# **Bush Patch at Te Horo**

Centred on Grid Ref. Topomap R26 & Pt R25 870397 Pat Enright, Olaf John 15/4/00, 30/04/00

unc = uncommon (only one or two specimens seen)

This bush patch is on a terrace above the main road opposite Te Hapua Road turnoff north of Waikanae. The hills drop to this flat terrace before the parabolic dune and swampland between the main road and the sea. About 6 hectares of the bush is on property belonging to Awatea Farms Ltd (Royd Sampson) and the remaining 2 hectares below to Grant and Linda Paterson. Two deeply incised stream gullies cut through the area, and one forms part of the southern boundary They are fenced off for the most part to keep stock from tumbling in. Stock have free access to much of the area and have had for some time past. The species present within the fenced areas, and the lack of or low numbers of other species outside these areas reflect this. Regeneration is evident with a lot of pukatea (Laurelia novae-zelandiae) and smaller numbers of nikau (Rhopalostylis sapida) and native jasmine (Parsonsia heterophylla). Both species of milktree (Streblus banksii and S. heterophyllus), totara (Podocarpus totara) and kahikatea (Dacrycarpus dacrydioides) were present in low numbers.

The main vegetation type is kohekohe (*Dysoxolum spectabile*)/tawa (*Beilschmiedia tawa*) with pukatea and nikau in the wetter hollows. Rewa rewa (*Knightia excelsa*), kahikatea, kaikomako (*Pennantia corymbosa*), streblus species and wharangi (*Melicope ternata*) were present in very low numbers. There was little or no understory with odd patches of various herbaceous species where light wells appeared in the kohekohe. There are a number of watercourses that must take runoff in times of heavy rain and several boggy hollows that would pond water for some time afterwards.

Jerusalem cherry (*Solanum pseudocapsicum*) was the main woody weed in any open and well lite areas, with the grass paspalum (*Paspalum dilatatum*) and the rush *Juncus tenuis* the main herbaceous weeds are found in the large open grassy area. Inkweed (*Phytolacca octandra*) is present in several places and will no doubt spread if left unchecked. *Carex divulsa* is also present around the bush edges but has not yet spread into the forest or onto the banks of the streams.

The deeply incised stream gullies present a special habitat with tree ferns, mamaku (*Cyathea medullaris*) and silver fern (*Cyathea dealbata*) only growing here. Lower down the gullies where there is more flatter ground, little or no overhead cover and the banks are not so steep there was a fascinating assemblage of herbs and ferns. This was the only area for filmy ferns with all but one species being terrestrial. There was evidence of an old dump at one point in one gully.

There is little sign of possum damage with the kohekohe covered in fruit and quite a bit left untouched on the ground. There is small rabbit population.

The whole area has been surveyed with a number of survey pegs noted.

The survey effort would be classed as medium with a total of seven hours being spent on the site. Another visit in late spring/ early summer to pick up on the orchid species and other flowering herbs would be a good idea.

Gymnosperm trees and shrubs

Dacrycarpus dacrydioides (unc) kahikitea
Podocarpus totara (unc) totara

Dicotyledonous trees and shrubs

Alectryon excelsus subsp. excelsus (unc) titoki
Beilschmiedia tawa tawa
Brachyglottis repanda rangiora

Carpodetus serratus putaputaweta, marbleleaf Coprosma lucida (unc)

Coprosma propinqua subsp. propinqua

Coprosma repens (unc) (epiphytic on kaikomako)

Coprosma rhamnoides

Coprosma robusta karamu Coprosma tenuicaulis (unc) swamp coprosma Corynocarpus laevigatus (unc) karaka Dysoxolum spectabile kohekohe Elaeocarpus dentatus (unc) hinau Geniostoma rupestre var. rupestre hangehange Griselinia lucida (unc) puka, broadleaf porokaiwhiri, pigeonwood Hedycarya arborea Knightia excelsa (unc) rewarewa

Laurelia novae-zelandiae pukatea Macropiper excelsum subsp. excelsum kawakawa Melicope ternata (unc) wharangi Melicytus ramiflorus mahoe Olearia rani (unc) hekatara Ozothamnus leptophylla (unc) tauhinu Pennantia corymbosa kaikomako Solanum sp. poroporo

