KAW_30 – Cape Foulwind Farm, 576.903 ha

Protected Area(s)	Area (ha)	NaPALIS #	# of Primary Parcels
Conservation Area – Cape Foulwind Farm	71.8422	2808261	3
Conservation Area – Cape Foulwind Farm	134.884	2808262	3
Conservation Area – Cape Foulwind Farm	321.3823	2808264	12
Conservation Area – Cape Foulwind Farm	48.7945	2808266	1

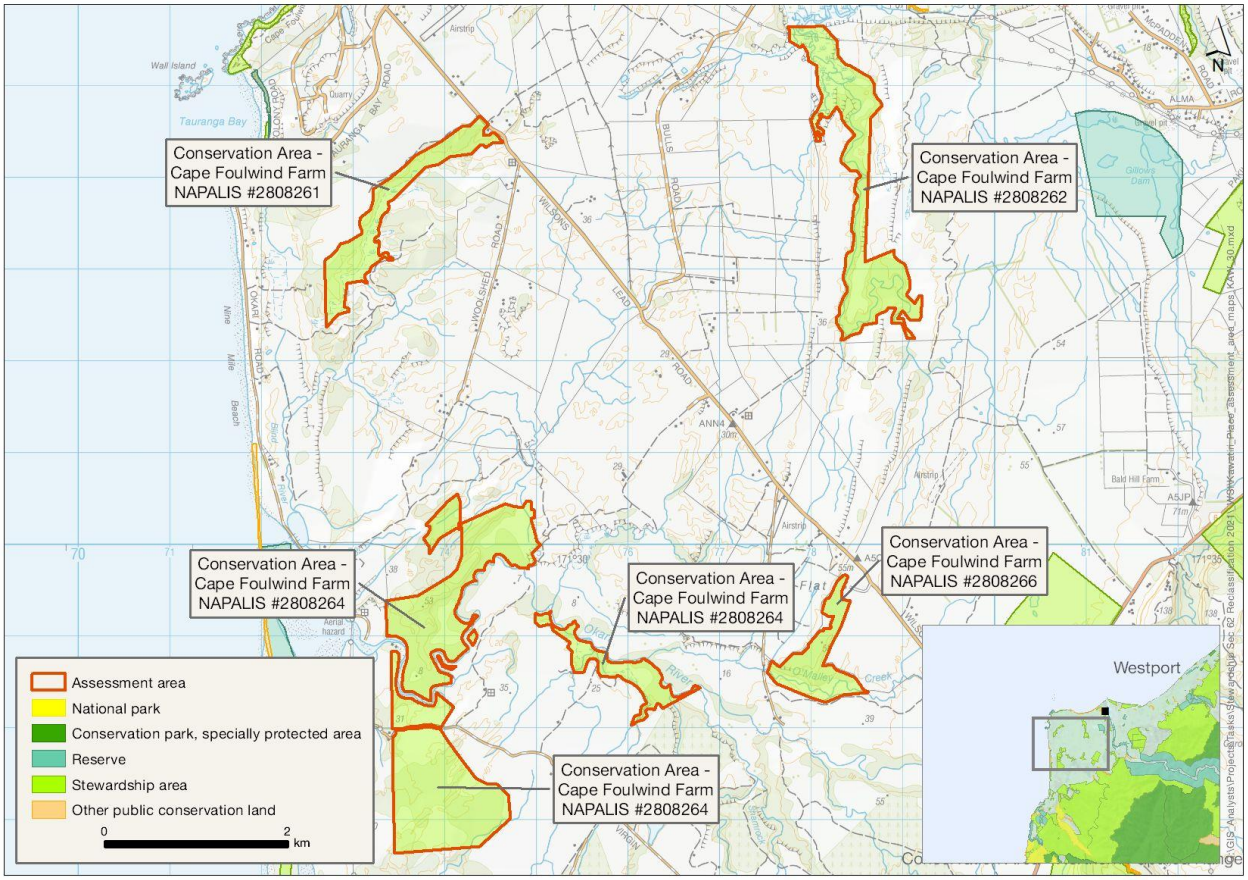
Location

Disjunct vegetation remnants south and east of Cape Foulwind in North Westland.

