

Kotare Bush

At a glance (last updated: May 2015)

TRC reference:	BD/9546	Ecological district:	North Taranaki
Other reference:	QEII	LENZ environment:	F5.2a
Land tenure:	Private	Protection status:	A, B, C
GPS:	E 1718818 N 5679161	Area:	5.4 ha

Location

Kotare Bush is located on private land approximately 3km south-west of Urenui in North Taranaki.

General description

Kotare Bush consists of a semi-coastal forest remnant in a gully system that borders a tributary of the Onaero River, near the centre of the Onaero catchment. It is situated in close proximity to two other Key Native Ecosystems on the neighbouring property, Hickman Road Forest KNE and Kaipikari Road Forest Remnants KNE.

Ecological features

Flora

This remnant is a very good example of semi coastal/lowland forest (classified as 'Acutely Threatened' indigenous vegetation under LENZ environment F5.2a), with a canopy consisting of tawa (*Beilschmiedia tawa*), miro (*Prumnopitys ferruginea*), pukatea (*Laurelia novae-zelandiae*), rewarewa (*Knightia excelsa*), puriri (*Vitex lucens*) and rimu (*Dacrydium cupressinum*). No 'Regionally Distinctive' species were found on the day of the initial assessment, although may be present.

Fauna

Native birdlife recorded in and around the covenanted area include the New Zealand pigeon (*Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae*), grey warbler (*Gerygone igata*), fantail (*Rhipidura fuliginosa*), bell bird (*Anthornis melanura*), tui (*Prosthemadera novaeseelandiae*) and New Zealand kingfisher (*Halcyon sancta vagans*).



Ecological values

Ecological values	Rank	Comment
Rarity and distinctiveness	Medium	Likely to contain threatened or regionally distinctive species.
Representativeness	High	Contains indigenous vegetation classified as an 'Acutely Threatened' (F5.2a) LENZ environment.
Ecological context	Medium	Provides additional habitat and greater connectivity with other Key Native Ecosystems in this area such as the Hickman Road Forest KNE.
Sustainability	Positive	Key ecological processes still influence the site and with appropriate management, it can remain resilient to existing or potential threats

Management threats and response

Potential and actual threats to the sustainability of ecological values are as follows:

Threats to ecological values	Potential threat	Comment
Pest animals	High	Possums, cats, mustelids, hedgehogs and rodents.
Weeds	Medium	Scattered areas of, gorse, woolly nightshade, selaginella and Jerusalem cherry
Habitat modification	High	Currently fenced although not stock proof. Requires urgent maintenance to exclude stock from the area.

Site protection measures addressing potential and actual threats are as follows:

Site protection	Yes/No	Description
A Public ownership or formal agreement	Yes	QEII Covenant pending.
B Regulatory protection by local government	Yes	General regional or district rules might apply.
C Active protection	Yes	Occasional pest animal control for possums.



QEII5/06/301 – McGlashan Bush.

At a glance (last updated: November 2014)			
TRC reference: BD/9544	Ecological district: Egmont		
Other reference: QEII (5-06-301)	LENZ environment: F5.2b		
Land tenure: Private	Protection status: A, B, C		
GPS: E 1691417 N 5671971	Area: 1.35ha		

Location

This site is located on Frankley Road New Plymouth. It is close to other KNEs such as Ratapihipihi, Barrett's Lagoon and Frankley School Bush.

General description

This site is a small semi coastal forest remnant that is protected with a QEII covenant. The forest consists of various habitat types including low lying swampy areas, a small flowing stream and steeper gully banks.

Ecological features

Flora

The forest is in good condition with areas of thick undergrowth and good seedling regeneration. The canopy is dominated by tawa (*Beilschmiedia tawa*) with scattered titoki (*Alectryon excelsus*) and rewarewa (*Knightia excelsa*). Supple jack (*Ripogonum scandens*) and kiekie (*Freycinetia banksii*) are thick in some areas. Ferns are abundant throughout the site especially along the stream banks. There is a range of planted natives on the north east side of the remnant.

