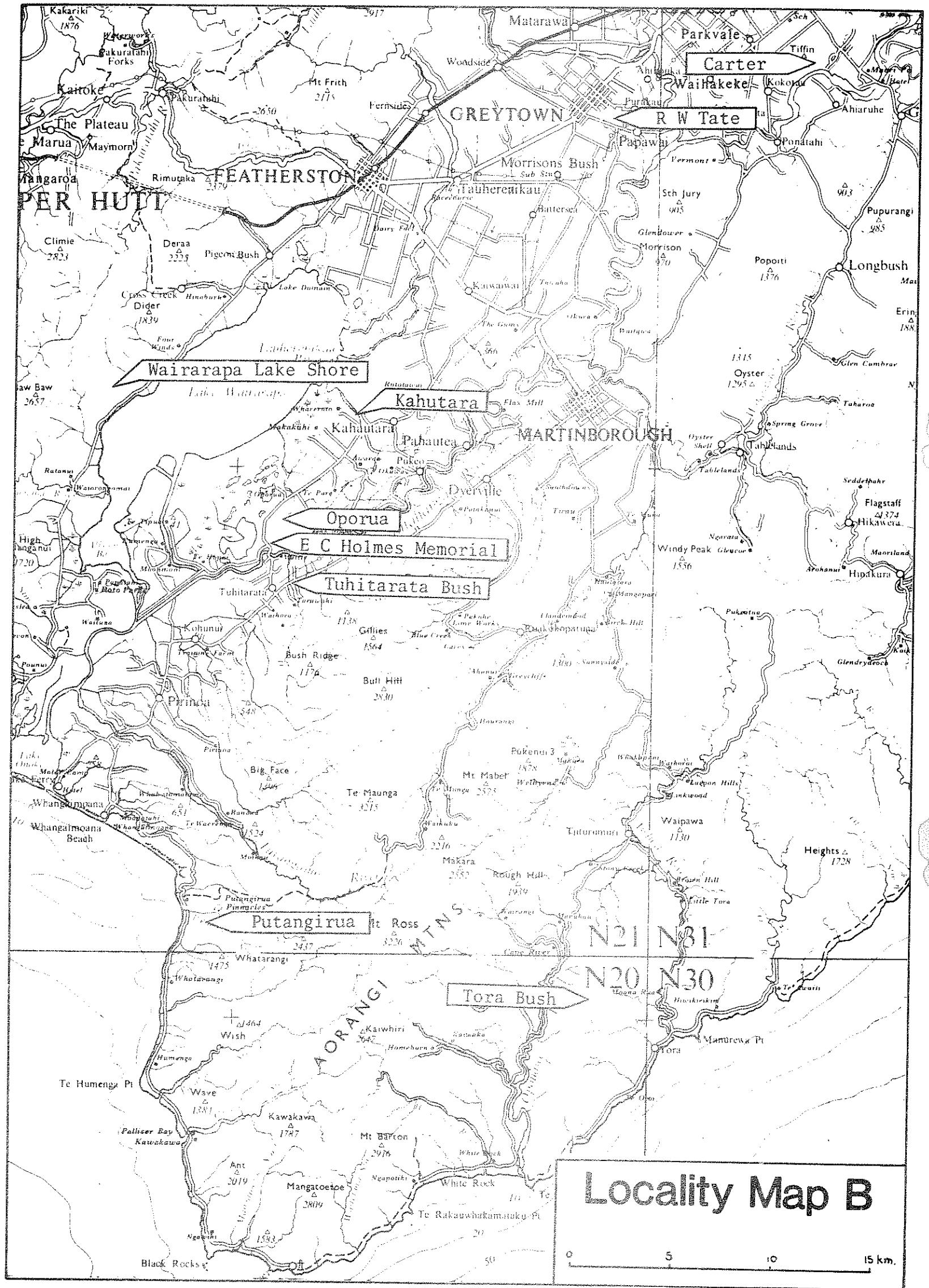


## Waewaepa Scenic Reserve

Area: 1098.7362 ha



## NATIVE SPECIES

### Trees and shrubs

*Aristotelia serrata*  
*Beilschmiedia tawa*  
*Brachyglottis repanda* s.s.  
*B. rotundifolia* var.  
 (B. elaeagnifolia)  
*Carpodetus serratus*  
*Coprosma foetidissima*  
*C. grandifolia*  
*C. lucida*, s.s. (incl. C. australis)  
*C. rhamnoides*  
*C. robusta*  
*C. tenuifolia*  
*C. sp. (unnamed)*  
*C. robusta* X *C. tenuifolia*  
*Cordyline banksii*  
*C. indivisa*  
*Dacrydium cupressinum*  
*Dracophyllum longifolium*  
*Elaeocarpus dentatus*  
*E. hookerianus*

