

INA_48 – Maruia River (5.1199 ha)

Protected Area(s)	Area (ha)	NaPALIS #	# of Primary Parcels
Conservation Area - Maruia River	5.1199	2807880	1

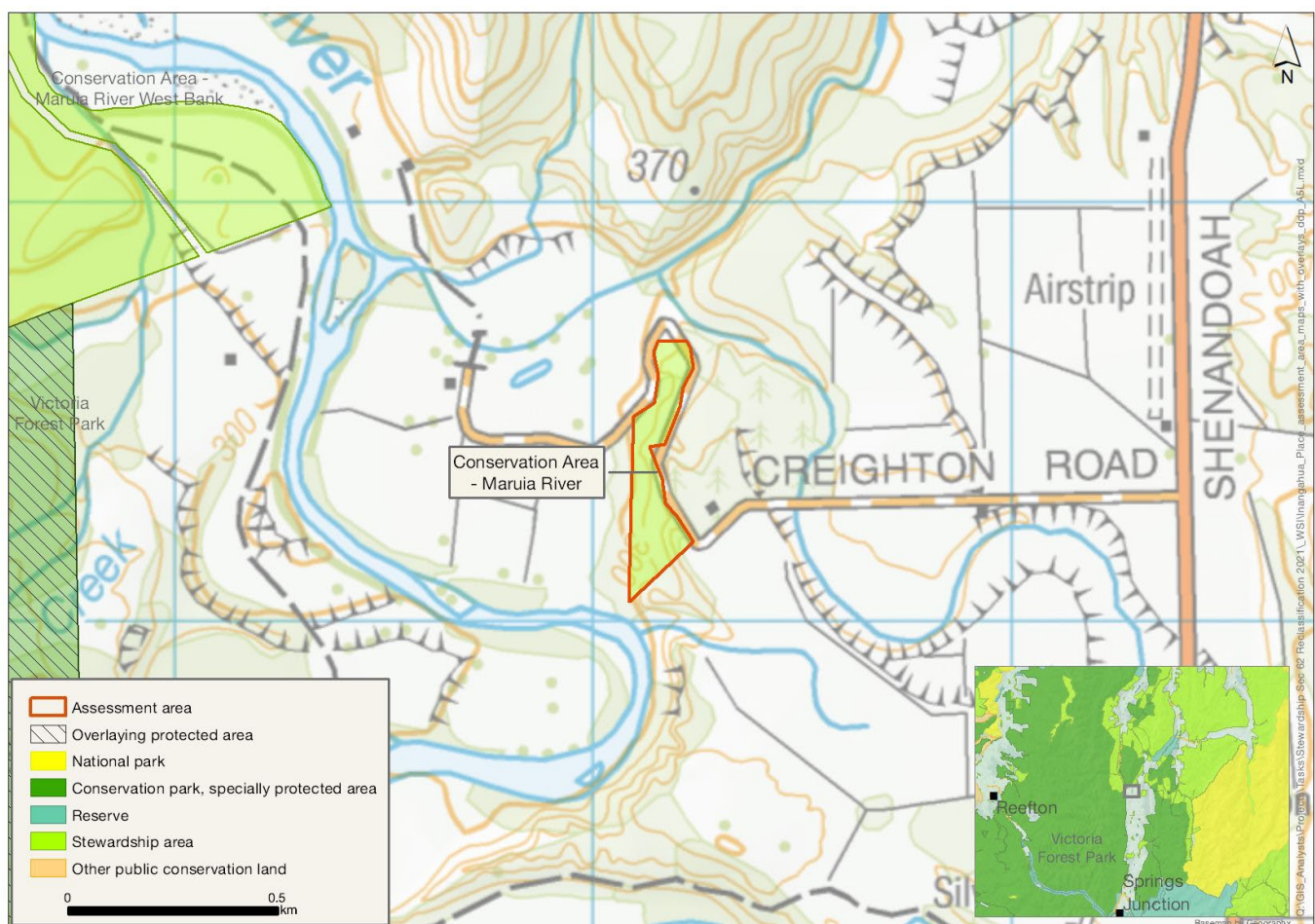
Location

Area adjacent to Creighton Road, on the eastern side of Maruia River, north of Warwick Junction.

Brief Description

A small, isolated area of beech forest on a hillslope surrounded by farmland and forestry, with no apparent waterways or wetlands. No permissions are recorded, but land is being used as part of an adjoining farm and there seems to be an access road to a house. There are no tracks or facilities in this area, and it is likely to receive little recreation use. There is some potential heritage interest but no sites recorded.

Map



Ngāi Tahu Values and Interests

Mo tātou, a, mo ka uri, a muri ake nei – for us and our children after us

From the preliminary desk top assessments, there do not appear to be any site specific Ngāi Tahu values identified. However, there is a deep connection between Ngāi Tahu and all of the whenua in the Ngāi Tahu takiwā, and the absence of site-specific values in the preliminary analysis does not detract from that connection, nor does it confirm that site specific values are not present. Further, a section 4 Conservation Act and Te Tiriti principles perspective is required as well, and it may be that areas of land are significant to Ngāi Tahu from that broader perspective. To avoid doubt, nothing in the proposed classification affects, limits or derogates from the rangatiratanga of Ngāi Tahu over its takiwā, including in relation to freshwater; and/or any other rights or interests Ngāi Tahu may have.

Ecological Values

Representativeness

This is a small area of hillslope beech (tawhai, *Fuscopora* and *Lophozonia*) forest within Rotoroa Ecological District (near the boundary of Reefton Ecological District). It is a small, elongated area largely bounded by Creighton Road. The forest appears to have been disturbed, possibly through logging, and a small area in the southeast is pasture. No ecological or species management units are present. This is a small area of scrub/regenerating forest, with no apparent waterways or wetlands.

Diversity and pattern

The area is hillslope beech forest which extends from alluvial flats (c. 300 m) up to a higher terrace (c. 360 m). The area contains a single level 4 land environment and does not appear to have any freshwater values.

Rarity and distinctiveness

Some threatened plant species have been recorded from nearby areas within the Maruia valley and may be present. These include bloodwood (*Coprosma wallii*) and scarlet mistletoe (pirita, *Peraxilla colensoi*) (both At Risk: Declining).

Ecological context

The area is a scarp/terrace riser above the alluvial flats of Maruia River, isolated from other public conservation land and forest vegetation, except for the southern boundary. It has no apparent freshwater conservation values and does not border any waterways.

Recreation Values

Setting

A small, isolated area in a Backcountry-remote zone with no tracks or facilities.

Visitor type and activities typically undertaken

The area is likely to receive little recreation use.

Access

Access via Creighton Road.

Heritage Values

Historical overview

Sites recorded

No sites recorded but a pounamu adze was found during ploughing of farm paddocks to the west of the area, and SO 6164 dated 1904 suggests there was gold working along the terrace face forming the western edge.

Permissions Summary

None recorded, although there is land being used as part of an adjoining farm and it looks like there is an access road to a house that goes through the northeastern corner of the area.

Map (aerial photo)

