

Methanex Coastal Strip

At a glance (last updated: November 2014)	
TRC reference: FRODO#1418886	Ecological district: Egmont
Other reference:	LENZ environment: F5.2b, D2.1b
Land tenure: Public	Protection status: A, B, C
GPS: E 1711045 N 5683915	Area: 13 ha

Location

The Methanex Coastal Strip is located on public land approximately 3.2km north-east of Waitara in the New Plymouth District.

General description

The strip consists of coastal cliff vegetation on New Plymouth District Council land that borders the Methanex Motunui methanol plant. The strip lies within the Waipapa, Manu and Waihi catchments and is situated in close proximity to other Key Native Ecosystems in the area including Mangahinau Stream Esplanade Reserve and Waitara River Scenic Reserve.

Ecological features

Flora

This remnant is a good example of coastal cliff vegetation (classified as 'Acutely Threatened' indigenous vegetation under LENZ environment F5.2b and 'Chronically Threatened' D2.1b), with a canopy consisting predominantly of karaka (*Corynocarpus laevigatus*), taupata (*Coprosma repens*) and harakeke/flax (*Phormium tenax*). No notable or regionally distinctive species were recorded on the day although may be present.

Fauna

Native birdlife recorded in and around the covenanted area include the grey warbler (*Gerygone igata*), fantail (*Rhipidura fuliginosa*), tui (*Prosthemadera novaeseelandiae*), kingfisher (*Todiramphus sancta vagans*) and silvereye (*Zosterops lateralis*). Habitat exists for the At Risk little penguin (*Eudyptula minor iredalei*) which is likely to be present.

Ecological values

Ecological values	Rank	Comment
Rarity and distinctiveness	Medium	Contains core habitat for the At Risk little penguin (<i>Eudyptula minor iredalei</i>).
Representativeness	High	Contains indigenous vegetation classified as 'Acutely Threatened' (F5.2b) and 'Chronically Threatened' (D2.1b) LENZ environments.
Ecological context	Medium	Provides additional habitat and greater connectivity with other Key Native Ecosystems in this area such as the Waitara River Scenic Reserve KNE.
Sustainability	Positive	Key ecological processes still influence the site and with appropriate management, it can remain resilient to existing or potential threats. The site is in the process of being formally protected.

Threats to ecological values	Potential threat	Comment
Pest animals	High	Possoms, cats, mustelids, hedgehogs and rodents.
Weeds	High	Pampas, gorse, boxthorn, montbretia, wandering willy, three cornered garlic.
Habitat modification	Low	Protected by the steep cliffs although vulnerable to fire in dry events.

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

Site protection		Yes/No	Description
A	Public ownership or formal agreement	Yes	New Plymouth District Council Esplanade Reserve.
B	Regulatory protection by local government	Yes	General regional or district rules might apply.
C	Active protection	Yes	A pest control programme has been established and is being maintained by the adjacent landowner which will benefit this site.



Methanex Waitara Valley

At a glance (last updated: November 2014)		
TRC reference:	1412276	Ecological district: Egmont
Other reference:	BD/9531	LENZ environment: F5.2b, D2.1b, D1.1c
Land tenure:	Private	Protection status: A, B, C
GPS:	E 1707587 N 5679854	Area: 3 ha

Location

The Methanex Waitara Valley remnant is located on private land approximately 2.7km south of Waitara.

General description

The remnant consists of semi-coastal swamp forest on a dairy platform that borders the true left bank of the Waitara River in the Waitara catchment. The Methanex Waitara Valley remnant is situated in close proximity to other Key Native Ecosystems in the area including Mangahinau Stream Esplanade Reserve KNE and Waitara River Scenic Reserve KNE.

Ecological features

Flora

This remnant is a very good example of semi-coastal swamp forest (classified as 'Acutely Threatened' indigenous vegetation under LENZ environment F5.2b), with a canopy consisting predominantly of pukatea (*Laurelia novae-zelandiae*) and kahikatea (*Dacrycarpus dacrydioides*). Notably, the forest also provides habitat to a good example of the 'Regionally Distinctive' jointed fern (*Arthropteris tenella*).