### Climbers and lianes, etc.

*Clematis paniculata*  
*Metrosideros diffusa*  
*M. perforata*

### Grasses, rushes and like plants

*Carex forsteri*  
*C. virgata*  
*Cortaderia fulvida*  
*C. toetoe*  
*Gahnia pauciflora*  
*Juncus gregiflorus*  
*Juncus planifolius*

### Herbs

*Acaena anserinifolia*  
*Astelia fragrans*  
*A. solandri*  
*Cardamine sp. (C. debilis agg.)*  
*Collospermum microspermum*  
*Craspedia minor*  
*C. viscosa*  
*Dendrobium cunninghamii*  
*Dianella nigra*  
*Earina autumnalis*  
*E. mucronata*  
*Epilobium alsinoides* s.s.  
*E. brunnescens* s.s.  
*E. komarovianum*  
*E. nummularifolium*  
*E. pubens*  
*E. rotundifolium*

### Ferns and allies

*Adiantum cunninghamii*  
*Asplenium bulbiferum* s.s.  
*A. flaccidum*  
*A. oblongifolium*  
*A. polyodon*  
*Blechnum chambersii*  
*B. colensoi*  
*B. discolor*  
*B. fluviatile*  
*B. penna-marina*  
*B. vulcanicum*  
*B. sp. (a) (Lomaria latifolia)*  
*B. sp. (b) (B. capense agg.)*  
*Cardiomanes reniforme*  
*Ctenopteris heterophylla*  
*Cyathea medullaris*  
*C. smithii*

*Achillea millefolium*  
*Agrostis tenuis*  
*Anthoxanthum odoratum*  
*Carex ovalis*  
*Cerastium fontanum* ssp. *triviale*  
*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*  
*Cirsium arvensis*  
*C. vulgare*  
*Cynosurus cristatus*  
*Cytisus proliferus*  
*Dactylis glomerata*  
*Daucus carota*  
*Digitalis purpurea*  
*Erica lusitanica*  
*Festuca arundinacea*

*Fuchsia excorticata*  
*Gaultheria antipoda*  
*Geniostoma rupestre* var.  
*Griselinia littoralis*  
*G. lucida*  
*Haloragis erecta*  
*Hebe stricta*  
*Hedycarya arborea*  
*Hoheria populnea* var. *lanceolata*  
*Leptospermum scoparium*  
*Macropiper excelsum*  
*Melicope simplex*  
*Melicytus lanceolatus*  
*M. ramiflorus*  
*Metrosideros robusta*  
*Myrsine salicina*  
*Neomyrtus pedunculata*  
*Nestegis cunninghamii*  
*Olearia arborescens*  
*O. rani*

*Muehlenbeckia australis*  
*Passiflora tetrandra*  
*Ripogonum scandens*

*Luzula picta* var. *limosa*  
*Microlaena avenacea*  
*M. stipoides*  
*Poa anceps*  
*Rytidosperma gracile*

*Pennantia corymbosa*  
*Pittosporum cornifolium*  
*P. eugeniooides*  
*Podocarpus dacrydioides*  
*P. ferruginea*  
*P. hallii*  
*Pseudopanax anomalus*  
*P. arboreus*  
*P. colensoi*  
*P. crassifolius*  
*P. edgerleyi*  
*P. simplex*  
*Pseudowintera axillaris*  
*P. colorata*  
*Schefflera digitata*  
*Urtica ferox*  
*Weinmannia racemosa*

*Rubus australis*  
*R. cissoides*  
*R. schmideliooides*

*Scirpus pottsi*  
*Uncinia feruginea*  
*U. gracilenta*  
*U. silvestris*  
*U. uncinata*

*Luzuriaga parviflora*  
*Nertera depressa*  
*N. setulosa*  
*Oreomyrrhis ramosa*  
*Phormium cookianum*  
*Plantago raoulii* var.  
*Pratia angulata*  
*Raoulia glabra*  
*R. tenuicaulis*  
*Ranunculus hirtus* s.s.  
*Senecio minimus*  
*Stellaria parviflora*  
*Thelymitra longifolia*  
*Urtica incisa*  
*Viola filicaulis*

