

TORA BUSH (PROPOSED) SCENIC RESERVE						GRID REF 528 284635-286640					
for:	scenery ✓	bush ✓	scrub ✓	rock etc ✓	wetland	plants	animals	geology/soil	history	prehistory	water supply
LOCATION Midway between White Rock Road and Tora Road, 38 km by road SE of Martinborough, near the coast east of Cape Palliser, Southern Wairarapa.						AREA ha: 548.6852					
ACCESS Pedestrian and ORV access only. Approach from Tora Road is up Tim's Hill Creek on Moana Rua property. Approach from White Rock Rd is firebreaks on Manahau Station Property.						L.D. No. Sections 245, 258 Aweha District, Lot 6 DP					
OUTLINE & TOPO The north-south orientated reserve has an east to south-east aspect. The higher, western ridge runs north-south, and is moderately steep, reaching 404m. Three sub-catchments drain into the Aweha River in the east. The northern half is forested by relatively unmodified black beech and mixed broadleaved species. The southern half is mostly regenerating scrubland with broadleaved gully vegetation.						STATUS Crown Land - proposed Scenic Reserve					
SURROUNDINGS Grazed pasture to the north, east and south. An area of manuka scrubland, slightly larger than the reserve, lies to the west. Steep to moderately steep hill country to the west; smoother, less dissected limestone topography to the east. Coastline 3 km to south-east.						RES sub-Cities Reserve					
GEOLOGY Greywacke and crushed argillaceous material on the steeper western ridges; limestone on the eastern boundary. The NE part of the reserve flanks the main ridge leading up to limestone No. 3.						CONTROL CCL					
SPM Weathered rock in situ.						GAZETTED Not gazetted					
SOIL Central yellow-brown earths, related steepland soils and intergrades between central yellow-grey and yellow-brown earths. Maungapakeha hill soils; Whakaroro hill soils. Very good.						RESERVED Not reserved					
DRAINAGE Very good.						HISTORY Settlement was disposed of. Reservation for scenic or conservation purposes unresolved since 1958.					
						AIR PHOTO SN 5497 P19, 20/Q19					
						nearby town 30 km Martinborough					
						nearest reserve 20 km Putangirua Pinnacles S.R.					
						public road White Rock Road, Tora Road					
						sea (km) 3					
						ALTITUDE m/ft 100-400					
						ASPECT Easterly to south-easterly					
						RAIN mm/in 50 (approx)					
						NAT FERTILITY Moderate to low fertility					

RES		NOT		MAIN HABITATS and FEATURES										% area	area ha	native		ex	regen	NAT 1	trend	exotics	
ID	RZ	ID	RZ	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2		
✓	✓			1.	Black beech-kanuka/ <i>Helichrysum aggregatum</i> ; some scattered podocarps at lower levels (miro, rimu, kahikatea).									60.5	332.0	✓				M	H	S	L
✓	✓			1b.	Mixed broadleaved forest; pigeonwood, putaputaweta, rewarewa, lancewood, karaka. Stinging nettle is prolific in places.											✓				H	H	S	L
✓	✓			1c.	Gully vegetation of mixed broadleaved species (mahoe, pigeonwood, peppertree) with ponga and nikau palm on steep, sheltered faces.											✓				L	M	S	L
✓	✓			2.	Marginal scrub over grass. Predominantly putaputaweta, rangiora, manuka, mingimingi, tauhino, <i>Helichrysum aggregatum</i> and cabbage tree. NZ broom and flax are common along the exposed ridgetop fence-line.									18.8	102.9	✓	✓			H	M	I	L
✓	✓			3.	Manuka - kanuka scrub, with a ground cover of mingimingi and <i>Helichrysum aggregatum</i> . This is secondary growth following clearing and appears to be around 20 years old inside the reserve. The western hillslopes flanking this higher ridge are covered with taller manuka-kanuka scrub.									19.5	106.9	✓	✓			H	M	I	L
✓	✓			4.	Grassland (exotic pasture species).									1.2	6.8			✓		M	M	S	H
														100	548.6								

CONDITION Good condition; good regeneration and few exotics. Stock damage restricted to marginal bush and minimal deer and possum damage. Birdlife is abundant.

FENCING See notes in Conclusions and Recommendations.

PRIORITY High priority pending scenic reserve status.

RATING 0-10

SCIENTIFIC 5... Valuable sized remnant of characteristic Southern Wairarapa hill country black beech forest.

SCENIC 6... Limited access but attractive externally and internally. No tracks.

RECREATION 4... Good hunting and possuming but limited permit availability.

