

## Base Camp QEII

### At a glance

TRC Reference: BD/7069	LENZ:	H4.1a Not threatened
Ecological District: Egmont	National:	Priority 4 – Threatened Species
Land Tenure: Private		Priority 2 – Sand Dunes and Wetlands
Area(ha): 26.38	Regional:	Key Native Ecosystem
GPS: 1701390X & 5647889Y		Representative ecosystem type
Habitat: Forest Remnant/Wetland	Regional Ecosystem Loss:	Reduced 30-50% left
Bioclimatic Zone: Lowland	Protection Status:	QEII Covenant
Ecosystem Type: MF8.3: Kahikatea, rimu, kamahi forest	Catchment:	Patea (343) Waitara (395)

### General Description

The Base Camp QEII covenant is located at the end of Radnor Road and is connected to Te Papakura o Taranaki (Egmont National Park). The site consists of 26.38ha of cut over and well regenerated native bush on a reasonably flat contour between the Te Popo and Kahouri Stream upper tributaries. The site has been identified as a priority for management as a good example of MF8-3: Kahikatea, rimu, kamahi forest. Native forest remnants are rare on the volcanic ring plain and this forest type is classified 'Reduced' from its former extent with less than 50% remaining in Taranaki. Notable vegetation includes a number of 'Threatened' species such as swamp maire, two species of threatened rata and the regionally distinctive green mistletoe. The streams also provide potential habitat for notable fauna such as whio, shortjaw kokopu, koaro, redfin bully and longfin eel. The site provides very good connectivity to Te Papakura o Taranaki and other habitats nearby.

### Ecological Features

#### Flora

The dominant canopy of the forest remnant is typical of damp/swamp forest vegetation in this area with a mix of kamahi, kahikatea, hinau and black maire. Other species also include swamp maire, tawa, rimu, miro, northern rata and toro. Lower stature vegetation includes tree ferns, wineberry, marbleleaf, raukawa, hangehange, NZ fuchsia and kanono. Native climbers, epiphytes and orchids are common. Good ground cover is present including a variety of ferns, seedlings and saplings.

#### Fauna

Birds found at the site include bellbird, grey warbler, tomtit, fantail, tui and kereru. Brown kiwi and bush falcon are occasionally present in the area. Whio (blue duck) have also been recorded using the Te Popo stream near this area, and may be present. There is adequate habitat for terrestrial and arboreal reptile species, ranging from deep leaf litter, logs on the forest floor, epiphytes in the canopy, and abundant foliage. No reptiles have been recorded for the site although will be present and may include threatened or regionally distinctive species. Notable native fish are likely to be present at the site including shortjaw kokopu, koaro and longfin eels. Aquatic and terrestrial invertebrate life will be diverse and may include notable species such as peripatus.

### Ecological Values

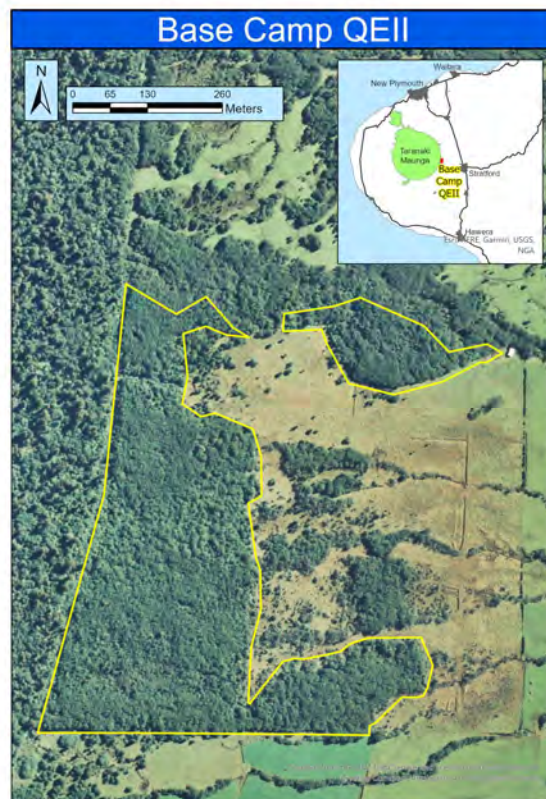
Ecological context - High

The site provides very good connectivity with Te Papakura o Taranaki (Egmont National Park) and other habitats in the area. The site also provides core habitat for a variety of threatened species.

