

# Taharoa Bush :

ROAD WAIRARAPA (110-240m a.s.l.)

TOPOMAP S27 288963

Indigenous Vascular Plants

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EW.

on hills

Orchids on  
dwarf

unc = uncommon

## Site description:

This 21.9 hectare covenant owned by Charles Skeet, consists of a steep dry hillslope covered in original bush (pers. comm. D. McLaren) with several runoff gullies. The only permanent water is a branch of the Tawhiriwaimanuka Stream, which bounds the covenant for the lower part of the eastern boundary and contributes to the ponds found at the bottom end of the covenant.

There are some very large trees in this bush patch, Totara (*Podocarpus totara*) Kahikatea (*Dacrydium dacrydioides*) Black Maire (*Nestegis cunninghamii* and Matai (*Prumnopitys taxifolia*) and a subcanopy of Titoki (*Alectryon excelsus*). This type of bush is mainly on the flatter lower slopes and grades up into tall Kanuka (*Kunzea ericoides*) further up. There are also some large Kowhai (*Sophora microphylla*) and Ngaio (*Myoporum laetum*) in one of the gullies.

The forest floor has a sparse covering except in the light wells where patches of native grasses and *Corybas trilobus* grow. Stream banks have their own collection of species including a variety of *Pellaea rotundifolia* with pinnae approaching *P. falcata* in size and shape. A *Pterostylis* species (possibly *P. porecta* Ian St George pers.comm.) grows in one of the runoff gullies and would extend the known range of this species.

The ridge slopes have a very interesting assemblage of species with the dominant being tall Kanuka (*Kunzea ericoides*) but with species "bands" as you progress upslope. Initially regenerating and smaller maire with *Coprosma rubra* and *Coprosma linariifolia*. The ground is almost carpeted in places by *Clematis paniculata* which is just spreading over the ground. Here too is the best population of Wind grass (*Anemanthele lessoniana*) and *Corybas trilobus* is everywhere. Tarata (*Pittosporum eugenioides*) is quite common through here as well. Further up Fivefinger (*Pseudopanax arboreus*) makes an appearance in a rather narrow altitudinal band. Small patches of less common species in the area occur here with Rasp fern (*Doodia media*) and *Helichrysum aggregatum* and *Wahlenbergia rupestris* and *W. violacea*.

Two small patches of *Teucrium parviflorum* were found near one of the ponds at the foot of the covenant.

The covenant was protected by shelterbelts and although a lot of the shelter trees remain there has been some logging for timber and consequent exposure to the wind on the top and the western side. This has allowed considerable damage to some of the bigger trees and major infestation with exotic grasses and weeds

The main weed problem in the bush is black wattle with one large old tree with a fair amount of seeding around but could be cleaned up without too much effort. *Carex divulsa* is found at the bottom of the hill and could pose a problem later on if it spreads. One plant of *Pomaderris aspera* was seen and it may pay to get rid of it. Around the pond at the bottom of the covenant there are a number of troublesome weed. Honeysuckle (*Lonicera* sp.) and Ivy (*Hedrix* sp.) need to be treated.

With the large amount of Maire in the bush, possum control could see *Tupeia antarctica* return. No sign of this mistletoe at the moment but it's presence in the nearby covenant at Ahi Paku means it is in the immediate area. The scarcity of *Fuchsia* (1 tree) may be down to these animals as well.

The survey of this very interesting piece of original bush would be classed as medium with 11 hours having been spent botanising it.

## PLANT LIST:

### Gymnosperm trees and shrubs

<i>Dacrycarpus dacrydioides</i>	Kahikatea
<i>Podocarpus totara</i>	Totara
<i>Prumnopitys taxifolia</i>	Matai

### Dicotyledonous trees and shrubs

<i>Alectryon excelsus</i> var. <i>excelsus</i>	Titoki
<i>Brachyglottis repanda</i>	Rangiora
<i>Carmichaelia australis</i>	
<i>Carpodetus serratus</i>	Putaputaweta, marbleleaf
<i>Coprosma areolata</i>	
<i>Coprosma crassifolia</i>	
<i>Coprosma grandifolia</i>	
<i>Coprosma linariifolia</i>	
<i>Coprosma lucida</i> (unc)	
<i>Coprosma propinqua</i> subsp. <i>propinqua</i>	
<i>Coprosma rhamnoides</i>	
<i>Coprosma rigida</i>	<i>Coprosma robusta</i>
Karamu	
<i>Coprosma rotundifolia</i>	
<i>Coprosma rubra</i>	
<i>Coprosma propinqua</i> x <i>C. robusta</i>	
<i>Corokia cotoneaster</i> (unc)	
<i>Elaeocarpus hookerianus</i> (unc)	Pokaka
<i>Fuchsia excorticata</i> (unc)	
<i>Geniostoma lingustifolium</i>	Hangehange

