

On bbls

orchids on
base

Indigenous Vascular Plants at Ruakokoputuna

TOPOMAP S27 100809

Pat Enright, Olaf John 29/11/98 Ew

unc = uncommon

Site description:

This site is a QE 2 covenant of 22 hectares on a relatively narrow strip of land 1.6k long on the property of Mr Alan Wilkinson. It follows the course of Ruakokoputuna River on the true left bank. The river cuts deeply into limestone to form a natural feature called The Chasm. The banks above the gorge slope steeply in places to more moderate slopes in others before reaching limestone bluffs that are cut by a number of streams.

The vegetation varies from fivefinger (*Pseudopanax arborea*), some black beech (*Nothofagus solandri* var. *solandri*), flax (*Phormium cookianum*), hinau (*Elaeocarpus dentatus*), putawetaweta (*Carpodetus serratus*) through manuka (*Leptospermum scoparium*), Kanuka (*Kunzea ericoides*) and grassy areas to limestone bluffs with abundant maidenhair fern (*Adiantum cunninghamii*) growing at the base.

The aspect is mainly NE – SW but with short E – W stretches. This gives rise to small areas with very different plants species with a lot of blechnum fern species being found in one area and the spider orchids *Corybas micranthus* and *C. rivularis* agg. (Ian St George pers.comm.) being found in damp shaded areas and on rocks in the Chasm itself.

This is a very interesting area of bush on a limestone substrate. This survey covered about 50 – 60% off the area with a thorough effort and was done at a time that allowed us to find most of the orchid species. A more thorough survey would encompass a traverse of the Chasm itself and more time at the southern end of the site.

Although no sign was found of *Simplicia laxa* (rare grass), two plants of the regional rare fern *Asplenium lyallii* were found. One notable feature of the site was the almost total absence of sedges (Cyperaceae) with a single plant of *Carex solandri* the only find.

Gymnosperm trees and shrubs

<i>Dacrydium cupressinum</i> (unc)	Rimu
<i>Podocarpus totara</i>	Totara

Dicotyledonous trees and shrubs

<i>Aristotelia serrata</i>	Wineberry
<i>Brachyglottis repanda</i>	Rangiora
<i>Carmichaelia australis</i>	
<i>Carpodetus serratus</i>	Putaputaweta, marbleleaf
<i>Coprosma grandifolia</i>	
<i>Coprosma lucida</i>	
<i>Coprosma propinqua</i> subsp. <i>Propinqua</i> (unc)	
<i>Coprosma rhamnoides</i>	
<i>Coprosma robusta</i>	Karamu
<i>Coriaria arborea</i>	Tutu
<i>Elaeocarpus dentatus</i>	Hinau
<i>Gaultheria antipoda</i>	
<i>Griselinia littoralis</i> (unc)	
<i>Hebe stricta</i> var. <i>atkinsonii</i>	Koromiko
<i>Hedycarya arborea</i>	
<i>Helichrysum aggregatum</i>	
<i>Hoheria sexstylosa</i>	
<i>Knightia excelsa</i>	Rewarewa
<i>Kunzea ericoides</i>	Kanuka
<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i>	Manuka
<i>Leucopogon fasciculatus</i>	
<i>Macropiper excelsum</i> var. <i>excelsum</i>	
<i>Melicope simplex</i>	
<i>Melicytus ramiflorus</i> subsp. <i>ramiflorus</i>	Mahoe
<i>Myoporum laetum</i>	Ngaio
<i>Myrsine australis</i> (unc)	Red Matipo
<i>Nothofagus solandri</i> var. <i>solandri</i>	Black beech
<i>Olearia rani</i> (unc)	
<i>Pittosporum eugeniodoides</i> (unc)	Tarata, lemonwood
<i>Plagianthus regius</i>	Ribbonwood
<i>Pseudopanax arboreus</i>	
<i>Pseudopanax crassifolius</i> (unc)	Horoeka, lancewood
<i>Pseudowintera colorata</i> (unc)	
<i>Schefflera digitata</i>	Pate
<i>Sophora microphylla</i>	Kowhai
<i>Weinmannia racemosa</i>	Kamahi