Rarity and Distinctiveness - High	The site provides habitat for a variety of notable threatened and notable flora species including swamp maire, two species of rata and green mistletoe. Brown kiwi and falcon occur occasionally at the site. Likely to contain notable fauna which may include whio (blue duck), shortjawed kokopu, koaro, redfin bully and longfin eel.
Representativeness - High	Although the land environment is considered Not Threatened (LENZ H4.1a) this forest type is considered reduced with less than 50% remaining in Taranaki. The remnant is a good example of MF8-3: Kahikatea, rimu, kamahi forest, and has been identified as a priority representative site for management.
Sustainability - Positive	In relatively good vegetative condition. Key ecological processes still influence the site, and under appropriate management, it can remain resilient to existing or potential threats.

### Other Management Issues

Habitat Modification - Medium	Stock breach from the neighbours causing moderate modification to the covenant in this area.
Herbivores - Medium	Potential high risk from browsing although fenced and stock proof on the landowners pasture margin. The north property boundary is an unfenced stream and neighbours stock have breached this area and damaged the covenant understory in the past.
Predators - Medium	Predators including rodents, mustelids, possums, feral cats and hedgehogs will be having an impact on native species at the site.
Weeds - Low	Blackberry and exotic trees and shrubs are present although are confined to the forest margin.
Possum Self-help	Within the self-help possum control area and receives sustained possum control. Possums are present at low densities.



## Eight Hundred Trust KNE

### At a glance

TRC Reference: BD/9708	LENZ:	F1.1d Not threatened
Ecological District: Matemateaonga	National:	Priority 4 - Threatened Species
Land Tenure: Private		Priority 2 - Sand Dunes and Wetlands
Area(ha): 827	Regional:	Potential KNE
GPS: 1733863X & 5640445Y	Regional	At risk 20-30% left
	Ecosystem Loss:	Less reduced >50% left
Habitat: Forest Remnant	Protection Status:	Local Government
Bioclimatic Zone: Lowland	Catchment:	Patea (343)
Ecosystem Type: MF7.2: Rata, tawa, kamahi, podocarp forest		
MF7.3: Tawa, pukatea, podocarp forest		

### General Description

The Eight Hundred Trust KNE is located on privately owned land near Tututawa in eastern Taranaki. The site lies in the Patea River catchment and is located in the Matemateaonga Ecological District. The KNE covers 827 ha and is a mix of original and cut over lowland forest with large areas of modified regenerating native forest. The gully's are interspersed with small areas of palustrine lowland swamps. The KNE is surrounded by adjacent native forest including a 2.3km boundary with the Waitiri Conservation Area. Other nearby protected areas includes the Tahunamaere Scenic Reserve, Forest & Bees KNE and Omoana Bush QEII.

### Ecological Features

#### Flora

Regenerating native scrub (manuka, kanuka, mamaku, wheki, ponga, katote) dominates the majority of the area with secondary forest evident (miro, rimu, totara, tawa, hinau and rewarewa). There are areas of mature native forest (tawa, miro, rimu, hinau, rewarewa and pigeonwood) along the boundaries of Omoana KNE and Waitiri Scenic reserve. The 'Regionally Distinctive' Tawhirikaro (*Pittosporum cornifolium*) was observed in perching epiphytes of larger canopy trees and other notable species may be present.

#### Fauna

Populations of forest birds are present within the KNE including kereru, fantail, grey warbler, tui, korimako, tomtit and ruru. Notable bird species present include North Island robin, fern bird, NZ falcon, whitehead and North Island brown kiwi. Whio have also been recently recorded on the neighbouring Omoana KNE in the Tahunamaere stream. There is good habitat for terrestrial and arboreal lizard species and notable or threatened or at risk species such as the Pacific gecko, barking gecko, forest gecko, ornate skink and striped skink could be present. Long-tailed bats are present in the neighbouring Omoana KNE and there is potential for short-tailed bats to also be present. Native fish recorded to date includes longfin eel, shortfin eel, redfin bully and koura. The site will also contain other notable species including invertebrates.

### Ecological Values

Sustainability - Positive	In good vegetative condition. Large area in a circular shape. Key ecological processes still influence the site. Under appropriate management, it can remain resilient to existing or potential threats
Ecological context - High	Close to and provides connectivity to Waitiri Scenic Reserve, Waitotara Conservation Area and Omoana KNE.

Rarity and Distinctiveness - High	This site contains the 'Threatened' longtailed bat and includes the 'At Risk' North Island brown kiwi, NZ falcon North Island robin, North Island fern bird, North Island pipit and the 'Regionally Distinctive' Tawhirikaro ( <i>Pittosporum cornifolium</i> ).
Representativeness - Medium	Although the wider eastern hill country landscape is still relatively well vegetated, this site is a remnant of a forest ecosystem type considered At Risk in Taranaki with less than 30% remaining in the region.