Fauna

Native birdlife recorded in and around the covenanted area include the grey warbler (*Gerygone igata*), fantail (*Rhipidura fuliginosa*), tui (*Prosthemadera novaeseelandiae*), kingfisher (*Todiramphus sancta vagans*) and silveryeye (*Zosterops lateralis*).

Ecological values

Ecological values	Rank	Comment
Rarity and distinctiveness	Medium	Contains the 'Regionally Distinctive' jointed fern (<i>Arthropteris tenella</i>).
Representativeness	High	Contains indigenous vegetation classified as 'Acutely Threatened' (F5.2b) and 'Chronically Threatened' (D2.1b) LENZ environments.
Ecological context	Medium	Provides additional habitat and greater connectivity with other Key Native Ecosystems in this area such as the Waitara River Scenic Reserve KNE.
Sustainability	Positive	Key ecological processes still influence the site and with appropriate management, it can remain resilient to existing or potential threats. The site is in the process of being formally protected.

Threats to ecological values	Potential threat	Comment
Pest animals	High	Possums, cats, mustelids, hedgehogs and rodents.
Weeds	High	Arum lilly, convolvulus and climbing asparagus require attention.
Habitat modification	Low	Fencing is fully stock proof and the remnant is in the process of being formally protected.

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

Site protection	Yes/No	Description
A Public ownership or formal agreement	Yes	The site is in the process of being formally protected with a QEII covenant.
B Regulatory protection by local government	Yes	General regional or district rules might apply.
C Active protection	Yes	Extensive animal pest control programme has been established and is being maintained by the land owner.



Te Whenua

At a glance (last updated: November 2014)	
TRC reference: 1395308	Ecological district: Egmont
Other reference: BD/9530, QEII 5/06/428	LENZ environment: F5.3b (14.9ha)
Land tenure: Private	Protection status: A, B, C
GPS: E 1686909 N 5662033	Area: 14.9 ha

Location

Te Whenua KNE is located on private land approximately 12km south west of New Plymouth.

General description

Te Whenua consists of a cutover lowland tawa forest remnant on the slopes of the Pouakai Range near Egmont National Park. A small unnamed tributary of the Momona stream flows through the covenanted area which lies within the Oakura River catchment. The covenanted area is in close proximity to other Key Native Ecosystems in the area, including Egmont National Park, Pukeiti and Carrington Road C.

Ecological features

Flora

Te Whenua covenant contains a good example of cut over lowland tawa/kamahi forest. The main canopy consists of tawa (*Beilschmiedia tawa*), kamahi (*Weinmannia racemosa*) with occasional miro (*Prumnopitys ferruginea*), pukatea (*Laurelia novae-zelandiae*), rewarewa (*Knightia excelsa*) and rimu (*Dacrydium cupressinum*).

Fauna

Native birdlife recorded in and around the covenanted area include the New Zealand pigeon (*Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae*), grey warbler (*Gerygone igata*), fantail (*Rhipidura fuliginosa*), tui (*Prosthemadera novaeseelandiae*), bellbird (*Anthornis melanura*), whitehead (*Mohoua albicilla*), kingfisher (*Todiramphus sancta vagans*) and silvereye (*Zosterops lateralis*). Good habitat exists that may contain threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive reptiles and freshwater fish.

Ecological values

Ecological values	Rank	Comment
Rarity and distinctiveness	Medium	Contains good habitat for threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive indigenous reptiles and freshwater fish. The North Island brown kiwi may be present.
Representativeness	Low	A good example of indigenous vegetation on a LENZ environment that is relatively well represented in Taranaki.
Ecological context	High	Provides additional habitat and greater connectivity with other Key Native Ecosystems and QEII covenants nearby, such as Egmont National Park and Carrington Road A, B and C.
Sustainability	Positive	Key ecological processes still influence the site and with appropriate management, it can remain resilient to existing or potential threats. The site has the additional benefit of being formally protected.

Threats to ecological values	Potential threat	Comment
Pest animals	High	Possums, cats, mustelids, hedgehogs and rodents.
Weeds	Medium	Scattered areas of blackberry, gorse, selaginella and Himalayan honeysuckle.
Habitat modification	Low	Covenant is securely fenced.

