

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

High representativeness and moderate naturalness for this ecosystem type in the Totara Flat Ecological District. The red beech (*Fuscospora fusca*)/silver beech (*Lophozonia menziesii*)/podocarp (*Podocarpaceae* and *Phyllocladaceae*) forests on the younger terraces of the Upper Grey Valley have been substantially removed. This c. 60 ha parcel has no evident freshwater values.

Diversity and pattern

Moderate diversity and high pattern. Remnant of indigenous podocarp/beech forest on Mackleys Plain, surrounded by private land but continuous with another piece of forest to the south-east. The Plains have been cleared of forest for farming, so this remnant is an important element. This parcel is surrounded by private land, straddled by Waipuna Road, and has no freshwater ecological values present.

Rarity and distinctiveness

This assessment area is identified as kea (*Nestor notabilis*) (Nationally Endangered) habitat. Threatened long-tailed bat (*Chalinolobus tuberculatus*) (Nationally Critical) and scarlet mistletoe (pirita, *Peraxilla colensoi*) (Nationally Vulnerable) have been identified in nearby Mt Harātā. Only 15% of the original terrace beech/podocarp forest remains in the ecological district (Harding 1994).

Ecological context

A moderately large (60 ha), regularly-shaped polygon divided by a farm track, 700 m at its narrowest. It is part of a larger remnant of indigenous forest that provides a corridor of cover from Victoria Range to the Paparoa Ranges (North Westland Wildlife Corridor). It plays an important role in the connectivity of the ecological district.

Recreation Values

Setting

This is an isolated area in a Backcountry-remote zone. There are no tracks or facilities in the area.

Visitor type and activities typically undertaken

These areas are likely to receive a low level of recreation use. Occasional hunting.

Access

Access via Waipuna Rd.

Heritage Values

Historical overview and Sites recorded

None recorded

Heritage values

No value statement possible

Permissions summary

N/A

Map (aerial photo)