**Other Management Issues**

Herbivores - High	Population of feral goats and possums at the site are high.
Habitat Modification - Medium	The soil geology makes the area potentially more at risk from natural erosion. The forest is recovering from the effects of previous land use in places, logging and farming.
Predator Control	Landowner to date has 112 traps which are checked on a regular basis (mix of A24s, DOC 200's and SA kat traps). Scope for expansion working with TKT
Herbivore Control	Landowner undertaking feral goat control
Weeds - Low	Currently low impact of weeds in this area.



## Hyview

### At a glance

<b>TRC Reference:</b> BD/9691	<b>LENZ:</b>	H1.3b Under protected
<b>Ecological District:</b> Egmont	<b>National:</b>	Priority 2 – Sand Dunes and Wetlands
<b>Land Tenure:</b> Private		Priority 4 – Threatened Species
<b>Area(ha):</b> 2.4	<b>Regional:</b>	Potential KNE
<b>GPS:</b> 1697234X & 5660114Y		Representative ecosystem type
<b>Habitat:</b> Forest Remnant	<b>Regional Ecosystem Loss:</b>	Reduced 30-50% left
<b>Bioclimatic Zone:</b> Lower Montane	<b>Protection Status:</b>	Local Government
<b>Ecosystem Type:</b> MF8.3: Kahikatea, rimu, kamahi forest	<b>Catchment:</b>	Waiwhakaiho (392)

## General Description

The Hyview site is located on privately owned land approximately 8 km south west of Inglewood. It lies in the Egmont Ecological District.

The wetland forest remnant is 2.4 ha in size and is situated on the western bank of the Waiwhakaiho River in north Taranaki. It is comprised of lowland forest that lies on flood deposits of alluvial gravel and sand (known as the Hangatahua Gravels). The forest was previously logged but the canopy has now recovered and is up to 20 metres in height.

## Ecological Features

### Flora

The main canopy species include kamahi, rimu, swamp maire (Nationally Threatened), mountain totara, hinau, kahikatea, tawa and miro. The subcanopy commonly comprises pigeonwood and tree ferns, with locally abundant supplejack. Hen and chicken fern, gully fern, crepe fern and water fern is found in damp parts of the ground cover, along with other ferns and seedlings. The understory is a mix of kanono, rimu, miro and tawa saplings over a groundcover of crown fern etc.

### Fauna

Good habitat is present for a range of native forest birds and the site is in close proximity to Te Papakura o Taranaki and Taranaki Mahood Lowe KNE. Forest birds present include tui, korimako, kereru, riroriro, piwaiwaka, miromiro, pipiwharauoa, koekoea and tauhou. Other species likely to be present will include notable species such as karearea (falcon). Whio (blue duck) are present and are breeding in the Waiwhakaiho River which provides very good habitat. There is adequate habitat for terrestrial and arboreal reptile species ranging from deep leaf litter, logs on the forest floor, epiphytes in the canopy and abundant foliage. No records are known for the site although reptiles will be present and may include notable species. Notable native fish are also very likely to be present.

## Ecological Values

Sustainability - Positive

In relatively good vegetative condition. Key ecological processes still influence the site and, under appropriate management, it can remain resilient to existing or potential threats

Representativeness - High	Contains vegetation associated with land environment H1.3b. Less than 20% of areas like these have formal protection in New Zealand and are considered 'Under-protected'. The ecosystem type represented here (MF8-3, Kahikatea, rimu, kāmahi forest) is also considered 'Reduced' from its former extent in Taranaki with only around 35% remaining.
Rarity and Distinctiveness - High	Several threatened plants have been recorded from the site including swamp maire and a variety of climbing ratas. Threatened whio (blue duck) are present and breed in this area. The site will contain significantly more notable species including reptiles, native fish and invertebrates.
Ecological context - High	Close proximity to Te Papakura o Taranaki and Taranaki Mahood-Lowe KNE which both have significant indigenous biodiversity values.

**Other Management Issues**

Possum Self-help	The site lies within the possum self-help programme. Landowner undertakes possum control on a regular basis.
Habitat Modification - Low	The site is listed as LSNA in the NPDC District Plan and vegetation clearance rules will apply.
Herbivores - Medium	Currently fenced and stock proof although vulnerable to stock browsing if fences were breached. Currently under good possum control although vulnerable if possum numbers were high.
Predators - Medium	Predators such as rats, mustelids, feral cats and hedgehogs are present at the site and will be having an impact on native fauna. Landscape scale predator control is ongoing in the wider landscape as part of TPFT predator free rural programme.
Weeds - High	High risk although currently under a successful long running weed control programme. Small localised areas of blackberry and African clubmoss.



