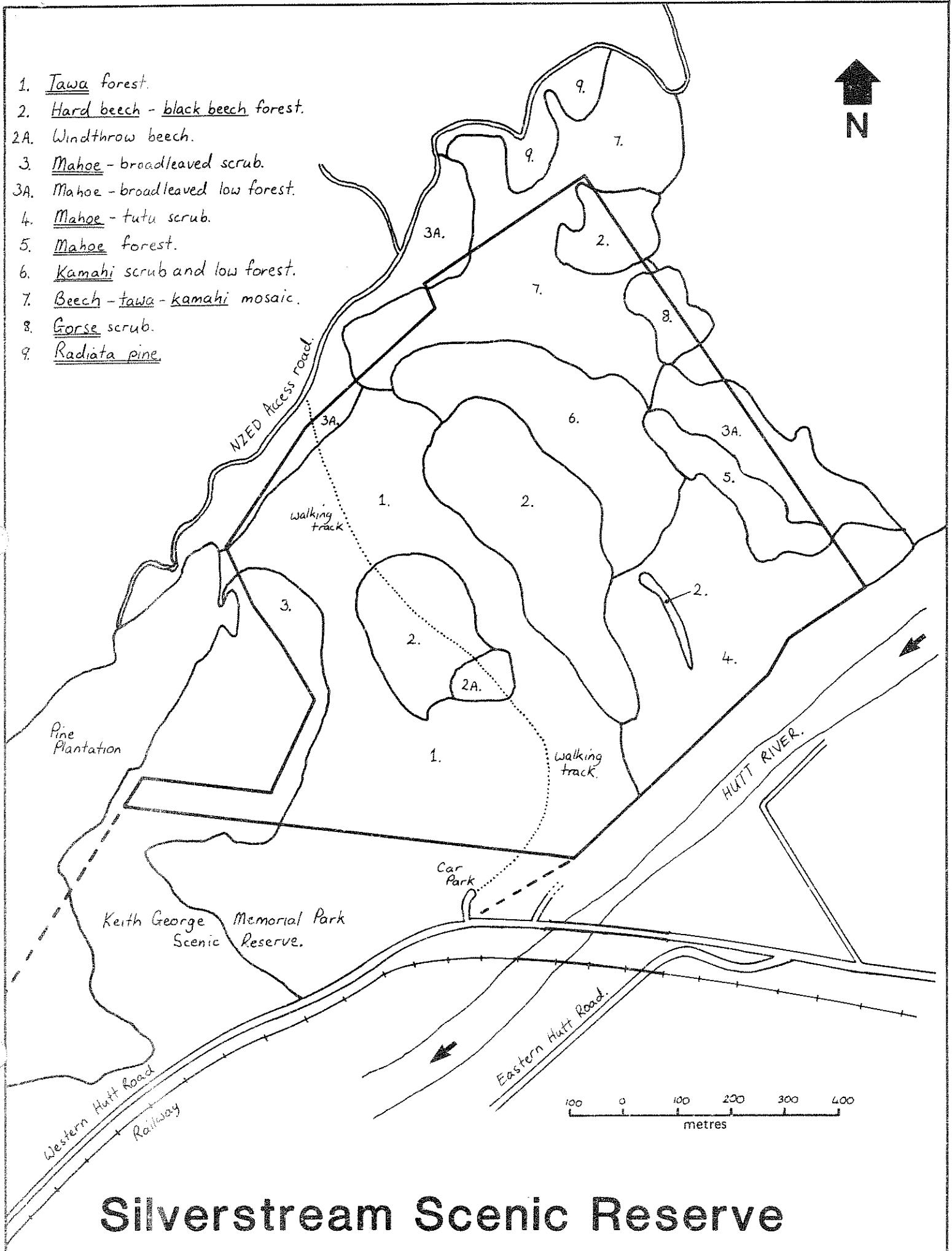


1. Tawa forest.
2. Hard beech - black beech forest.
- 2A. Windthrow beech.
3. Mahoe - broadleaved scrub.
- 3A. Mahoe - broadleaved low forest.
4. Mahoe - tutu scrub.
5. Mahoe forest.
6. Kamahi scrub and low forest.
7. Beech - tawa - kamahi mosaic.
8. Gorse scrub.
9. Radiata pine.



Silverstream Scenic Reserve

Area: 69.0941 ha

SILVERSTREAM SCENIC RESERVE

GRID
REF R 27 780 057

AREA ha ~~xx~~ 69.0941

L. D. No.

STATUS Scenic

RES sub-Code

CONTROL Upper Hutt County Council

GAZETTED 1907/13, 1911/1345, 1927/3666

RESERVED

HISTORY

AIR PHOTO SN 5437 R/16
date 6.10.80

nearby town 2 km Heretaunga

nearest reserve 0 km Keith George (Adjacent)

public road 0 km State Highway 2

sea (km) 2 Porirua Harbour

ALTITUDE m ~~xx~~ 40-300

ASPECT South-southeast

RAIN mm ~~xx~~ 1290 (approx)

NAT FERTILITY Low-medium

LOCATION
Adjacent to Silverstream Bridge on Western Hutt Road.