Brief Description

This assessment area is composed of five disjunct conservation areas across Addisons Flat in the Foulwind Ecological District. They are congruent with the Okari Ecological Management Unit, a Species Management Unit for Brown Mudfish, and adjoin a large network of QEII covenants on the Pamu/Landcorp farm. Despite the fragmentation and modification, there is a high level of naturalness in this assessment area. While currently no tracks or facilities, there is desire for sections of the Kawatiri Coastal Trail to be constructed through some of these areas. There is goldmining history in the area.

Map



Ngāi Tahu Values and Interests

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

There is a deep connection between Ngāi Tahu and all of the whenua in the Ngāi Tahu takiwā. A section 4 Conservation Act and Te Tiriti principles perspective is required, 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.

The historic Ōkari kāinga site is in the vicinity.

Ecological Values

Representativeness

An area of marine terraces dissected by cliffs and creeks and supporting modified native forest and wetlands. The landform and vegetation are typical of the Foulwind Ecological District (McEwan 1987). The forests are dominated by rimu (*Dacrydium cupressinum*), kamāhi (*Weinmannia racemosa*) and Westland *Quintinia* trees, with northern rātā (*Metrosideros robusta*), miro (brown pine, *Prumnopitys ferruginea*), hīnau (*Elaeocarpus*), nikau (New Zealand palm, *Rhopalostylis sapida*), mountain tōtara (*Podocarpus laetus*), toatoa (mountain toatoa, *Phyllocladus alpinus*) with an abundance of lianes and vines such as kiekie (*Freycinetia baueriana* subsp. *Banksia)* and supplejack (kareao, *Ripogonum scandens*). The forested areas are interspersed with areas of wetlands which are dominated by mānuka (*Leptospermum scopariu*) and tanglefern (*Gleichenia*) scrub. Kahikatea (*Dacrycarpus dacrydioides)* appears in the least well drained fragment. The forested fragment near Okari Lagoon is considered amongst the best available sites of this forest type in the biogeographic region (Park and Walls 1978).

The most northern part of the assessment area is congruent with Bradshaws Lagoon, a swamp with moderate values for loafing and feeding waterfowl (Morse, 1981). It likely supports long-tailed bats, and a typical suite of forest and wetland birds, herpetofauna and invertebrate fauna. Despite fragmentation and modification there is a high level of naturalness in this assessment area. High level of naturalness and high predicted water quality (based on the Macroinvertebrate Community Index score).

Diversity and pattern

These conservation areas support a diversity of habitat types that are highly likely to support a diverse fauna, such as wetland, freshwater streams, riparian margins, pākihi and podocarp forest. The assessment area represents a variety of ecological patterns across the lowland terraces between the Paparoa Ranges and the sea. Longfin and shortfin eels (*Anguilla dieffenbachii*) and (*Anguilla australis*), common bully (*Gobiomorphus cotidianus*) and īnanga (*Galaxias maculatus*) are present. There is high freshwater diversity present, including redfin bully (*Gobiomorphus huttoni*), common bully, longfin eel and three whitebait species – īnanga, banded kōkopu (*Galaxias fasciatus*) and giant kōkopu (*Galaxias argenteus*) – making this a significant site with regards to whitebait diversity.

Rarity and distinctiveness

Lowland podocarp (*Podocarpaceae* and *Phyllocladaceae*) forest is poorly represented in the public conservation lands with approximately 20% of the original forest type remaining in the ecological district (Harding 1994). There are two level 4 land environments (Leathwick et al. 2007) in the assessment area and both are poorly represented, with less than 10% in public conservation land in the ecological district. The West Coast Regional Council Schedule of Wetlands identifies both significant and probably significant wetlands within the assessment area.

An isolated population of great spotted kiwi (roroa, *Apteryx maxima*) (Nationally Vulnerable) is known to live around Ōkari Lagoon. Australasian bittern (matuku hūrepo, *Botaurus poiciloptilus*) (Nationally Critical) use the wetlands within this area and fernbird (mātātā, *Bowdleria punctata*) (At Risk: Declining) are likely to as well. The area has largely been unexplored for lizards, however, forest gecko (*Mokopirirakau granulatus*) and Newman's Speckled Skink (*Oligosoma newmani*) (both At Risk) are likely present. West Coast green gecko (*Naultinus tuberculatus*) (Nationally Vulnerable) and Hokitika skink (*Oligosoma* aff. *infrapunctatum "Hokitika"*) (Nationally Critical) are possibly present, with records in the ecological district.

