



SHRUBS

Native

*Cassinia leptophylla*

*Coprosma repens*

GRASSES, RUSHES AND LIKE PLANTS

Native

*Luzula banksiana*

*Poa laevis*

*Scirpus nodosus* (=Scirpoides  
nodosa)

Adventive

*Bromus diandrus*

HERBS

Native

*Aciphylla squarrosa*  
*Apium prostratum*  
*Atriplex* sp.

*Disphyma australe*  
*Phormium cookianum*  
*Pseudognaphalium luteo-album*

*Sarcocornia quinqueflora*  
*Senecio lautus*  
*Tillaea moschata* (=Crassula  
moschata) ✓

Adventive

*Alyssum* sp.  
*Anagallis arvensis*  
*Cerastium fontanum* ssp. *triviale*  
*Cirsium vulgare*  
*Crepis capillaris*  
*Geranium molle*

*Glaucum flavum*  
*Hypochaeris radicata*  
*Plantago coronopus*  
*P. major*  
*Raphanus raphanistrum* ssp. *maritimus*

*Silene* sp.  
*Sonchus olearaceus*  
*Spergularia media*  
*Trifolium dubium*  
*T. repens*

Green

*Chaetomorpha aerea*  
*Codium adhaerens*

*Enteromorpha* sp.

*Ulva lactuca*

Brown

*Carpophyllum maschalocarpum*  
*Colponemia sinuosa*  
*Cystophora torulosa*

*Durvillea antarctica*  
*Halopteris spicigera*

*Hormosira banksii*  
*Ralfsia verrucosa*

Red

*Champia novaezelandiae* var.  
*Corallina officinalis*

*Gelidium pusillum*

*Lithothamnion* sp.

MOLLUSCS

*Amaurochiton glaucus*  
*Ischnochiton maorianus*  
*Sypharochiton pelliserpentis*  
*Thais scalaris*  
*Haustrum haustorium*  
*Cominella maculosa*

*Lepsiella scobina*  
*Melagraphia aethiops*  
*Nerita melanotragus*  
*Turbo smaragdus*  
*Littorina unifasciata*  
*Haliotis iris*

*Micrelenchus* sp.  
*Notoacmea* sp.  
*Atalacmea fragilis*  
*Patelloida corticata*  
*Cellana ornata*  
*C. radians*

CRUSTACEANS

*Chamaesipho brunnea*  
*Elminius modestus*  
*Palaemon affinis*

*Alope spinifrons*  
*Isopod*

*Petrolisthes elongatus*  
*Hemigrapsus edwardsi*

ANEMONES

*Isactinia tenebrosa*

*Isocradactis magna*

STARFISH

*Coscinasterias alamarina*

*Ophionereis fasciata*

*Patiriella regularis*

POLYCHAETES

*Pomatoceros caeruleus*

*Spirorbis* sp.

FISH

*Tripterygion varium*

RED ROCKS SCIENTIFIC RESERVE

GRID

REF R 27 545 818

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

**LOCATION**  
On southern coast, 4 km south-west Owhiro Bay.

**ACCESS**  
Along coast road from Owhiro Bay quarry.

**AREA** ha/acre 0.5235  
**L.D. No.** 158  
**STATUS** Scientific  
**RES sub-Cites**  
**CONTROL** CCL  
**GAZETTED** 1972/2418  
**RESERVED** Reserved to protect unique geological formation from quarrying at request of Professor Clark, Victoria University.  
**HISTORY**

**OUTLINE & TOPO**  
Exposed coastal rock platform at the base of steep coastal cliffs.

**AIR PHOTO** SN 5497 B/9  
**date** 1980

**SURROUNDINGS**  
Cook Strait to the south, rough metal road above reserve, coastal cliffs to north.

**nearby town** 4.5 km Island Bay  
**nearest reserve** 1.0 km Sinclair Head  
**public road** 0.0 km  
**sea (km)** 0.0 km

**GEOLOGY**  
Volcanic pillow lava intrusions, greywacke, banded red and green argillites. Area raised above sea level by 1855 earthquake.

**ALTITUDE** m/ft x 0

**SPM**

**ASPECT** South and east

**SOIL** no soil development.

**RAIN** mm/acre 1030 (approx)

**DRAINAGE** V. good - poor.

**NAT FERTILITY** -

RES	NOT		MAIN HABITATS and FEATURES	% area	area ha	native			ex	regen	NAT	trend	exotic
	LD	RZ				LD	RZ	1°					
			1. Coastal rock platform.										
			2. Roadside verge and bank.	97.6	0.51						H	S	
			1. Tidal rock pools containing characteristic exposed shoreline communities with algal species; <i>Lithothamnion</i> sp., <i>Corallina officinalis</i> , sea lettuce, Neptune's necklace common along with chitons, limpets, paua, crabs, barnacles, sea anemones, polychaete worms, prawns and cock-a-bullies. Bull kelp dominant on seaward edge of reserve.  Glasswort, iceplant and shore groundsel occur as scattered plants at the roadside edge of the reserve.	2.4	0.01						S	L	S
			2. Scattered herbaceous weeds along rocky road and embankment.										
<b>CONDITION</b> Good				100	0.52								

**FENCING** Not required.  
**PRIORITY** Nil.

**RATING 0-10**  
**SCIENTIFIC** ...8. Unique geological feature.  
**SCENIC** ...4.  
**RECREATION** ...4. Popular coastal walk from Owhiro Bay.

**CONCLUSIONS and RECOMMENDATIONS**  
This is a very small area reserved to protect a unique geological formation from further quarrying. It is a well known feature in the Wellington region and fulfils an important educational and scientific function. At present the cliffs above and adjacent to the reserve are not protected. The protection of these cliffs is important because of their unstable nature, proximity to the reserve and the fact that vegetation of coastal cliffs is unrepresented in the Wellington mainland reserves.

Wellman, H.W. 1949. Pillow Lava at Red Rock Point, Wellington. Trans. R. Soc. NZ 77 [2] 306-312.

Druce, A.P., (1976 - revised 1980) Indigenous vascular plants of South Wellington Coast and adjacent hills, from Paekakariki to Te Kaukau Pt, S.L. to 1000 ft. (300m). Botany Division, DSIR Report, Unpublished.

REFERENCES

Table with columns for SUMMARY, HABITATS (WATER/ShORE, MAMMALS), ORGANISMS (INFER, OBSERVED), and OTHER FACTORS IN RESERVE. It details various habitats, mammals, organisms, and reserve factors, with a summary table on the left showing percentages.

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