

Kintyre Bush

At a glance

TRC Reference: BD/9725	LENZ:	C1.3a Acutely threatened
Ecological District: Egmont	Regional:	Close proximity to a representative ecosystem site
Land Tenure: Private		Key Native Ecosystem
Area(ha): 2.5	Regional Ecosystem Loss:	Chronically threatened 10-20% left
GPS: 1678573X & 5638739Y		Acutely Threatened <10% left
Habitat: Forest Remnant	Catchment:	Otahi 2 (Otahi) (365)
Bioclimatic Zone: Lowland		
Ecosystem Type: WF13: Tawa, kohekohe, rewarewa, hinau, podocarp forest		
		WF8: Kahikatea, pukatea forest

General Description

The Kintyre Bush forest remnant is located on privately owned land, approx 7.5km north east of Opunake. The site is in the Egmont Ecological District and located within the Otahi (2) stream catchment. Tawa and kahikatea are the dominant canopy species of this cutover remnant, with pockets of kohekohe and pukatea and occasional miro, rimu and rewarewa. The remnant is comprised of native forest types (WF13; Tawa, kohekohe, rewarewa, hinau, podocarp forest and WF8; Kahikatea, pukatea forest) that have been greatly reduced in Taranaki. The nearest protected sites include other Key Native Ecosystems in the area, such as Barraclough Opua, Kaweora Road Forest and Te Papakura o Taranaki (Egmont National Park).

Ecological Features

Flora

The forest canopy is dominated by tawa and kahikatea with pockets of kohekohe and pukatea and occasional miro, rimu and rewarewa. The sub-canopy is notably absent due to historical grazing, but since the installation of fencing, seedlings and saplings are abundant and vigorous. Climbers and epiphytes are fairly common. Recent myrtle rust threats have elevated potentially vulnerable native flora species to 'Threatened' and 'At Risk' status. Notably, two of these vulnerable species are present at this site including two species of climbing rata. Another notable species for this site is poroporo 'Threatened' 'Nationally Vulnerable'.

Fauna

Native birds present 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 reptiles and invertebrates.

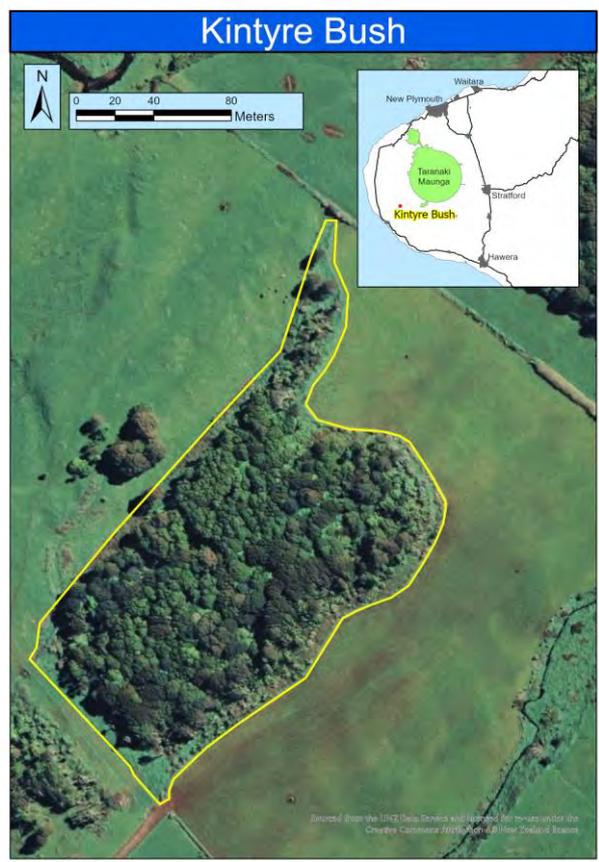
Ecological Values

Ecological context - High	Enhances connectivity between other Key Native Ecosystems in the area, including Barraclough Opua, Kaweora Road Forest, and Te Papakura o Taranaki (Egmont National Park).
Rarity and Distinctiveness - Medium	Recent myrtle rust threats have elevated potentially vulnerable native flora species to 'Threatened' 'At Risk' status. Notably, two of these vulnerable species are present at this site including two species of climbing rata. Another notable species for this site is poroporo 'Threatened' 'Nationally Vulnerable'.