## Lucas Block

### At a glance

<b>TRC Reference:</b> BD/9704	<b>LENZ:</b>	F5.2b Acutely threatened
<b>Ecological District:</b> Egmont	<b>Local:</b>	Significant Natural Area
<b>Land Tenure:</b> Private	<b>National:</b>	Priority 4 – Threatened Species
<b>Area(ha):</b> 2.8		Priority 1 – Threatened Land Environment
<b>GPS:</b> 1692477X & 5671372Y	<b>Regional:</b>	Potential KNE
<b>Habitat:</b> Forest Remnant	<b>Regional Ecosystem Loss:</b>	Chronically threatened 10-20% left
<b>Bioclimatic Zone:</b> Semi-Coastal	<b>Protection Status:</b>	Local Government
<b>Ecosystem Type:</b> WF13: Tawa, kohekohe, rewarewa, hinau, podocarp forest	<b>Catchment:</b>	Huatoki (389)

### General Description

The Lucas block site consists of a 2.8ha semi-coastal forest fragment at the head of a small gully system of the Huatoki Stream catchment. The site is located at the south western fringe of New Plymouth and lies in the Egmont Ecological District. The site is comprised of ecosystem type WF13: Tawa, kohekohe, rewarewa, hinau, podocarp forest, and enhances connectivity between fragmented indigenous habitats in this area. Forest remnants like this are under-represented in Taranaki owing to widespread clearance for agricultural and urban development. The site is in close proximity to Key Native Ecosystems in the area including the McQuoid, Huatoki Scenic Reserve, Omata Bush, McGlashan Bush and the Ratapihipihi Scenic Reserve.

### Ecological Features

#### Flora

The main canopy of the old forest area is dominated by kohekohe, pukatea, tawa, rimu and rewarewa. The lower canopy is dominated by mahoe, pigeonwood and tree ferns. A good mix of seedlings and saplings are present including kawakawa, mapou, pigeonwood and Coprosmas. A variety of native ferns dominate the groundcover including kingfern 'At Risk' and jointed fern which is listed as 'Regionally Distinctive'.

#### Fauna

The forest remnants provide habitat for native birds such as tui, kereru, fantail, grey warbler, shining cuckoo and bellbird. Good habitat exists for native reptiles and invertebrates which will include notable species. The stream flowing through the site has koura and long fin eel present.

### Ecological Values

Sustainability - Positive	In good vegetative condition. Key ecological processes still influence the site. Under appropriate management, it can remain resilient to existing or potential threats.
Ecological context - High	The site provides good connectivity to Key Native Ecosystems in the area including the McQuoid, Huatoki Scenic Reserve, Omata Bush, McGlashan Bush and the Ratapihipihi Scenic Reserve.
Representativeness - High	Contains vegetation on an 'Acutely Threatened' (F5.2b) land environment. Is a remnant of an ecosystem considered 'Chronically

Threatened' (WF13: Tawa, kohekohe, rewarewa, hinau, podocarp forest) from it's pre-European extent. Only 16% of this native forest ecosystem type remains in Taranaki. Native biodiversity in these environments has been severely reduced, and remaining habitats are sparsely distributed in the landscape. Risks to biodiversity from fragmentation have become severe, and the persistence of many species is threatened in these environments. Further habitat loss will disproportionately exacerbate risks to biodiversity.

Rarity and Distinctiveness - High

Contains the 'Regionally Distinctive' jointed fern and 'At Risk' kingfern. Recent myrtle rust threats have elevated potentially vulnerable native flora species to 'Threatened' status. Notably, three of these new threatened species are present, *Metrosideros fulgens*, *M. diffusa* & *M. perforata*.

### Other Management Issues

Habitat Modification - Medium

Listed as a Significant Natural Area (NPDC District Plan) and fenced.

Weeds - High

Occasional patches and individual weeds such as woolly nightshade, wild broom, gorse, blackberry, *Tradescantia* and holly.

Herbivores - Low

Currently stock proof. Feral goats and deer are rare/ absent on the ringplain.

Possum Self-help

Site is in the Self-Help possum programme. Landowner has 10x bait-stations which are serviced & baited on a regular basis.

Predators - High

Rodents, mustelids, feral cats and hedgehogs will be impacting on fauna values at the site.