CONCLUSIONS and RECOMMENDATIONS The proposed reserve is one of the last remaining remnants of native bush in SE Wairarapa, east of Aoranui Range. Its black beech forest and regenerating scrubland make this reserve a valuable asset for future protection of the Aweha River subcatchments, recreational use (hunting) and for regeneration of a diminishing forest cover in Southern Wairarapa. The reserve is very attractive scenically, with good views of the coast and surrounding hill country from Pinnacle Rock and the western boundary, and the beech forest is in good condition. The subcatchments of the Aweha River drain off a steep ridge with a high point of 404m. The unmodified vegetation is black beech forest with scattered kanuka and podocarps on north-facing slopes and lower slopes. Open areas on ridges cleared by windthrow of beech trees show good regeneration of rewarewa and black beech. Broadleaved species such as pigeonwood, lancewood and rewarewa predominate on south facing slopes and in gullies, with ponga and nikau palms dominant in deepest gullies. The reserve is bordered by scrub consisting of putaputaweta, mahoe, cottonwood, *Helichrysum aggregatum* and cabbage trees. Dense manuka/kanuka/mingimingi scrub dominates the southern end of the reserve which is modified by fire and stocking. The northern subcatchment is the least modified area, with only a narrow zone of scrub along the north-west boundary.

(Continued..)

5 hours Cold, wet conditions IG 1983

1 NATURALNESS

2 TREND: D deteriorating; S steady; I improving

NATIVE SPECIES

Trees and shrubs

Aristotelia serrata
Beilschmiedia tawa
Brachyglottis repanda
Carmichaelia arborea var.
Carpodetus serratus
Cassinia leptophylla
Coprosma grandifolia
C. rhamnoides
C. robusta
Cordyline australis
C. banksii
Coriaria arborea
Corynocarpus laevigatus
Cyathodes juniperina
Dacrydium cupressinum
Elaeocarpus dentatus
Griselinia lucida

Hebe stricta var. *atkinsonii*
H. sp. (or hybrid?)
Hedycarya arborea
Helichrysum aggregatum
Hoheria populnea var. *lanceolata*
Knightia excelsa
Leptospermum ericoides
L. scoparium
Leucopogon (Cyathodes) fasciculatus
Macropiper excelsum
Melicytus micranthus
M. ramiflorus
Muehlenbeckia complexa
Myoporum laetum
Myrsine australis
Nestegis cunninghamii
N. montana

Nothofagus solandri var. *solandri*
Olearia paniculata
O. rani
Pennantia corymbosa
Pittosporum eugenioides
Podocarpus dacrydioides
P. ferrugineus
Pomaderris ericifolia
Pseudopanax arboreus
P. crassifolius
Rhopalostylis sapida
Schefflera digitata
Sophora microphylla
Urtica ferox
Weinmannia racemosa

Climbers and lianes, etc.

Clematis sp. (*C. forsteri* agg.)
Metrosideros perforata

Muehlenbeckia australis
Parsonsia sp. (*P. capsularis*?)

Ripogonum scandens
Rubus cissoides

Grasses, rushes and like plants

Carex forsteri
C. solandri
Echinopogon ovatus
Gahnia pauciflora

Luzula picta
Microlaena avenacea
M. stipoides
Poa anceps

Rytidosperma racemosum
R. sp.
Uncinia scabra
U. uncinata

Herbs

Acaena anserinifolia
Aciphylla colensoi
Astelia fragrans
Caladenia catenata
Cardamine sp. (*C. debilis* agg.)
Craspedia sp.
Dendrobium cunninghamii
Dianella nigra
Dichondra repens
Earina mucronata
Galium propinquum
Gnaphalium audax

Gnaphalium gymnocephalum
G. sphaericum
Helichrysum filicaule
Hydrocotyle americana
H. moschata
Lagenifera pumila
L. strangulata
Libertia ixioides
Microtis unifolia
Oxalis exilis
Pelargonium inodorum
Phormium cookianum

Pratia angulata
Pterostylis banksii
Ranunculus hirtus
Senecio minimus
Stellaria parviflora
Thelymitra longifolia
Urtica incisa
Vittadinia australis
Wahlenbergia colensoi
W. gracilis
W. marginata

Ferns

Asplenium bulbiferum
A. bulbiferum subsp. *gracillimum*
A. colensoi
A. flabellifolium
A. flaccidum
A. hookerianum
A. oblongifolium
A. polyodon
A. colensoi X *A. hookerianum*
Blechnum chambersii
B. discolor
B. filiforme
B. fluviatile
B. sp. (*Lomaria latifolia*)

Botrychium australe
Cyathea dealbata
C. medullaris
Grammitis billardieri
Histiopteris incisa
Hymenophyllum demissum
H. flabellatum
H. sanguinolentum
Hypolepis sp. (*H. rufobarbata*?)
H. sp. (*H. tenuifolia*)
Lastreopsis glabella
L. novae-zelandiae

Leptopteris hymenophylloides
Lycopodium volubile
Paesia scaberula
Pellaea rotundifolia
Phymatosorus diversifolius
Pneumatopteris pennigera
Polystichum richardii
Pteridium esculentum
Pteris pendula (= *P. macilenta*)
Pyrrhosia serpens
Tmespteris tannensis
Trichomanes venosum

BIRDS

Native

bellbird
fantail
greywarbler
harrier

long-tailed cuckoo
plover
rifleman
shining cuckoo

silveryeye
tui
whitehead
wood pigeon

Introduced

blackbird
Californian quail
chaffinch

hedgesparrow
magpie
redpoll

songthrush
yellowhammer