Representativeness - High	Contains indigenous vegetation on C1.3a – an 'Acutely Threatened' LENZ environment. Is a remnant of ecosystems considered 'Acutely Threatened' (WF8; Kahikatea, pukatea forest) and 'Chronically threatened' (WF13; Tawa, kohekohe, rewarewa, hinau, podocarp forest) from their pre-European extent. Less than 0.5% and 10-20% of these ecosystems remain in Taranaki (respectively) owing to widespread clearance and land drainage.
Sustainability - Negative	Historical management of this site including grazing and drainage have impacted the future sustainability of this site. Without management, this site may not remain resilient to existing or potential threats.

Other Management Issues

Habitat Modification - High	There is an obvious gap between the canopy and sub-canopy layers, due to historical grazing within the site. The site has been fenced and is now regenerating well. Drains running North to south on both the eastern and western boundaries will also be altering the hydrology of the site.
Herbivores - Medium	Stock are excluded from the site through drains and a two wire fence around the perimeter. Stock incursions are infrequent.
Possum Self-help	This site falls within the Opunake possum self-help operation. Leg-hold trapping is carried out annually by a contractor.
Predators - Medium	Predators including rodents, mustelids, possums, hedgehogs and feral cats will be having an impact on native species at the site.
Weeds - High	Currently a high threat to this site. Pampas, barberry, wild cherry, inkweed, blackberry, gunnera and Japanese honeysuckle are present mostly around the site. If left uncontrolled, will impact negatively on the viability of the site over time.



Raurimu

At a glance

TRC Reference: BD/9726	LENZ:	F1.3b Less reduced, better protected
Ecological Districts: Manawatu Plains Matemateaonga	National:	Priority 4 – Threatened Species
Land Tenure: Private	Regional:	Key Native Ecosystem
Area(ha): 97	Regional Ecosystem Loss:	At risk 20-30% left
GPS: 1724913X & 5617546Y 1725876X & 5619621Y	Protection Status:	QEII Covenant (in progress)
	Catchment:	Manawapou (347)
Habitat: Forest Remnant		
Bioclimatic Zone: Lowland		
Ecosystem Type: MF7.2: Rata, tawa, kamahi, podocarp forest MF7.3: Tawa, pukatea, podocarp forest		

General Description

The Raurimu KNE is located on private land, 13 kilometres east of Hawera off Meremere Road in South Taranaki. The site is made up of two remnants (65ha & 32ha) of mature cutover native forest on steep slopes leading down to the Otoki stream in the upper Manawapou River catchment. They lie within the Matemateaonga and Manawatu Plains Ecological Districts and enhance connectivity between indigenous habitats in this area including large areas of forest on the neighbouring property, Tarere Conservation Area and Tarere Forest Extension KNEs.

Ecological Features

Flora

The forest canopies of both remnants are dominated by tawa with a mixed and varied range of other species including pukatea, rewarewa, kamahi, miro, rimu, hinau, kahikatea, black maire and pigeonwood. The understory is mainly dominated by unpalatable species such as tree ferns, mingimingi and tree daisy. Small areas of palatable species, such as hangehange, are also present and are likely due to the extensive recent goat control. Notable flora species are present including ramarama and five species of threatened rata.

Fauna

Birdlife at the site is reasonably diverse and includes notable species such as North Island brown kiwi, North Island robin and whitehead. Other native birds recorded include grey warbler, silvereve, pied tomtit, tui, bellbird, fantail, kereru and morepork. Long-tailed bats are confirmed present and are notable for the site. The site provides habitat for and will contain other notable fauna including reptiles, native fish and invertebrates.

Ecological Values

Sustainability - Positive	In good vegetative condition and large in area. Key ecological processes still influence the site. Under appropriate management, it can remain resilient to existing or potential threats.
Representativeness - Medium	Contains an ecosystem type listed as 'At Risk' (MF7-3 Tawa, pukatea, podocarp forest). Over 70% of this type of forest has been lost in Taranaki and remnant areas remain under threat from introduced predators and browsers.

Rarity and Distinctiveness - High	Contains a range of notable fauna including the North Island brown kiwi, North Island robin, whitehead and long-tailed bat and a range of other notable fauna will be present. Also contains notable flora species such as ramarama and five species of threatened rata.
Ecological context - High	The site is moderately large (97 ha) and connected to existing native habitats in the area. The site provides good connectivity to other Key Native Ecosystems and habitats in this area including the Tarere Conservation Area and Tarere Forest extension.

Other Management Issues

Weeds - Low	Gorse on the margins will act as a nursery for native vegetation.
Predators - High	Predators including rodents, mustelids, possums, feral cats and hedgehogs will be having an impact on native species at the site.
Herbivores - High	High risk from browsers such as possums, goats and stock in this area on palatable flora species. Goat and possum control is currently undertaken along the forest and pasture margins.
Habitat Modification - Medium	The soil geology makes the area potentially more at risk from natural erosion.