ACCESS
From car park just south of Silverstream Bridge.

OUTLINE & TOPS
Steep, east-facing slope of the Wellington Fault-scarp dissected by a number of small streams with steep-sided valleys.

SURROUNDINGS
Gorse scrub with regenerating native species to the northeast, motorway and Hutt River to the south, pine plantations to the north-west.

GEOLOGY
Greywacke, steep-very steep slope on scarp formed by the Wellington Fault.

SPM Greywacke colluvium

SOIL Rudine steepland soils.

DRAINAGE Very good.

RES		NOT		MAIN HABITATS and FEATURES		% area	area ha	native		ex	regen	NAT	trend	status
LD	NZ	LD	NZ					1 ^o	2 ^o					
✓	✓	✓	✓	1. Tawa forest on steep colluvial slopes.		29.6	20.45	✓	✓		M	M	S	I.
✓	✓	✓	✓	2. Hard beech-black beech forest on weathered greywacke.		19.7	13.61	✓	✓		M	H	S	I.
✓	✓	✓	✓	2a. Windthrown beech forest.		0.7	0.48	✓	✓		H	H	I	M
✓	✓	✓	✓	3. Mahoe - mixed broadleaved spp. scrub on steep colluvial slopes.		1.3	0.9	✓	✓		H	M	I	M
✓	✓	✓	✓	3a. Advanced mahoe - mixed broadleaved forest on steep colluvial slopes.		4.6	3.18	✓	✓		H	H	I	M
✓	✓	✓	✓	4. Mahoe -tutu-koromiko-rangiora scrub on very steep/bluffy colluvial slopes.		14.5	10.02	✓	✓		H	M	I	M
✓	✓	✓	✓	5. Mahoe forest in gully.		2.6	1.8	✓	✓		H	M	I	M
✓	✓	✓	✓	6. Kamahi scrub and low forest on weathered greywacke spurs and colluvial slopes.		8.6	5.94	✓	✓		H	H	I	L
✓	✓	✓	✓	7. Mosaic of beech-tawa-kamahi forest on steep colluvial slopes.		10.5	7.25	✓	✓		H	M	I	L
✓	✓	✓	✓	8. Manuka - gorse scrub.		2.0	1.38	✓	✓		H	L	I	M
✓	✓	✓	✓	9. Gorse scrub.		5.9	4.08	✓	✓		H	L	I	M
✓	✓	✓	✓	10. <i>Hinus palijata</i> stands.		-	-				L	L	S	M

1. Tawa forest up to 22m tall with occasional titoki and hinau and some kamahi at higher elevations. Some mature mahoe and tree fuchsia are present in gullies. A few remnant rimu, rata and miro trees are also present. The understorey is well developed (up to 5m tall), common species including kawakawa, rangiora, heketara, kanono and hangchange. The floor cover consists of litter, seedlings of canopy and understorey species, hook grass and ferns. This type includes small areas of younger, predominantly secondary tawa forest.

2. Forest up to 20m tall containing hard and black beech. Kamahi occasionally in canopy and around margins of stands. Understorey predominantly silver tree fern, heketara, karamu, five finger, kamahi and mingimingi. Ground cover consists of litter, *Metrosideros fulgens*, crown fern and hound's tongue fern.

Area 2a Windthrown area of beech has scrub 6-8m tall of kamahi, five finger, heketara, hinau mapou, mingimingi, *Coprosma lucida* and bracken. Occasional hard and black beech trees up to 15m tall are interspersed through the scrub.

3. Mahoe dominated broadleaved scrub up to 6m tall. On the fault scarp above the motorway the main associated species are rangiora and five finger. Occasional patches of gorse and bracken are present. There are small remnant stands of beech, each consisting of a few trees only.

3a as above but more advanced with species such as karamu, manuka and hangchange becoming more prominent and the addition of emergent tree species such as rewarewa and hinau. Adjacent to the NZED access road/firebreak at the top of the reserve there are stands of gorse, tuihina and manuka. Along the margin of this type Himalayan honeysuckle is very common.

CONDITION Overall good to very good with areas of secondary scrub and low forest regenerating well.

FENCING Adequate.

PRIORITY N/A.

RATING 0-10

SCIENTIFIC 6 Virtual southern limit of beech on western side of the North Island.

SCENIC 6 Scenic backdrops to residential area.

RECREATION 3 Walking track from Keith George Memorial Park passes through this reserve.

CONCLUSIONS and RECOMMENDATIONS

A valuable reserve containing two distinct, well developed forest types (tawa and beech) as well as areas of regenerating native scrub and forest. No obvious management problems are apparent although the reserve is under constant threat from frequent fires in gorse covered slopes to the north.

The upper, western boundary should run along the line of the NZED access road, not below it as at present.

¹ NATURALNESS

² TREND: D deteriorating; S steady; I improving