*Dicksonia fibrosa*  
*D. squarrosa*  
*Grammitis billardieri*  
*G. sp.*  
*Histiopteris incisa*  
*Hymenophyllum bivalve*  
*H. demissum*  
*H. flabellatum*  
*H. multifidum*  
*H. pulcherrimum*  
*H. rarum*  
*H. revolutum*  
*H. sanguinolentum* agg.  
*H. scabrum*  
*Hypolepis rufobarbata*  
*H. rufobarbata* X *H. sp.*  
 (H. tenuifolia)

### EXOTIC SPECIES

*Geranium molle*  
*Gnaphalium luteo-album*  
*Hypochaeris radicata*  
*Juncus articulatus*  
*J. effusus*  
*J. tenuis*  
*Lapsana communis*  
*Lotus pedunculatus*  
*Lupinus arboreus*  
*Mentha X piperita*  
*M. pulegium*  
*M. suaveolens*  
*Mimulus guttatus*  
*Nasturtium sp.*

*Parentucellia viscosa*  
*Plantago lanceolata*  
*P. major*  
*Poa annua*  
*Prunella vulgaris*  
*Ranunculus repens*  
*Rumex acetosella*  
*Senecio jacobaea*  
*Sonchus asper*  
*S. olearaceus*  
*Stellaria media*  
*Trifolium pratense*  
*T. repens*  
*Vicia sativa*

BIRDS (Native and Introduced)

bellbird	magpie	silvereye
blackbird	morepork	thrush
fantail	N.Z. pipit	tomtit
greenfinch	N.Z. falcon	tui
greywarbler	rifleman	whitehead
goldfinch	shining cuckoo	wood pigeon
harrier hawk	skylark	yellowhammer
longtailed cuckoo		