## Meier QEII

### At a glance

TRC Reference: BD/7046	LENZ:	F5.2a Acutely threatened
Ecological District: Egmont	National:	Priority 1 - Threatened Land Environment
Land Tenure: Private		Priority 4 - Threatened Species
Area(ha): 1.01	Regional:	Key Native Ecosystem
GPS: 1716547X & 5638770Y	Regional Ecosystem Loss:	At risk 20-30% left
Habitat: Forest Remnant	Protection Status:	QEII Covenant
Bioclimatic Zone: Lowland	Catchment:	Patea (343)
Ecosystem Type: MF7.3: Tawa, pukatea, podocarp forest		

### General Description

The Meier QEII covenant is located on privately owned land, 5.5 km north-east of Eltham in central Taranaki. The site lies within the Egmont Ecological District and Patea River catchment. The covenanted area is a small (1.01 ha) tawa dominated forest remnant on gentle hill slopes leading into a small stream on the south side. The forest is of a type that is classified as 'At Risk' in Taranaki and falls within 'Acutely Threatened' Land Environment (LENZ) F5.2a. Remnants such as this provide important habitat for rare and threatened species. The site also offers good connectivity to other nearby habitats, covenants and Key Native Ecosystems in the area such as Mudfish 3 and the Ngaere Swamp Forest KNEs.

### Ecological Features

#### Flora

The forest remnant canopy is dominated by tawa with occasional pukatea, rewarewa, titoki, swamp maire, mahoe, pigeonwood and kanono. A diverse range of native climbers are present including NZ jasmine, two species of clematis, NZ passionfruit and supplejack. The ground cover is intact with a diverse range of ferns, shrubs, seedlings and saplings. The site notably contains threatened species such as swamp maire, two species of rata and poroporo.

#### Fauna

Birds are generally in moderate to low numbers in the area and include kereru, tui, fantail, grey warbler and silvereye. A range of exotic species are also present. Good habitat exists for native reptiles including dense vegetation, epiphytes, loose bark, leaf litter, logs and ground cover. Native notable reptile species may be present such as the goldstripe gecko, forest gecko, striped skink and ornate skink. The habitat will contain a very diverse range of terrestrial invertebrates likely including notable species such as peripatus. A small stream is present which may contain notable native fish species.

### Ecological Values

Ecological Context - Medium	Provides good connectivity to other nearby habitats, covenants and Key Native Ecosystems in the area such as Mudfish 3 and the Ngaere Swamp Forests KNEs.
Rarity and Distinctiveness - Medium	Contains notable flora including swamp maire, poroporo and two species of threatened rata. Provides habitat for and likely to contain notable fauna including native fish, reptiles and invertebrates.
Representativeness - High	The remnant is an example of forest type MF7-3 (Tawa, pukatea, podocarp forest) and is considered 'At Risk' with only 20 - 30% of this type of forest remaining in the region. The site also falls within the 'Acutely Threatened' Land Environment (LENZ), F5.2a.

Sustainability - Positive

In good vegetative condition. Key ecological processes still influence the site. Under appropriate management, it can remain resilient to existing or potential threats.

### Other Management Issues

Habitat Modification - Low

Currently fenced and in good condition. Potential risk from stock breach and human modification.

Herbivores - High

Potential high risk from browsing although currently fenced and stock proof.

Possum Self-help

The property is within the possum self-help area and receives sustained possum control.

Predators - Medium

Predators including rodents, mustelids, possums, feral cats and hedgehogs will be having an impact on native species at the site.

Weeds - Medium

Invasive exotic species are present mainly on the forest margins such as blackberry, barberry and aluminium plant.



## Menzies Road Hill Bush

### At a glance

TRC Reference: BD/9707	LENZ:	F1.3b Less reduced, better protected
Ecological District: Matemateaonga		F1.1b Not threatened
Land Tenure: Private	National:	Priority 4 – Threatened Species
Area(ha): 4.32		Priority 1 – Threatened Land Environment
GPS: 1721026X & 5634159Y		Priority 2 – Sand Dunes and Wetlands
Habitat: Forest Remnant/Wetland	Regional:	Key Native Ecosystem
Bioclimatic Zone: Lowland	Regional	At risk 20-30% left
Ecosystem Type: MF7.3: Tawa, pukatea, podocarp forest	Ecosystem Loss:	Acutely Threatened <10% left
WF8: Kahikatea, pukatea forest	Protection Status:	QEII Covenant
		Local Government
	Catchment:	Patea (343)