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

Site protection	Yes/No	Description	
A	Public ownership or formal agreement	Yes	Protected through a QEII covenant.
B	Regulatory protection by local government	Yes	General regional or district rules might apply.
C	Active protection	Yes	Property lies within the Self Help possum control boundary and is fenced.



Katikara Bush

At a glance (last updated: November 2014)			
TRC reference:	1418754	Ecological district:	Egmont
Other reference:	BD/7089, QEII 5-06-186	LENZ environment:	F5.3b
Land tenure:	Private	Protection status:	A, B, C
GPS:	E 1683429 N 5658443	Area:	35 ha

Location

Katikara Bush is located on private land approximately 7.8km south-east of Okato.

General description

The remnant consists of a mix of existing cutover lowland tawa/kamahi forest and previously cleared regenerating scrub/forest on a lifestyle block that surrounds a section of the Katikara Stream in the Katikara catchment. The Katikara Bush remnant is situated in close proximity to other Key Native Ecosystems in the area including Egmont National Park and Carrington Road B.

Ecological features

Flora

This remnant is a good example of existing and regenerating lowland tawa/kamahi forest (classified as 'Less reduced and better protected' indigenous vegetation under LENZ environment F5.3b), with a canopy consisting predominantly of tawa (*Beilschmiedia tawa*), rata *spp.* and kamahi (*Weinmannia racemosa*). No notable or regionally distinctive species were recorded on the day although are likely to be present.

Fauna

Native birdlife recorded in and around the covenanted area include the grey warbler (*Gerygone igata*), fantail (*Rhipidura fuliginosa*), tui (*Prosthemadera novaeseelandiae*), New Zealand pigeon (*Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae*) and silvereye (*Zosterops lateralis*). An extensive variety of species has also been noted by the land owners.

The Katikara Stream has historically contained regionally distinctive and threatened species of freshwater fish such as the shortjaw kokopu (*Galaxias postvectis*). No threatened or regionally distinctive species were recorded on the day although are likely to be present.

