccytus ramiflorus
Myrsine australis
Nestegis lanceolata
Paratrophis microphylla

Pennantia corymbosa
Pittosporum eugenoides
P. tenuifolium
Plagianthus betulinus
Podocarpus dacrydioides
P. spicatus
P. totara
Pseudopanax anomalus
P. crassifolius
Pseudowintera colorata
Schefflera digitata
Sophora microphylla ✓
Weinmannia racemosa
Urtica ferox

Climbers and lianes etc.

Calystegia tuguriorum
Clematis foetida
Metrosideros colensoi
M. diffusa

Metrosideros perforata
Muehlenbeckia australis
Parsonsia capsularis
P. heterophylla

Passiflora tetrandra
Ripogonum scandens
Rubus cissoides

Grasses, Rushes and like plants

Carex lessoniana
C. secta
C. solandri

Cortaderia toetoe
Microlaena avenacea

Poa anceps
Uncinia uncinata

Herbs

Acaena anserinifolia
Astelia fragrans
A. solandri
Collospermum hastatum (?)

Collospermum microspermum (?)
Earina mucronata
Epilobium pedunculare
Hydrocotyle elongata

Hydrocotyle moschata
H. novae-zelandiae
Senecio minimus
Stellaria parviflora

Ferns

Anarthropteris lanceolata
Asplenium bulbiferum
A. polyodon
A. flaccidum
Blechnum sp. (*capense* agg.)
B. fluviatile
B. chambersii
Cyathea medullaris

Cyathea smithii ✓
Dicksonia fibrosa
D. squarrosa
Histiopteris incisa
Lastreopsis glabella
Leptopteris hymenophylloides
Lycopodium billardieri
Pellaea rotundifolia

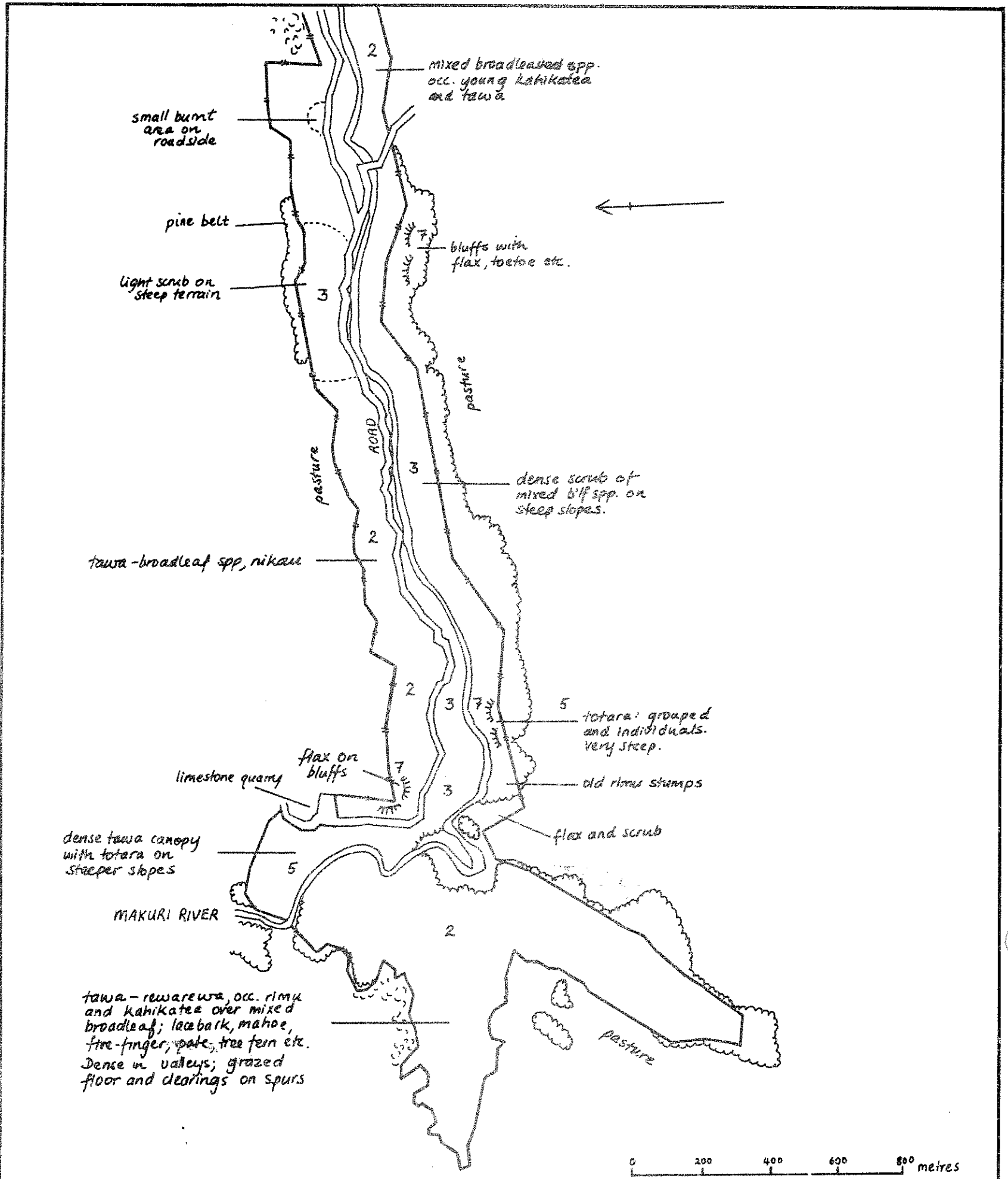
Phymatosorus diversifolius
P. scandens
Pneumatopteris pennigera
Polystichum richardii
P. vestitum
Pteris tremula
Pyrosia serpens

EXOTIC SPECIES

buddleia
buttercup
Clematis vitalba
elder
fennel
foxglove
galium

Gnaphalium sp.
mint
pennyroyal
plantain
Prunus sp.
ragwort

selfheal
sycamore
Trifolium sp.
thistles
waterweed
willow



Makuri Gorge Scenic Reserve

Area: 159.4764 ha