Fauna

Native birdlife recorded in and around McGlashan Bush include the New Zealand pigeon (*Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae*), grey warbler (*Gerygone igata*), fantail (*Rhipidura fuliginosa*), tui (*Prosthemadera novaeseelandiae*) and morepork (*Ninox novaeseelandiae*). Potential habitat exists for notable freshwater and reptile species.

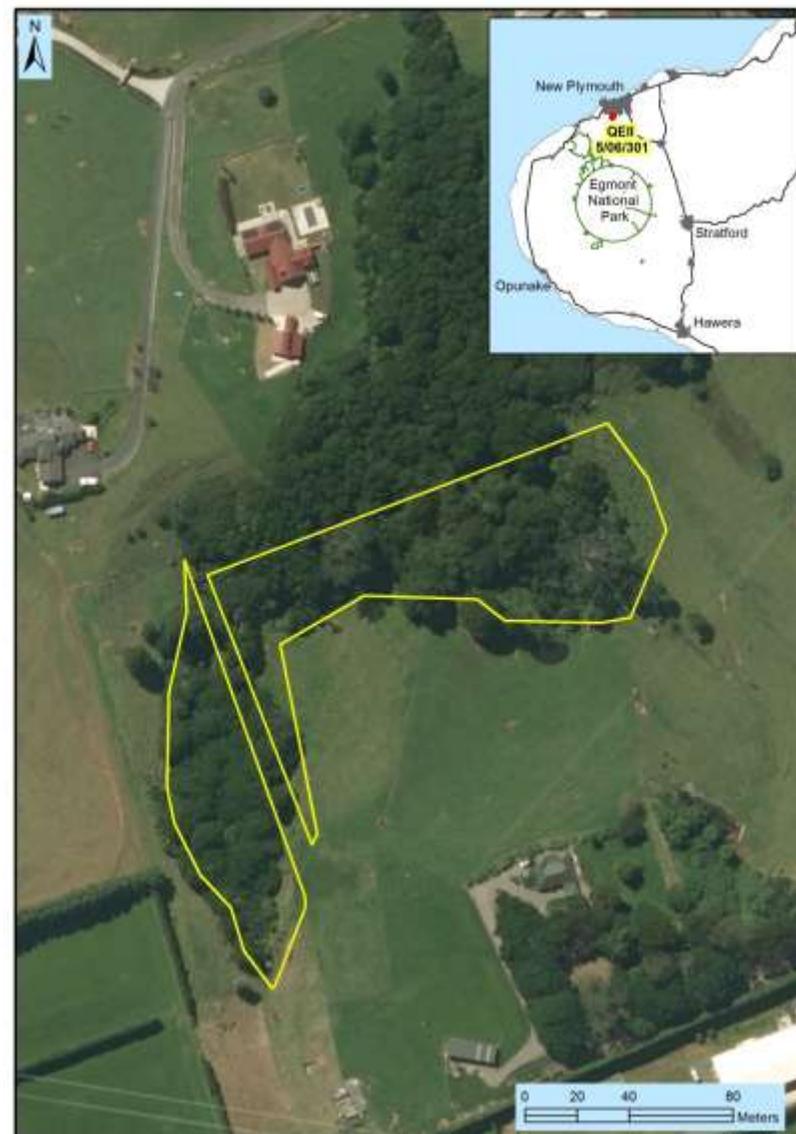
Ecological values

Ecological values	Rank	Comment
Rarity and distinctiveness	Low	Not known to contain any threatened or regionally significant species - further surveys needed.
Representativeness	High	Contains indigenous vegetation that is poorly represented in Taranaki and classified as F5.2b - an 'acutely threatened' LENZ environment
Ecological context	Medium	Close to other forest remnants and is likely to form part of a pathway that provides an important food source for native birds and other fauna.
Sustainability	Positive	The site is stock proof and is protected with a QEII covenant.

