



W.A. Miller Memorial Scenic Reserve

Area: 2.4281 ha

W.A. MILLER MEMORIAL SCENIC RESERVE						GRID REF T25 340521	
for: scenery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bush <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> scrub/tussock etc <input type="checkbox"/> wetland <input type="checkbox"/> plants <input type="checkbox"/> animals <input type="checkbox"/> geology/soil <input type="checkbox"/> history/prehistory <input type="checkbox"/> water supply <input type="checkbox"/>							
LOCATION On the banks of Makakahi River, northern Wairarapa; On State Highway No.2, 17 km SW of Eke ahuna. ACCESS On road side with access into reserve from the M.O.W. picnic site at NE end through a gate, and track around stream boundary.						AREA ha/ha 2.4281 L.D. No. Part Lot 2 DP 1263 Section 171, Blocks IX STATUS and XIII Mangaone Survey District RES sub-Cttee Scenic	
OUTLINE & TOPO The "half-moon" shaped reserve is on a bend of the Makakahi River, on river terraces above the present river course. The lowermost terrace is furrowed with old drainage channels. Originally the stand of vegetation was (podocarp)/tawa but is now predominantly tawa with grassy cleared riverbanks.						CONTROL CCL GAZETTED 1947/1806 RESERVED	
SURROUNDINGS Bordered by the Makakahi River on the N side, and the State Highway on the S side. Beyond is open, rolling farmland.						HISTORY Gifted to Crown by W.A. Miller in 1947. Saw milling occurred between 1942-1944. AIR PHOTO 5139 A/3 date 29.9.77.	
GEOLOGY Calcareous sandy mudstone and sandstone, river terraces.						nearby town .7..km Eketahuna nearest reserve 25..km Tiraumea SR/Mt Bruce Wildlife public road State Highway No. 2 Sanctuary see (km) 50...	
SPM Alluvial silts and gravels						ALTITUDE m/ft 275-300 ASPECT Flat to NW	
SOIL Yellow-brown earth, weakly clay illuvial, Makotuku-Whetukuru soils.						RAIN mm/yr 1905 (approx) NAT FERTILITY High	
DRAINAGE Good on upper terrace, poor on lower terrace.							

RES		NOT		MAIN HABITATS and FEATURES										%	area	native		ex	regen	NAT	trend	status			
LD	NZ	LD	NZ											area	ha	1°	2°/ind								
✓	✓	✓	✓	1. (Miro)-(totara)-(matai)/tawa-rewarewa. Light understorey of divaricating shrubs and tree ferns on lower, damper, shadier terrace; predominantly mahoe and <i>Coprosma grandifolia</i> on upper terrace. <i>Asplenium</i> on lower terrace, <i>Phymatosorus</i> on upper terrace. Broadleaved margin on NW boundary. Totara and lacebark planted(?) along road boundary. Pine trees, blackberry, <i>Tradescantia</i> .										98.4	2.40	✓	✓			M	M			S	L
✓	✓	✓	✓	2. Clearing with juvenile conifers, bracken, grasses etc., formed during removal of mature exotics.										1.6	0.02		✓	✓		M	L			S	H
												100	2.42												

CONDITION All large podocarps have been removed. Some over-mature tawa around edges. Otherwise canopy in good condition, with vigorous tawa regeneration although understorey is thin. Serious weed infestation.

FENCING Fenced along road margin and picnic area only.

PRIORITY Medium; a fence of N boundary would prevent possible stock access from streambed.

RATING 0-10

SCIENTIFIC1

SCENIC3

RECREATION2 Reserve itself is untracked although adjacent carpark and riverbank track are well patronised.

CONCLUSIONS and RECOMMENDATIONS

The rest area at the N boundary is an ideal stop for motorists. The well-shaded grassed area has 3 tables, rubbish bins, planted flax, miro, totara and exotic trees. Central to the area is the memorial plaque to W.A. Miller. Along the road boundary of the reserve Lawsonianas have been planted, probably also the totara and lacebark. Three large pines form a row across the centre of the reserve; these have recently been ringbarked.

Milling of podocarps was undertaken between 1942-1944 by Allen and Son. During this period 42 large trees on the SW corner were removed, presumably from the lower terrace. A few fallen logs which remain have become habitats for dense fern populations.

In March 1982 a submission proposed reservation of the unformed legal road adjoining the northern boundary. The total area of this addition is 2.1200 ha.

The nearest native bush is the Mt Bruce State Forest, 2 km S on State Highway 2, which retains some of the podocarp-northern rata/tawa hillside vegetation of the region. This vegetation extends to within 1 km of the scenic reserve.

(continued..)

NATIVE SPECIES

Trees and shrubs

Aristotelia serrata
Beilschmiedia tawa
Brachyglottis repanda
Carpodetus serratus
Coprosma grandifolia
C. rotundifolia
Dacrydium cupressinum
Elaeocarpus dentatus
Fuchsia excorticata
Hebe stricta

Hoheria populnea var. *lanceolata*
(incl. *H. sexstylosa*)
Knightia excelsa
Lophomyrtus bullata
~~*L. obcordata*~~
Meliccytus ramiflorus
Myrsine australis
Nestegis lanceolata
Paratrophis microphylla
Pennantia corymbosa

Pittosporum eugenioides
P. tenuifolium
Plagianthus betulinus
Podocarpus dacrydioides
P. ferrugineus
P. spicatus
P. totara
Pseudopanax arboreus
P. crassifolius
Weinmannia racemosa

Climbers, lianes etc.

Clematis forsteri
Metrosideros diffusa
M. perforata

~~*Muehlenbeckia australis*~~
Parsonsia heterophylla
Ripogonum scandens

Rubus australis
R. schmidelioides

Grasses, rushes and like plants

Poa anceps

Uncinia uncinata

Herbs

Cardamine sp.
Collospermum microspermum

Dianella nigra
Hydrocotyle moschata

Gastrodium cunninghamii
Phormium tenax

Ferns

Asplenium bulbiferum
A. flaccidum
A. polyodon
Blechnum chambersii
B. fluviatile
Cyathea dealbata
C. medullaris
C. smithii

Dicksonia squarrosa
Lastreopsis glabella
L. velutina
Leptopteris hymenophylloides
Lycopodium billardieri
Pellaea rotundifolia

Phymatosorus diversifolius
Pneumatopteris pennigera
Polystichum vestitum
Pteridium esculentum
Pyrrhosia serpens
Trichomanes venosum

EXOTIC SPECIES

blackberry
cypress
grasses

Iris foetidissima
ivy
macrocarpa

pines
Tradescantia

BIRDS

blackbird
fantail

greywarbler
magpie

silvereye
wood pigeon