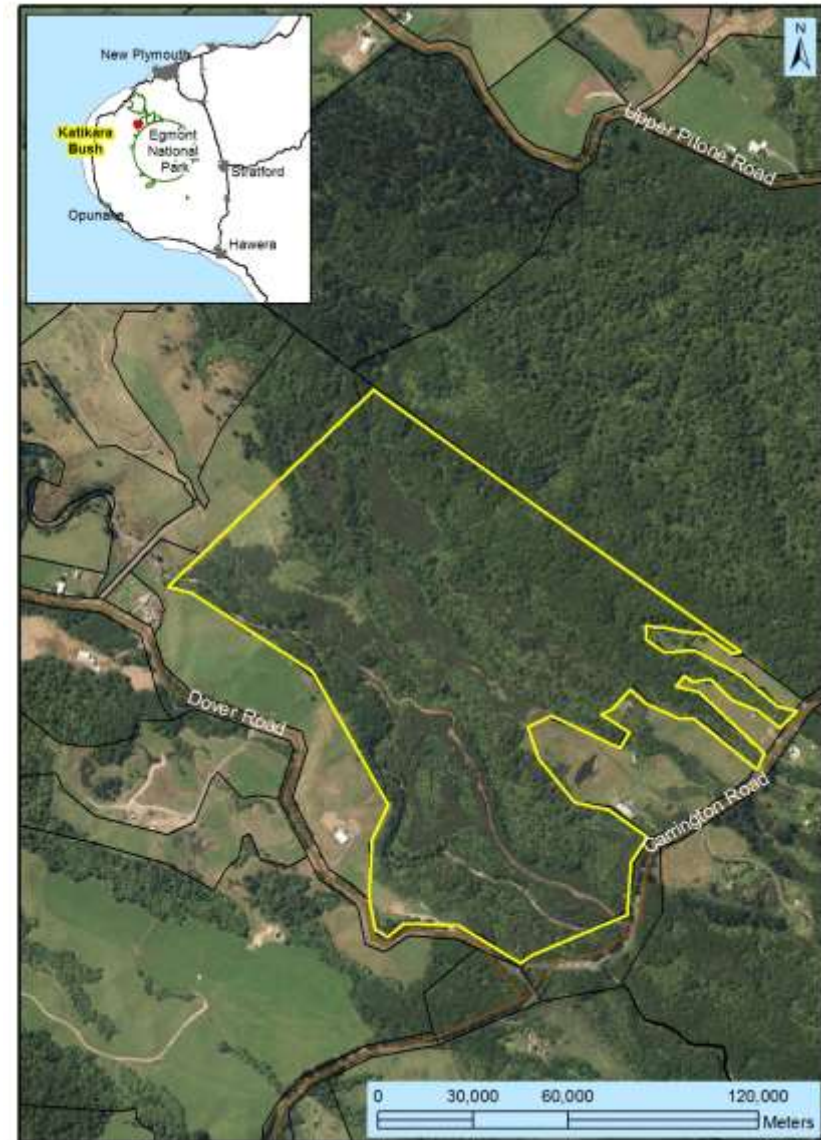
Ecological values

Ecological values	Rank	Comment
Rarity and distinctiveness	Medium	At Risk and Threatened freshwater fish species are likely to be present.
Representativeness	Low	Contains indigenous vegetation classified as a 'Less reduced and better protected' (F5.3b) LENZ environment.
Ecological context	Medium	Provides additional habitat and greater connectivity with other Key Native Ecosystems in this area such as Egmont National Park.
Sustainability	Positive	Key ecological processes still influence the site and with appropriate management, it can remain resilient to existing or potential threats. The site has the additional benefit of being formally protected.

Threats to ecological values	Potential threat	Comment
Pest animals	High	Possums, cats, mustelids, hedgehogs and rodents.
Weeds	Low	Gorse is abundant but is acting as a nursery crop for native seedlings.
Habitat modification	Low	Fencing is fully stock proof and the remnant is formally protected by a QEII covenant.

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

Site protection		Yes/No	Description
A	Public ownership or formal agreement	Yes	The site is formally protected by a QEII covenant.
B	Regulatory protection by local government	Yes	General regional or district rules might apply.
C	Active protection	Yes	A small predator control programme has been established by the land owners.



Tapuae Coastal Strip

At a glance (last updated: November 2014)		
TRC reference: BD/9526 FRODO#1430612	Ecological district:	Egmont
Other reference: Local purpose Reserve (NPDC)	LENZ environment:	F6.1d = 0.3 F5.2b = 0.5 D2.1b = 3.3 Other = 0.8
Land tenure: Public (Jurisdiction of NPDC)	Protection status:	A, B, C
GPS: E 1684814 N 5671862	Area:	4.9ha

Location

The Tapuae Coastal Strip is approximately 2.7km from Oakura in the New Plymouth District.

General description

The coastal strip consists of coastal forest on New Plymouth District Council land that borders private land near the Tapuae Stream. The strip lies within the Tapuae and Okurukuru stream catchments and is situated in close proximity to other Key Native Ecosystems in the area including the Fred and Nell Morris Reserve and Te Wawa wetland.

Ecological features

Flora

This remnant is a good example of coastal cliff and dune vegetation (classified as 'Acutely Threatened' and 'Chronically Threatened' indigenous vegetation under LENZ environments F5.2b, F6.1d and D2.1b), with a canopy consisting predominantly of karaka (*Corynocarpus laevigatus*), taupata (*Coprosma repens*) and harakeke/flax (*Phormium tenax*). Notable or regionally distinctive flora species are likely to be present.

Fauna

Native birdlife recorded in and around the covenanted area include the grey warbler (*Gerygone igata*), fantail (*Rhipidura fuliginosa*), and silvereye (*Zosterops lateralis*). The site has suitable habitat for the little blue penguin (*Eudyptula minor iredalei*). A wide range of other fauna will be present which will include notable species.

Ecological values

Ecological values	Rank	Comment
Rarity and distinctiveness	Medium	Contains core habitat for the At Risk little penguin (<i>Eudyptula minor iredalei</i>).
Representativeness	High	Contains indigenous vegetation classified as 'Acutely Threatened' and Chronically Threatened (F5.2b, F6.1d, S2.1b) LENZ environments.
Ecological context	Medium	Provides additional habitat and greater connectivity with other Key Native Ecosystems in this area such as Matekai Park, Fred and Nell Morris Reserve and Te Wawa wetland KNE.
Sustainability	Positive	Key ecological processes still influence the site and with appropriate management, it can remain resilient to existing or potential threats. The site is protected by a Local Purpose Reserve.