WAEWAEPKA SCENIC RESERVE							GRID REF T24/U24 700000																																																																																				
for:	scenery ✓	bush ✓	scrub/tussock etc	wetland	plants	animals	geology/soil	history/prehistory	water supply	AREA ha/acc	1098.7362																																																																																
<b>LOCATION</b>	19 km east of Pahiatua						L.D. No.																																																																																				
<b>ACCESS</b>	Off Makairo Road, either from the west (via Kohinui) or from the east (via Coonoor).						STATUS Scenic																																																																																				
<b>OUTLINE &amp; TOPO</b>							RES sub-classes																																																																																				
Steeply dissected hill country (reaching 800m) east of the northern Wairarapa plain, parallel to Puketoi Range. The reserve is part of a larger block of secondary scrub and forest which has been burnt over and grazed.							CONTROL CCL																																																																																				
<b>SURROUNDINGS</b> Farmland, especially on northern and eastern boundaries. Secondary scrubs, low forest and reverting pastureland on western and southern boundaries.							GAZETTED 1981 p.1756																																																																																				
							RESERVED 1898/1780, 1913/2113, 1976/2609																																																																																				
<b>GEOLOGY</b> Greywacke.							HISTORY																																																																																				
							AIR PHOTO SN 5408 E/31, E/32, F/16, F/17 date 17.12.79.																																																																																				
<b>SPM</b>	Colluvium.						nearby town 12 km Makuri																																																																																				
<b>SOIL</b>	Steepland soils related to yellow-brown earths, and bare rock.						nearest reserve 3 km Pipinui Waterfall S.R.																																																																																				
<b>DRAINAGE</b>	Very good.						public road 2 km Makuri Ongaha Road																																																																																				
							sea (km) ...																																																																																				
							ALTITUDE m.s.n.m 300-798																																																																																				
							ASPECT Mainly north-west and south-east																																																																																				
							RAIN mm/yr 1650 (approx)																																																																																				
							SOIL FERTILITY Low-medium.																																																																																				
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">RES</th> <th colspan="2">NOT</th> <th colspan="7">MAIN HABITATS and FEATURES</th> <th>% area</th> <th>area</th> <th>native</th> <th>ex</th> <th>regen</th> <th>NAT /</th> <th>trend</th> <th>endemic</th> </tr> <tr> <th>B</th> <th>I</th> <th>M</th> <th>Z</th> <th colspan="7"></th> <th>ha</th> <th>ha</th> <th>1°</th> <th>2°</th> <th>ind</th> <th>M</th> <th>M</th> <th>I</th> <th>L</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td colspan="7"> <p>1. Mixed broadleaved forest and scrub on steep, colluvial slopes.</p> <p>Secondary forest and scrub (canopy height 3m-10m) with a variety of broadleaved species such as mahoe, five finger, rangiora, rewarewa, pepper tree, koromiko, karamu, lacebark, hinau, toro, pate, kaikomako, broadleaf and marbleleaf. Tree ferns (mamaku and <i>Cyathea smithii</i>) are scattered throughout and are especially prominent on lower and mid-slopes which have been more recently and more completely cleared. The understorey is composed of broadleaved shrubs, 1-2m tall and ranges from open to moderately dense. Common species are kanono, pate, rangiora, <i>Pseudowintera colorata</i> and kawakawa. The floor cover is mainly litter with occasional ferns such as <i>Blechnum discolor</i>, hen and chicken fern and <i>Pneumatopteris pennigera</i>. With an increasing component of <i>Pseudowintera colorata</i> at higher altitudes and near grassland areas, this vegetation type grades into either, nearly pure <i>Pseudowinters</i> on ridge tops (type 2), or into grassland with <i>Pseudowintera</i> often common throughout (type 3). It has not been possible to map this intergrade separately from vegetation type 1.</p> <p>At lower altitudes, occasional emergent trees (20-30m) are found, remnant from the podocarp forest which would once have clothed the slopes of most of the Waewaepka Range. Rimu is the most common species but Hall's totara and matai are also present. One large northern rata was seen near the Makairo Track at the north-eastern end of the reserve and more may be present in the vicinity.</p> <p>Included in the area mapped as this vegetation type are slips and other areas in the heads of streams and gullies which are badly eroded. Especially common on slips is koromiko whilst the eroded areas higher up are in exotic grassland (not visited but probably mainly browntop and cocksfoot) with regenerating broadleaved shrubs (especially <i>Pseudowintera colorata</i>). Some small areas of <i>Astelia fragrans</i> are also present in these areas.</p> <p>There are a few small areas at lower altitudes where tawa is present over the broadleaved forest or forms a small tawa dominant stand.</p> <p>2. <i>Pseudowintera colorata</i> low forest and scrub (up to c.6m).</p> <p>Secondary low forest and scrub of almost pure <i>Pseudowintera</i> on ridgetops. Occasional Hall's totara, <i>Coprosma foetidissima</i>, C. sp. (unnamed) and <i>Cyathea smithii</i> are present throughout. The understorey is sparse with pate being most common. Bush rice grass is prominent on the floor with <i>Blechnum discolor</i>, <i>B. fluviatile</i> and <i>Polystichum vestitum</i> also common. This vegetation type often contains small grassy clearings, similar in composition to 3 (see below).</p> <p>Some large tree fuchsia (40 cm diameter) are present in small depressions in the ridge of the main Waewaepka Range. <i>Dracophyllum longifolium</i> and <i>Brachyglossis rotundifolia</i> var. (<i>B. elaeagnifolia</i>) occur on this ridge also.</p> <p><i>Astelia fragrans</i> is present in the heads of some gullies on the western side of the main ridge (areas were too small to map separately).</p> </td> <td>81.9</td> <td>900</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> <td>M</td> <td>M</td> <td>I</td> <td>L</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td colspan="7"></td> <td>17.1</td> <td>188</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>														RES		NOT		MAIN HABITATS and FEATURES							% area	area	native	ex	regen	NAT /	trend	endemic	B	I	M	Z								ha	ha	1°	2°	ind	M	M	I	L	✓	✓			<p>1. Mixed broadleaved forest and scrub on steep, colluvial slopes.</p> <p>Secondary forest and scrub (canopy height 3m-10m) with a variety of broadleaved species such as mahoe, five finger, rangiora, rewarewa, pepper tree, koromiko, karamu, lacebark, hinau, toro, pate, kaikomako, broadleaf and marbleleaf. 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(Continued..)																																																																																											
<b>CONDITION</b> Generally good considering the ravages of the past. Stock have entry to parts of the reserve north of the Makairo Track and are seriously depleting the understorey.																																																																																											
<b>FENCING</b> Fenced along south-eastern boundary. Fencing needed north of Makairo Track where stock have access to reserve.																																																																																											
<b>PRIORITY</b> High for above section. Other parts of reserve adjoining farmland should eventually be fenced.																																																																																											
<b>RATING D-10</b>																																																																																											
<b>SCIENTIFIC</b> A... Localised occurrence of two montane/subalpine species on main ridge of Waewaepka Range.																																																																																											
<b>SCENIC</b> B... Large tract of bush covered hill country in an area where most hills are in pasture.																																																																																											
C... Important area for recreational hunting.																																																																																											
<b>RECREATION</b> ....																																																																																											
<b>CONCLUSIONS and RECOMMENDATIONS</b> At nearly 1100 ha Waewaepka Scenic Reserve is by far the largest in the lower North Island. It has been extensively burnt, cleared and grazed in the past and the present vegetation reflects this fact. The reserve contains extensive areas of fire and stock induced <i>Pseudowintera colorata</i> scrub and low forest, a vegetation type unrepresented in other Wairarapa Reserves although common in the southern parts of the nearby Ruahine State Forest Park.																																																																																											
The occurrence of <i>Dracophyllum longifolium</i> and <i>Brachyglossis rotundifolia</i> var. ( <i>Senecio elaeagnifolius</i> ) is of some interest because they are upper montane/subalpine species and in the case of <i>Brachyglossis</i> , is the only record east of the Ruahine and Tararua Ranges (J.F. Findlay - letter on file).																																																																																											
An extension could be made on the south-western corner of the reserve (see map) to include an area of forest presently in private ownership. Although only viewed from a distance by the writer the canopy of the forest appears to be in good condition and has a higher density of tall remnant trees than any of the forest in the reserve. A local farmer reported to us that many of the tall trees in this remnant were northern rata, a species which is very scarce in the reserve.																																																																																											
(Continued..)																																																																																											
16 ..... hours Overcast/misty, fine conditions DJC, SF, IG June 1984																																																																																											
1 NATURALNESS 2 TREND: D deteriorating; S steady; I improving																																																																																											