### General Description

Menzies Road Hill Bush is located on privately owned land on Rawhitiroa Road, 8.5km East of Eltham in the South Taranaki District. The 4.32 ha lowland forest remnant is a modified example of MF7-3 Tawa, pukatea podocarp forest, located within the Patea catchment and the Matemateaonga Ecological District. The site also presents a small element of WF8, Kahikatea, pukatea forest. Much of the original podocarp component of the forest has been logged, though a range of podocarp species are re-establishing well. The site is steep and descends the flank of a ridge to a small stream, with colluvium and alluvial soils on its banks. The site provides an example of the typical forest type of the hills and flats of the area, and is located in proximity to other KNEs within the area, including the Lake Rotokare and Campbell's bush Scenic Reserves, Mangamingi Recreation Reserve and the privately owned Twin Giants KNE.

### Ecological Features

#### Flora

Part of the site contains WF8 Kahikatea, pukatea (Acutely threatened) on colluvial and alluvial landforms at the foot of slopes and stream terraces. It should be noted these areas are a small component of the site identified via discrete local field assessment, and this classification does not feature on standard GIS datasets.

#### Fauna

Potentially provides habitat for pateke/brown teal, as spillover potential from the Lake Rotokare Scenic Reserve. Pateke are a highly mobile species and the site is clearly good habitat for mallard and paradise duck.

### Ecological Values

Ecological context - High	Situated in close proximity (700m) to Lake Rotokare Scenic Reserve and within the Rotokare Halo area, and potentially provides important spillover habitat for a range of threatened fauna. Also contains a small percentage of WF8 Kahikatea, pukatea swamp forest (Acutely Threatened)
Representativeness - Medium	The majority of the site is on land environments considered either 'Not Threatened' or Less Reduced and Better Protected nationally (F1.3b & F1.1b, LENZ), and an ecosystem type classified at a

regional scale as being 'At Risk' (MF7, Regional ecosystem map for Taranaki, Singers & Lawrence). A small, unmapped component of the area is kahikatea, pukatea swamp forest, WF8. Wetlands are now rare in Taranaki and are considered 'Acutely Threatened' ecosystems.

Sustainability - Positive

The site is legally protected from disturbance via a conservation covenant between the owners and the QEII National Trust. The site is securely fenced to exclude grazing livestock. At a little over 4ha, the site is of sufficient scale to provide sustainable forest cover, despite being semi-compact in shape with moderate potential for edge effects. The site is located within the Rotokare Halo and so receives regular trapping for predatory and browsing pest animals. The incidence of ecological pest plants at the site is low.

### Other Management Issues

Habitat Modification - Low

QEII Covenant conditions apply

Herbivores - Medium

Possums and occasional goats.

Possum Self-help

Situated in margin of Skinner Road SHP block (property is on extreme eastern boundary of SHP area).

Predator Control

Some trapping hardware in place through LRSRT Halo project. Will liaise with them in time and confirm what is there and locations.

Predators - Low

Predator species will be being trapped by LRSRT Halo ranger.

Weeds - Low

The incidence of ecological pest plants is currently understood to be low.



## Twin Giants – KNE inventory sheet

### At a glance

TRC Reference: BD/9709	LENZ:	F5.2a Acutely threatened
Ecological District: Egmont	Local:	Significant Natural Area
Land Tenure: Private	National:	Priority 1 – Threatened Land Environment
Area(ha): 0.6		Priority 2 – Sand Dunes and Wetlands
GPS: 1719967X & 5632482Y		Priority 4 – Threatened Species
Habitat: Forest Remnant/Wetland	Regional:	Potential KNE
Bioclimatic Zone: Lowland	Regional	Acutely Threatened <10% left
Ecosystem Type: WF8: Kahikatea, pukatea forest	Ecosystem Loss:	
	Protection Status:	Local Government
	Catchment:	Tangahoe (348)

### General Description

Twin Giants wetland forest is located on privately owned land on Sangster Road, 8km east of Eltham in the South Taranaki District. The site is a 0.6ha remnant of kahikatea, pukatea wetland forest on the margins of the Eltham Swamp complex. A small drain flanks the site, which is located within the Tangahoe Catchment. The forest is an important remnant example of what would have been an extensive forest type in the area, and is located in close proximity to the Lake Rotokare Scenic Reserve, and a number of other KNEs, including Campbell's Bush SR, Menzies Hill Road Bush, Maata Road QEII Covenants and Willy Wetland.