Threats to ecological values	Potential threat	Comment
Pest animals	High	Possums, cats, mustelids, hedgehogs and rodents.
Weeds	High	Pampas, gorse, boxthorn, wilding pines, agapanthus.
Habitat modification	Low	Vulnerable to erosion from the sea.

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

Site protection	Yes/No	Description
A	Yes	Public ownership or formal agreement Local Purpose Reserve - NPDC
B	Yes	Regulatory protection by local government General regional or district rules might apply.
C	Yes	Active protection Wilding pines are being controlled and predator boxes are being serviced.



Omata School Bush

At a glance (last updated: November 2014)		
TRC reference: BD/9522 FRODO#1430566	Ecological district:	Egmont
Other reference: Ministry of Education	LENZ environment:	F5.2b
Land tenure: Private	Protection status:	B, C
GPS: E 1688143 N 5672302	Area:	1.0ha

Location

Omata School Bush is a small bush block behind the Omata School approximately 1.5kms south west of New Plymouth.

General description

Omata School Bush is a small semi-coastal forest remnant in the Egmont Ecological District and is located on an 'Acutely Threatened' LENZ environment (F5.2b, less than 10% indigenous forest remaining). The KNE is a good example of a small semi coastal forest remnant and provides good connectivity to other KNEs in the area such as Omata Bush.

Ecological features

Flora

The Omata School Bush canopy consists of tawa (*Beilschmiedia tawa*), pukatea (*Laurelia novae-zelandiae*), rewarewa (*Knightia excelsa*), puriri (*Vitex lucens*), titoki (*Alectryon excelsus*), kohekohe (*Dysoxylum spectabile*) and karaka (*Corynocarpus laevigatus*). The forest contains some excellent examples of the 'Regionally Distinctive' jointed fern (*Arthropteris tenella*).

Fauna

Native birdlife recorded in and around Omata School 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	Medium	Contains the 'Regionally Distinctive' jointed fern (<i>Arthropteris tenella</i>).
Representativeness	High	Contains indigenous vegetation classified as an 'Acutely Threatened' (F5.2b). LENZ environment.
Ecological context	Medium	Provides connectivity to other KNEs such as Barrett Lagoon and Omata Bush.
Sustainability	Positive	Under appropriate management this site can remain resilient to threats. it is in relatively good vegetative condition.

Threats to ecological values	Potential threat	Comment
Pest animals	Medium	Possums, rodents, mustelids, cats and hedgehogs.
Weeds	High	Patches of wandering willy, old mans beard, agapanthus and convolvulus.
Habitat modification	Low	Potential localised areas of light trampling.

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

Site protection	Yes/No	Description
A Public ownership or formal agreement	No	Ministry of Education owned land and the school is investigating the process for a potential QEII covenant for the site.
B Regulatory protection by local government	Yes	General regional or district rules might apply.
C Active protection	Yes	Occasional pest animal control for possums.



Maata Road QEII Covenants

At a glance (last updated: November 2014)			
TRC reference:	Ecological district: Egmont		
Other reference:	LENZ environment: Block A 1.7ha. F5.2a (0.1ha), C1.1a (1.6ha) Block B 5.4ha. F7.2a (2.5ha, F5.2a (0.9ha), F1.1b (2.0ha)		
Land tenure:	Private	Protection status:	A, B, C
GPS:	E 1718436 N 5632493 (A) E 1718233 N 5632099 (B)	Area:	7.1ha

Location

The Maata Road QEII covenants are located on private land approximately 6km south east of Eltham in central Taranaki.

General description

The Maata Road QEII covenanted areas consist of two distinctly different forest types. Block A is made up of lowland tawa forest on a gentle hill slope down to the fringe of the Eltham swamp margin in the Waingongoro River catchment. Block B is a series of barberry (*Berberis glaucocarpa*) dominated regenerating gullies in the upper catchment of the Tangahoe River. The covenanted areas are in close proximity to other Key Native Ecosystems in the area and are within the 'Halo' area of the Rotokare Scenic Reserve.