Streblus banksii (unc) ewe kuri large leaved milk tree
Streblus heterophyllus turepo, small leaved milk tree
Pittosporum tenuifolium (unc) kohuhu
Weinmannia racemosa kamahi

Monocotyledonous trees and shrubs

Rhopalostylis sapida nikau

Monocotyledonous lianes

Freycinetia banksii kiekie
Ripogonum scandens supplejack

Dicotyledonous lianes and related trailing plants

Metrosideros fulgens

Metrosideros perforata akatea
Muehlenbeckia australis pohuehue
Parsonsia heterophylla N.Z. jasmine
Passiflora tetrandra (unc) native passion vine
Rubus cissoides s.s. (unc) tataramoa, bush lawyer

**Ferns** 

Adiantum cunninghamii maidenhair fern

Arthropteris tenella

Asplenium bulbiferum manamana, hen and chicken fern

Asplenium gracillimum Asplenium hookerianum

Asplenium flaccidum hanging spleenwort

Asplenium oblongifolium huruhuruwhenua, shining spleenwort Asplenium polyodon petako, sickle spleenwort

Blechnum chambersii nini
Blechnum filiforme thread fern
Blechnum fluviatile kiwakiwa

Blechnum membranaceum

Blechnum novaezelandiae s.s. kiokio Blechnum novaezelandiae (B. minus of NZ authors) swamp kiokio

Blechnum procerum

Cyathea dealbata ponga, silver fern Cyathea medullaris mamaku Dicksonia squarrosa wheki

Diplazium australe

Histiopteris incisa mata, water bracken

Hymenophyllum demissum

Hymenophyllum flabellatum (unc) Hymenophyllum flexuosum (unc) Hymenophyllum rarum (unc) Hymenophyllum multifidum

Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum agg. (unc) (lacks indusial crest and is hairy than normal)

Hypolepis ambigua Hypolepis lactea (unc) Lastreopsis glabella Lastreopsis hispida (unc)

Leptopteris hymenophylloides (unc) single crepe
Microsorum pustulatus kowaowao, hounds tongue
Microsorum scandens mokimoki, scented fern
Paesia scaberula matata, scented fern

Pneumatopteris pennigera pakauroharoha, gully fern

Pteris macilenta (unc) sweet fern

Pteris tremula

Pyrrosia eleagnifolia ota, leather leaf fern

#### **Orchids**

Microtis sp. (unc) Thelymitra sp.

## <u>Grasses</u>

Echinopogon ovatus hedgehog

grass

Microlaena stipoides Poa pusilla (unc) Rytidosperma gracile

### Sedges

Carex dissita

Carex inversa

Carex virgata

Isolepis reticularis

Uncinia uncinata watu, hook grass

## Rushes and allied plants

Juncus australis

Juncus gregiflorus wiwi

Juncus planifolius

#### Remaining Monocotyledonous plants

Collospermum hastatum

# Daisy-like herbs (Composites)

Euchiton audax

Euchiton gymnocephalus

**Euchiton limosus** 

Helichrysum filicaule

Pseudognaphalium luteoalbum agg.

# Dicotyledonous herbs other than Composites

Acaena anserinifolia (unc)

Callitriche muelleri

Cardamine sp. (C. debilis agg.) ("Narrow Petal" of Pritchard 1957)

Centella uniflora

Dichondra brevifolia agg. (very long petioles)

Epilobium nummulariifolium

Epilobium pedunculare

Galium propinquum

Hydrocotyle heteromeria

Hydrocotyle moschata

Hydrocotyle novae-zelandiae

Leptostigma setulosa

Nertera ciliata

Nertera depressa

Oxalis exilis yellow oxalis

Parietaria debilis

Plantago raoulii (short rounded leaves)

Ranunculus reflexus maruru, hairy buttercup

Solanum americanum

Stellaria decipiens chickweed

Wahlenbergia violacea

#### Mosses:

Drepanocladus aduncus Leucobryum candidum

#### **Birds:**

Fantail

Grey warbler

Mallard