MAIN HABITATS AND FEATURES (Continued)																		
✓	✓	3.	<u>Brown top-Pseudowintera colorata</u> shrub/grassland.	Introduced grassland with regenerating shrubs of <i>Pseudowintera</i> , <i>Coprosma</i> sp. (unnamed), <i>Pseudopanax anomalus</i> , <i>Metrosideros diffusa</i> and <i>M. perforata</i> . The shrubs are heavily browsed by deer. Other grassland species include cocksfoot and <i>Helichrysum bellidicoides</i> .	1.0	11						✓	✓	✓	L	L	S	M
														100.0	1099			

#### MAIN HABITATS AND FEATURES (Continued)

3. Brown top-Pseudowintera colorata shrub/grassland.

Introduced grassland with regenerating shrubs of *Pseudowintera*, *Coprosma* sp. (unnamed), *Pseudopanax anomalus*, *Metrosideros diffusa* and *M. perforata*. The shrubs are heavily browsed by deer. Other grassland species include cocksfoot and *Helichrysum bellidifolium*.

1.0	11	✓	✓	✓	L	L	S	M
00.0	1099							

#### CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (Continued)

Waewaepa Scenic Reserve is a valuable recreational hunting area for local people and this use should be actively encouraged as deer numbers are high in the reserve and damage to the vegetation is continuing.

Makairo Road (often called Makairo Track) is now not maintained by the Pahiatua County Council and has been closed to conventional vehicles for a number of years. With the provision of a gate at each end to inhibit access to "off road vehicles", yet allow local landowners access, the Makairo Track could be very inexpensively made into a scenic walkway that would be a valuable asset to the Department. With appropriate publicity, a walkway would increase public use of the reserve for activities such as picnicking and family outings. These activities are considered by the writer to be compatible with recreational hunting because of the large size of Waewaepa Reserve, hunting pressure being concentrated along main ridges to the south of the Makairo Track and the unlikelihood of day walkers straying from the walkway due to the rugged topography and dense vegetation.

Liaison should be continued/established with local land-owners regarding the desirability to fence areas of reserve contiguous with developed farmland. The sections of the reserve north of the Makairo Track are being damaged by stock and are the highest priority.

**REFERENCES** Druce, A.P., 1975: Indigenous Vascular Plants of the Waewaeps Range (Unpublished), Botany Division, D.S.I.R.

<sup>1</sup> tall conifer: *kahikatea, kauri, matai, miro, rimu, totara*

2 remaining 11 tree-sized spp

### 3 broadleaved

<sup>5</sup> incl. rough grassland, pasture etc