Ecological features

Flora

The block A covenanted area is a good example of lowland tawa forest (classified as an 'Acutely Threatened' indigenous vegetation type under LENZ environment F5.2a.), with a dominant canopy consisting of tawa (*Beilschmiedia tawa*) and titoki (*Alectryon excelsus*). Rewarewa (*Knightia excelsa*), kahikatea (*Dacrycarpus dacrydioides*) and rimu (*Dacrydium cupressinum*) are also present in the lower margin. Notably, the forest contains a small stand of the 'Regionally Distinctive' swamp maire (*Syzygium maire*).

Block B contains a large population of the introduced barberry (*Berberis glaucocarpa*) although significant change is evident. Regenerating native species including mahoe (*Melicytus ramiflorus*), pate (*Schefflera digitata*) and lacebark (*Hoheria spp.*) are pushing through and dominating the habitat in many places.

Fauna

Native birdlife recorded in and around the covenanted area include the New Zealand pigeon (*Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae*), grey warbler (*Gerygone igata*), fantail (*Rhipidura fuliginosa*), tui (*Prosthemadera novaeseelandiae*), and silvereve (*Zosterops lateralis*). Good habitat exists for the regionally distinctive brown mudfish (*Neochanna apoda*) on the lower margin of the tawa forest and brown mudfish are present.

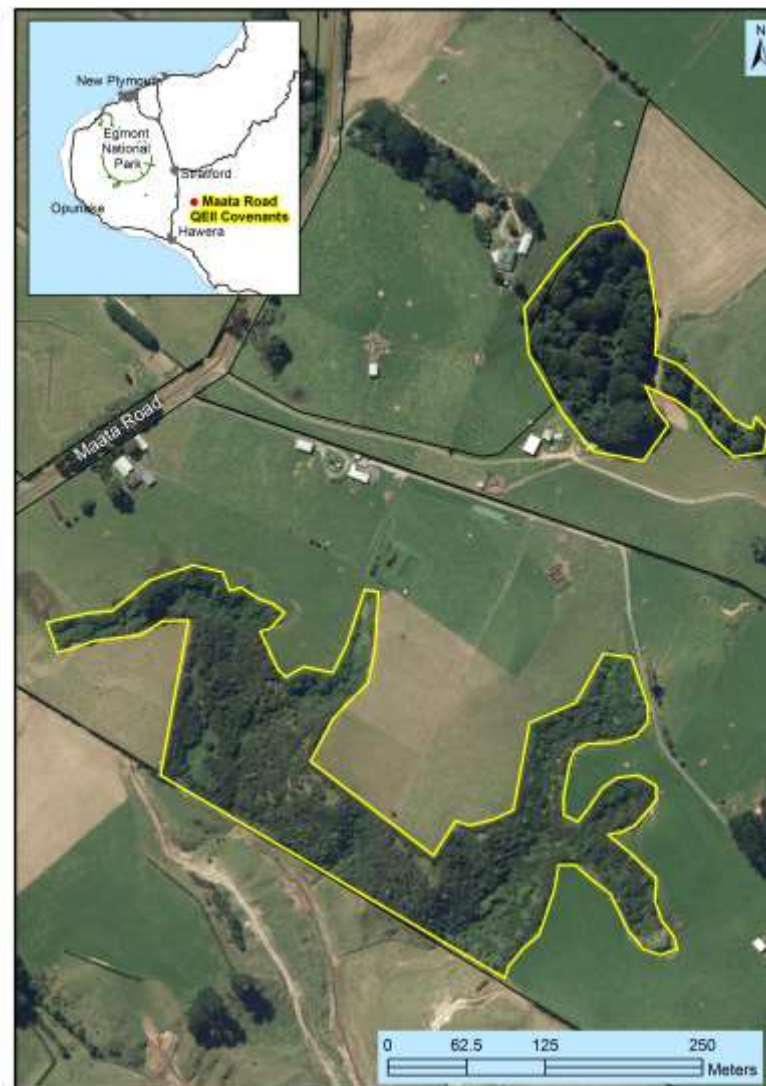
Ecological values

Ecological values	Rank	Comment
Rarity and distinctiveness	Medium	Contains the 'Regionally Distinctive' Swamp maire (<i>Syzygium maire</i>). Contains the 'Regionally Distinctive' brown mudfish (<i>Neochanna apoda</i>).
Representativeness	High	Contains vegetation associated with 'Acutely Threatened' (F5.2a), 'Chronically Threatened' (C1.1a) and 'At Risk' (F7.2a) LENZ environments.
Ecological context	Medium	Provides additional habitat and greater connectivity with other Key Native Ecosystems in this area such as Mudfish 1 and the Rotokare Scenic Reserve.
Sustainability	Positive	Key ecological processes still influence the site and with appropriate management, it can remain resilient to existing or potential threats. The site has the additional benefit of being formally protected.