<i>Hebe stricta</i> var. <i>atkinsonii</i>	Koromiko
<i>Helichrysum aggregatum</i> (unc)	
<i>Hoheria angustifolia</i> (unc)	
<i>Hoheria sexstylosa</i>	
<i>Knightsia excelsa</i>	Rewarewa
<i>Kunzea ericoides</i>	Kanuka
<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i> (unc)	Manuka
<i>Leucopogon fasciculatus</i>	
<i>Lophomyrtus obcordata</i>	
<i>Macropiper excelsum</i> var. <i>excelsum</i>	
<i>Melicope simplex</i>	
<i>Melicytus ramiflorus</i> subsp. <i>ramiflorus</i>	Mahoe
<i>Melicytus micranthus</i>	
<i>Myoporum laetum</i>	Ngaio
<i>Myrsine australis</i>	Red Matipo
<i>Myrsine divaricata</i>	Weeping Matipo
<i>Nestegis cunninghamii</i>	Black Maire
<i>Nestegis lanceolata</i>	White maire
<i>Nestegis montana</i> (unc)	Narrow leaved maire
<i>Olearia paniculata</i> (unc)	
<i>Olearia rani</i> (unc)	
<i>Pennantia corymbosa</i>	Kaikomako
<i>Pittosporum eugenioides</i>	Tarata, lemonwood
<i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i>	Kohuhu
<i>Plagianthus regius</i>	Ribbonwood
<i>Pseudopanax arboreus</i> (unc)	
<i>Pseudopanax crassifolius</i>	Horoeka, lancewood
<i>Raukiau anomalus</i>	Whauwhaupaku
<i>Schefflera digitata</i>	
<i>Sophora microphylla</i>	Kowhai
<i>Streblus heterophyllus</i>	Turepo, milk tree
<i>Teucrium parviflorum</i> (unc)	

#### Monocotyledonous trees and shrubs

*Cordyline australis* cabbage tree

#### Monocotyledonous lianes

*Ripogonum scandens*

#### Dicotyledonous lianes and related trailing plants

*Calystegia tuguriorum*  
*Clematis foetida*  
*Clematis paniculata*  
*Fuchsia perscandens*  
*Metrosideros colensoi*

Metrosideros diffusa	
Muehlenbeckia australis	Pohuehue
Muehlenbeckia complexa	
Parsonsia capsularis	Parsonsia
heterophylla	Akakiore
Rubus australis	
Rubus schmidelioides	
Tetrapathea tetrandra	Passion vine

### Psilopods, 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 hookerianum	
Asplenium oblongifolium	
Asplenium polyodon	Petako, Sickle spleenwort
Asplenium bulbiferum or gracillimum x A. hookerianum	
Blechnum chambersii	
Blechnum fluviatile	Kiwakiwa
Blechnum novaezelandiae (unc)	Kiokio
Cyathea dealbata	Ponga, Silver fern
Cyathea medullaris (unc)	
Doodia media (unc)	
Histiopteris incisa	
Hymenophyllum demissum	
Hypolepis ambigua	
Lastreopsis glabella	
Lastreopsis velutina	
Leptopteris hymenophylloides	Heruheru, Single crepe fern
Paesia scaberula	
Pellaea rotundifolia (very elongated pinnae. ?)	Tarawera
Phymatosorus pustulatus (P. diversifolium)	
Pneumatopteris pennigera	
Polystichum richardii	Pikopiko
Pteridium esculentum	Bracken
Pteris tremula (unc)	
Pyrrosia eleagnifolia	

### Orchids

✓ Corybas trilobus	
✓ Earina mucronata	Pekaawaka

- / Pterostylis graminea
- / Pterostylis banksii
- / Winika cunninghamii

Grasses

- Anemanthele lessoniana
- avenacea Paatiitii, Bush rice grass
- Microlaena polynoda
- Poa anceps subsp. anceps
- Poa imbecilla
- Rytidosperma gracile

Microlaena

Sedges

- Carex dissita
- Carex forsteri
- Carex geminata ss
- Carex raoulii
- Carex secta
- Carex solandri
- Uncinia laxiflora (unc)
- Uncinia leptostachya

Rushes and allied plants

- Juncus gregiflorus Wiwi
- Juncus pallidus
- Juncus planifolius
- Juncus sarophorus
- Luzula picta

Remaining Monocotyledonous plants

- Arthropodium candidum
- Astelia fragrans (unc)
- Libertia ixioides Mikoikoi
- Phormium tenax

Daisy-like herbs (Composites)

- Cotula australis
- Gnaphalium gymnocephalum
- Lagenifera pumila
- Senecio glomeratus
- Senecio minimus

Dicotyledonous herbs other than Composites

*Acaena anserinifolia* Bidibidi  
*Australina pusilla* (unc)  
*Callitriche petriei*  
*Cardamine* sp. (*C. debilis* agg.) ("Glossy Leaf" of Pritchard 1957) (unc)  
*Cardamine* sp. (*C. debilis* agg.) ("Narrow Petal" of Pritchard 1957)  
*Galium propinquum*  
*Haloragis erecta*  
*Hydrocotyle elongata*  
*Hydrocotyle heteromeria*  
*Hydrocotyle moschata*  
*Hydrocotyle novae-zelandiae*  
*Oxalis exilis* Yellow oxalis  
*Plantago raoulii* (unc)  
*Pratia angulata*  
*Ranunculus reflexus* (pp *R. hirtus*) Maruru, hairy buttercup  
*Stellaria decipiens*  
*Urtica incisa*  
*Wahlenbergia rupestris*  
*Wahlenbergia violacea*

Birds:

Fantail  
Grey warbler  
Kingfisher  
Shining Cuckoo  
Tui