Threats to ecological values	Potential threat	Comment
Pest animals	Medium	Possums, cats, rats and mustelids threaten this site, Bait stations are present.
Weeds	High	Privet, Tradescantia and woolly nightshade.
Habitat modification	Low	This site is protected with a QEII and well fenced

Site protection measures addressing potential and actual threats are as follows:

Site protection	Yes/No	Description
A	Yes	Public ownership or formal agreement
B	Yes	Regulatory protection by local government
C	Yes	Active protection



Willy Wetland

At a glance (last updated: March 2015)

TRC reference:	BD/9528	Ecological district:	Egmont
Other reference:		LENZ environment:	F5.2a (1.7ha) C1.1a (0.1ha)
Land tenure:	Private	Protection status:	A, B, C
GPS:	E 1717479 N 5632728	Area:	1.8 ha

Location

The Willy wetland is located on private land near Maata Road in South Taranaki. The site is approximately 5.5 kilometres east of Eltham in the Egmont Ecological District.

General description

The Willy wetland covers 1.8 ha and is comprised of a series of small springs and a wetland area on the fringe of the now drained Eltham peat swamp. Brown mudfish (*Neochanna apoda*) are present throughout this KNE and this species is extremely rare in the Taranaki region. The Willy wetland is close to and provides connectivity with other KNEs in the area such as Mudfish 1 and the Maata Road QEII covenants KNE.

Ecological features

Flora

As of 2015, native vegetation is present and becoming more abundant under the dead and dying canopy of recently controlled willow. The native vegetation is mainly confined to sedges (*Carex* spp.), raupo (*Typha orientalis*) flax (*Phormium tenax*), mahoe (*Melicytus ramiflorus*), swamp coprosma (*Coprosma tenuicaulis*) and native ferns. Peaty soils often contain a mix of interesting unique flora and other notable species may be present such as rare ferns and ground orchids.

Fauna

The primary value of this wetland is as secure habitat for the 'At Risk' and Regionally Distinctive' brown mudfish (*Neochanna apoda*). Other native species found at the site include grey warbler (*Gerygone igata*) and fantail (*Rhipidura fuliginosa*). Habitat also exists for other potential notable fauna species.



Ecological values

Ecological values	Rank	Comment
Rarity and distinctiveness	High	Contains the 'Regionally Distinctive' and 'At Risk, Declining' brown mudfish. The classification is regarded 'High' due the extremely rare occurrence of brown mudfish in Taranaki.
Representativeness	Medium	Contains a small example (1.7ha) of indigenous vegetation associated with a palustrine wetland and an 'Acutely Threatened' (F5.2a) LENZ environment
Ecological context	Medium	Provides additional habitat and greater connectivity with other Key Native Ecosystems in this area such as Mudfish 1 and the Maata Road QEII covenants.
Sustainability	Positive	Key ecological processes still influence the site and with appropriate management of the site and surrounds it can remain resilient to existing or potential threats.

Management threats and response

Potential and actual threats to the sustainability of ecological values are as follows:

Threats to ecological values	Potential threat	Comment
Pest animals	Medium	Possoms, cats, mustelids, hedgehogs and rats will be having an impact on native flora and fauna in general although are less of a threat to brown mudfish.
Weeds	Medium	Willow can greatly modify the habitat for mudfish although a good kill has resulted from the initial control.
Habitat modification	High	Drainage would significantly modify the habitat and is the greatest threat. Stock would cause significant damage if allowed into the wetland area.

Site protection measures addressing potential and actual threats are as follows:

Site protection	Yes/No	Description
A Public ownership or formal agreement	Pending	Currently working with QEII towards a covenant for the site.
B Regulatory protection by local government	Yes	General regional or district rules will apply.
C Active protection	Yes	Partially fenced. Part of the Self-help Possum Control Programme. Willow control.