Threats to ecological values	Potential threat	Comment
Pest animals	High	Possums, cats, mustelids, hedgehogs and rodents.
Weeds	High	Scattered areas of climbing asparagus and barberry in block A. Large areas of barberry in block B.
Habitat modification	Low	The covenanted areas will be securely fenced.

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

Site protection	Yes/No	Description
A Public ownership or formal agreement	Yes	The landowner is currently working with QEII towards a covenant for both blocks.
B Regulatory protection by local government	Yes	General regional or district rules might apply.
C Active protection	Yes	Property lies within the Self Help possum control boundary.



Ropers Bush

At a glance (last updated: November 2014)			
TRC reference:	BD/9525 FRODO# 1417046	Ecological district:	Manawatu Plains
Other reference:		LENZ environment:	F5.2c = 1.0ha F5.2a = 0.4ha
Land tenure:	Private	Protection status:	A,B, C
GPS:	E 1725539 N5610421	Area:	1.4ha

Location

The Ropers Bush KNE is located on private land approximately 15km south east of Hawera in South Taranaki.

General description

Ropers Bush is a small recovering wind damaged lowland forest remnant located on flat rich dairy land on uplifted marine terraces. Ropers Bush falls within the 'Acutely threatened' LENZ environment (less than 10% indigenous forest remaining) and is located in the Manawatu Plains Ecological District. The KNE provides connectivity to other KNE sites such as Ngakotana Gorge and Tarere Forest Extension.

Ecological features

Flora

The main forest canopy is dominated by tawa (*Beilschmiedia tawa*), pukatea (*Laurelia novae-zelandiae*) and kahikatea (*Dacrycarpus dacrydioides*). The canopy has sustained significant storm damage in recent years although the forest understory is responding and regenerating well. Broken canopy spars are also showing some sign of recovery in places. The understory within the intact forest is in good condition and dense in places. No threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive flora species were observed on the day although some may be present.

Fauna

This remnant provides a small island of forest for resident native birds such as the grey warbler (*Gerygone igata*) and fantail (*Rhipidura fuliginosa*). The forest is also part of a wider foraging area for more mobile native birds in the area including kereru (*Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae*), tui (*Prosthemadera novaeseelandiae*) and silvereve (*Zosterops lateralis*). Unidentified reptiles are known at this site which may include notable species.

Ecological values

Ecological values	Rank	Comment
Rarity and distinctiveness	Low	Not known to contain any Threatened or regionally distinctive species.
Representativeness	High	Contains indigenous vegetation classified as an 'Acutely Threatened' (F5.2a and F5.2c). LENZ environment.
Ecological context	Medium	Provides addition habitat and greater connectivity with other Key native Ecosystems in this area such as the Tarere Forest Extension.
Sustainability	Positive	Key ecological processes still influence the site and with appropriate management, it can remain resilient to existing or potential threats. The landowner is working with QEII to protect the site.

Threats to ecological values	Potential threat	Comment
Pest animals	Medium	Possums, rodents, mustelids, cats and hedgehogs.
Weeds	High	<i>Bomarea multiflora</i> climber, wandering willy, ginger, elephant's ear and <i>Abutilon darwinii</i> (Chinese lantern).
Habitat modification	Low	The bush remnant is well fenced and fully stock proof. There is a wooden walkway that has a minor impact on the bush.

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

Site protection	Yes/No	Description
A Public ownership or formal agreement	No	The landowner is currently working with QEII towards a covenant for the site.
B Regulatory protection by local government	Yes	General regional or district rules might apply.
C Active protection	Yes	Occasional pest animal control for possums.