Monocotyledonous trees and shrubs

<i>Cordyline australis</i>	cabbage tree
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Monocotyledonous lianes

Ripogonum scandens Supplejack

Dicotyledonous lianes and related trailing plants

Clematis forsteri
Clematis foetida
Clematis paniculata
Metrosideros colensoi
Metrosideros diffusa
Metrosideros perforata
Parsonsia capsularis
Parsonsia heterophylla Akakiore
Rubus cissoides
Rubus schmidelioides

Psilotops, Lycopods and Quillworts

Ferns

Adiantum cunninghamii	Maidenhair fern
Asplenium bulbiferum	Manamana, Hen and Chicken fern
Asplenium flabellifolium	Necklace fern
Asplenium flaccidum ss	Makawe, Hanging spleenwort
Asplenium gracillimum	
Asplenium lyallii (unc)	
Asplenium hookerianum	
Asplenium oblongifolium	
Asplenium polyodon	Petako, Sickle spleenwort
Blechnum chambersii	
Blechnum discolor (unc)	
Blechnum filiforme (unc)	
Blechnum fluviatile	Kiwakiwa
Blechnum novae zelandiae (unc)	Kiokio
Blechnum pennamarina	
Blechnum procerum	
Blechnum vulcanicum	
Blechnum novae zelandiae x B. procerum (unc)	
Cyathea dealbata	Ponga, Silver fern
Cyathea medullaris	Black mamaku
Grammitis billardierei	
Hymenophyllum demissum	
Hymenophyllum multifidum	
Hymenophyllum rarum (unc)	
Hypolepis ambigua	

Lastreopsis glabella
Paesia scaberula
Pellaea rotundifolia Tarawera
Phymatosorus pustulatus (P. diversifolium)
Phymatosorus scandens
Pneumatopteris pennigera
Polystichum richardii Pikopiko
Pteris macilenta (unc)
Pteris tremula
Pyrrosia eleagnifolia
Pteridium esculentum

Orchids

Caladenia chlorostyla ✓
Corybas macranthus ✓
Corybas rivularis agg. ✓
Corybas trilobus ✓
Earina mucronata / Pekaawaka
Microtis unifolia
Pterostylis allobula /
Pterostylis banksii ✓
Pterostylis foliata ✓
Pterostylis montana ✓
Thelymitra longifolia /

Grasses

Poa anceps subsp. anceps

Sedges

Carex solandri

Rushes and allied plants

Luzula picta

Remaining Monocotyledonous plants

Dianella nigra
Phormium cookianum

Daisy-like herbs (Composites)

Anaphaloides keriense
Craspedia minor

Gnaphalium audax (unc)
Gnaphalium gymnocephalum
Helichrysum filicaule
Lagenifera pumila
Pseudognaphalium luteoalbum
Senecio minimus

Dicotyledonous herbs other than Composites

Acaena anserinifolia Bidibidi
Australina pusilla (unc)
Cardamine sp. (*C. debilis* agg.) ("Long Style" of Pritchard 1957) (unc)
Cardamine sp. (*C. debilis* agg.) ("Narrow Petal" of Pritchard 1957)
Drosera auriculata
Epilobium nummulariifolium
Epilobium pubens
Euphrasia cuneata
Galium propinquum
Geranium microphyllum
Hydrocotyle elongata
Hydrocotyle heteromeria
Hydrocotyle moschata
Hypericum sp.
Nertera depressa
Plantago raoulii
Pratia angulata
Ranunculus reflexus (pp *R. hirtus*) Maruru, hairy buttercup
Stellaria decipiens
Urtica incisa
Wahlenbergia violacea (unc)