Threatened long-tailed bat (*Chalinolobus tuberculatus*) (Nationally Critical) have been detected as close as 2 km and within 20 km of the assessment area and are likely to use the areas for feeding, roosting and as flyway corridors. Longfin eel, giant kokopu and īnanga (all At Risk: Declining) are present, and shortjaw kōkopu (Nationally Vulnerable). A Species Management Unit for Brown mudfish (*Neochanna apoda*) (At Risk: Declining) exists in the eastern-most conservation area.

Ecological context

These fragments of forest and wetland are irregular shapes with long perimeters disconnected from each other. Despite this, they are connected through other native vegetation cover in covenants and on adjacent freehold land. These conservation areas represent approximately half of the remaining coastal and wetland forest on the raised marine and river terraces between the Buller and Totara rivers. These fragments are highly likely to be important stepping stones for native fauna in the area.

Recreation Values

Setting

These areas are in a Backcountry-remote zone. There are currently no tracks or facilities in these areas. There is a desire for sections of the Kawatiri Coastal Trail, a Grade 2 mountain bike and walking trail linking Westport to Charleston, to be constructed through some of these areas.

Visitor type and activities typically undertaken

Potentially mountain biking and walking.

Access

The proposed additions to the Kawatiri Coastal Trail would provide access to some of these parcels.

Heritage Values

Historical overview

Gold was likely discovered at Bradshaw's Flat in 1867 but the earliest historical reference to mining is 1889. The hard pākihi layer across the area made mining difficult with a variety of methods needed to access the auriferous deposits, including tunnelling into hillsides and sinking shafts to get to the gold bearing sand. Once the easily obtainable gold had been exhausted, ground sluicing was used. However, the disposal of tailings was problematic due to the lack of fall. Bradshaws Creek was designated a channel suitable for disposing of mining waste and over time both the stream and the lagoon filled with tailings.

In 1911 the Kia-ora Gold Extraction Company set up a crushing and cyanide plant at Bradshaws Terrace, but their operation was short-lived having found the deposits were not payable. Their plant included a ten-horsepower engine, a disintegrating machine, pump, and leaching and solution vats. The area may also have been reworked during the Depression although no evidence for this is identified yet. Gold was discovered at Addisons Flat by an African American prospector after whom the flat was named in May 1867. The Addisons Flat goldfields are

perhaps most famous for a confrontation between Irish Catholics and Protestants at the predominantly Irish gold mining tent town in 1868, after the attempted assassination of the Duke of Edinburgh in Sydney.

Sites recorded

- K29/49 mining workings. Site is also scheduled in Buller District Plan.
- K29/53 midden is recorded on the edge of the assessment unit on the south side of Okari River but is likely to extend into land parcel. Site is also scheduled in the Buller District Plan.

Heritage values

Although it is likely that gold was discovered at Bradshaws Terrace relatively early, the lure of the goldfields further to the south meant that it wasn't worked probably until the 1880s. The pākihi made mining difficult requiring several different mining techniques to be used including tunnelling and the shaft sinking to access the auriferous sand beneath the pākihi. The assessment unit has not been archaeologically surveyed but is likely to contain archaeological features associated with goldmining, similar to those that have been identified on the surrounding private land.

The K29/53 site was recorded in 1991 as a shell midden comprising pipi (*Paphies australis*), and mudsnail (*Amphibola crenata*) approximately 5x2 m on a former riverbank above a low-lying swamp. This is one of eleven midden sites recorded around the margins of the northern end of Okari Lagoon.

Modifying factors

The Bradshaws Terrace goldfields represent the northernmost goldworkings that were south of Buller River. Although there may have been some mining here during the initial gold rush of the late 1860s, the majority of mining here appears to have occurred from the 1880s onwards at a time when gold was on the decline and coal was in its ascendancy. The majority of gold mining in this area was mostly focused on Addisons Flat, which lies to the south of Bradshaws Terrace. Any physical remains associated with alluvial mining and sawmilling in this area are likely to be typical of other goldfields. However, the difficulty of mining the pākihi means that unexpected features such as tunnels and shafts may be present.

Permissions summary

None recorded.

Map (aerial photo)