### Ecological Features

#### Flora

The canopy at the wetland forest remnant is dominated by pukatea, tawa and kahikatea. A diverse range of vines and epiphytes are present, including tank and perching lily, kiekie, spring orchid, NZ jasmine, supplejack, large leaved Muehlenbeckia and NZ passionflower. The understory is sparse and modified by a recent livestock incursion event and rabbit browsing, and includes kawakawa, kanono, poroporo, pate, nikau, mamaku, wheki and silver tree fern. Terrestrial ferns and herbs are also sparse, and include kiokio, hen and chicken fern, climbing hard fern, shining and sickle spleenwort and parataniwha.

#### Fauna

Good birdlife is present in the remnant, including tui, kereru, grey warbler and fantail. Long tailed bats are present at the nearby Lake Rotokare Scenic Reserve and may use this area in their wider foraging. Potential roost trees are also present. There is adequate habitat for native reptiles, and native freshwater fish in the flanking drain may include notable species. The habitat will contain a range of terrestrial invertebrates.

### Ecological Values

Sustainability - Positive	Key ecological processes still influence the site and with appropriate management it can remain resilient to existing or potential threats.
Representativeness - High	The ecosystem type is classified as WF8, kahikatea, pukatea swamp forest, of which there is only 4% remaining in Taranaki. Contains indigenous vegetation on the 'Acutely Threatened' (F5.2a) LENZ environment.
Rarity and Distinctiveness - Medium	TBC

Ecological context - High

The bush remnant provides good connectivity to other KNE/QEII sites in this area, and is just 520 meters west of the Lake Rotokare Scenic Reserve and is within the LRSR Trusts 'Halo' management area.

### Other Management Issues

Habitat Modification - High

The site could benefit from fencing upgrades and could be protected by a conservation covenant. The site is subject to district and regional plan rules.

Herbivores - Medium

Possum control is ongoing and the site has had occasional livestock incursion and could benefit from fencing upgrade.

Possum Self-help

The property falls within the Skinner Road Possum Self Help Area. Trapping and poisoning methods are used

Predators - Medium

Predators including rodents, mustelids, possums, feral cats and hedgehogs are receiving some control but will be presenting ongoing impacts on native species at the site.

Weeds - High

Invasive exotic species such as elderberry and barberry are present on the wetland forest margins and in some places within the forest.



## Van der Poel's Bush

### At a glance

TRC Reference: BD/9626	LENZ:	H1.3a Acutely threatened
Ecological District: Egmont	National:	Priority 1 – Threatened Land Environment
Land Tenure: Private		Priority 1 – Threatened Land Environment
Area(ha): 1.3		Priority 4 – Threatened Species
GPS: 1671356X & 5657390Y		
Habitat: Forest Remnant	Regional:	Potential KNE
Bioclimatic Zone: Semi-Coastal	Regional Ecosystem Loss:	At risk 20-30% left
Ecosystem Type: VS5.2, Northern rata, kamahi forest	Protection Status:	QEII Covenant Local Government
	Catchment:	Waiweranui (378)

### General Description

van der Poel's Bush consists of a 1.3ha semi-coastal forest dominated by kohekohe and rewarewa. Forest remnants like this are under-represented in Taranaki owing to widespread clearance for agriculture and urban development. The site lies adjacent to the Waiweranui stream within the Egmont Ecological district. An area that is occasionally flooded by the stream has been historically modified and is now dominated by tradescantia. van der Poel's bush is in close proximity to other Key Native Ecosystems such as the Donald QEII, Tapuinikau Pa and Stent Road Bush.

### Ecological Features

#### Flora

The canopy of the site is dominated by kohekohe with a smaller component of rewarewa, karaka and titoki, with pukatea in the wetter areas. The understory is regenerating and is comprised mainly of kawakawa, mahoe, pigeonwood and kanono along with a range of ferns. Recent myrtle rust threats have elevated potentially vulnerable native flora species to 'Threatened' status. Notably, two of these new threatened species are present at this site including two species of rata.

#### Fauna

Birds present at the site include kereru, tui, silvereye, grey warbler, fantail, kingfisher, harrier and morepork. There is very good habitat for a range of other notable native species including freshwater fish, reptiles and invertebrates.

### Ecological Values

Ecological Context - Medium	Enhances connectivity between fragmented indigenous habitats in this area including Donald QEII, Tapuinikau Pa and Stent Road Bush.
Rarity and Distinctiveness - Low	Likely to contain notable fauna species including reptiles and invertebrates. Also contains three newly listed 'Threatened' and 'At Risk' flora species due to potential vulnerability to myrtle rust including two species 3 species of rata.
Representativeness - Medium	VS5.2, Northern rata, kamahi forest
Sustainability - Positive	In good vegetative condition other than flood damaged area.

## Other Management Issues

Habitat Modification - Low	Although the habitat is vulnerable to modification there are no immediate threats.
Possum Self-help	The site sits within the self-help program area. Control is carried out by shooting and poisoning. High possum numbers have the potential to impact on forest health.
Predators - Medium	Predators including rodents, mustelids, possums, feral cats and hedgehogs will be having an impact on native species at the site.
Weeds - High	Japanese Honeysuckle and Tradescantia threaten the integrity of this site.
Herbivores - Low	Stock are excluded from the site and remain a low risk while the fencing is good condition.





## Wild Earth

### At a glance

<b>TRC Reference:</b> BD/9710	<b>LENZ:</b>	F7.2a At risk
<b>Ecological District:</b> Matemateaonga	<b>National:</b>	Priority 2 – Sand Dunes and Wetlands
<b>Land Tenure:</b> Private		Priority 4 – Threatened Species
<b>Area(ha):</b> 3.0	<b>Regional:</b>	Potential KNE
<b>GPS:</b> 1743501X & 5664027Y	<b>Regional</b>	At risk 20-30% left
	<b>Ecosystem Loss:</b>	
<b>Habitat:</b> Forest Remnant/Wetland	<b>Protection</b>	QEII Covenant
<b>Bioclimatic Zone:</b> Lowland	<b>Status:</b>	
<b>Ecosystem Type:</b> MF7.3: Tawa, pukatea, podocarp forest	<b>Catchment:</b>	Patea (343)

### General Description

The Wild Earth site is located on privately owned land, 6.7km west of Whangamomona, in the Matemateaonga Ecological District.

The remnant consists of a small (3 ha) area of lowland forest/wetland which is comprised primarily of tawa, miro, totara, black maire, white maire and rimu on the steeper slopes with kahikatea and pukatea along the banks of the small stream and lower wetland fringe. The remnant is connected by riparian vegetation along the Makahu stream.

### Ecological Features

#### Flora

The forest canopy consists of tawa, pukatea, kahikatea, rewarewa, pigeonwood, miro, rimu, totara, black maire and white maire. Sub canopy contains tree ferns, mahoe, manuka, kanuka and putaputaweta. Understorey has a range of Blechnum ferns, spider orchids with some saplings and seedlings present. Lianas/ epiphytes include kareo, two rata sp, clematis, Astelias and orchids (bamboo, Drymoanthus). Forest wetland contains kahikatea, pukatea, Carex secta, C.geminata and knobbly club rush. Notable species may be present in the perching epiphytes of the site

#### Fauna

Native birdlife recorded in and around the site include the kereru/NZ pigeon, riroriro/grey warbler, piwaiwaka/fantail, tui, ruru/morepork, karearea/NZ falcon, miromiro/tomtit, matuku/grey faced heron, putangitangi/paradise duck, korimako/bellbird and pukeko. There is good habitat for terrestrial and arboreal lizard species and notable or threatened or at risk species such as the Pacific gecko, barking gecko, forest gecko, ornate skink and striped skink could be present. Long-tailed bats are present in the nearby Awahou Scenic Reserve. There is a small clear stream running through the site which has good invertebrate life present. A future fish survey is required.

### Ecological Values

Sustainability - Positive	Key ecological processes still influence the site. Under appropriate management, it can remain resilient to existing or potential threats
Representativeness - Medium	Contains vegetation on an "At Risk" land environment (F7.2a Land Environment New Zealand). The ecosystem type (MF7.3 Tawa, Pukatea podocarp forest) is considered At Risk in Taranaki with only

26% remaining in the region. As a wetland, the site is also significant as wetlands are now increasingly rare habitats in New Zealand.

Rarity and Distinctiveness - Medium This site provides habitat for the 'At Risk' New Zealand falcon and black shag. Two species of Threatened climbing rata and At Risk manuka are also present.

Ecological context - High Close to and provides connectivity to Awahou Scenic Reserve, Matirangi Conservation Area.

### Other Management Issues

Weeds - Medium There are several weeds present that will displace native vegetation; Blackberry, barberry, wattle and Selaginella

Predators - High Possums, feral cats, hedgehogs, rats and mustelids are present at the site and in the larger landscape.

Herbivores - High The site is currently part of an active deer farm. Possums are also present.

Herbivore Control Landowner currently uses possum master kill traps and leg-hold traps for routine control. Landowner also controls goats over the rest of the property.

Habitat Modification - Medium Currently going through the QEII covenant process.

