

OHIWA AND OSCAR REEVE SCENIC RESERVES FIELD TRIP

Paul Cashmore

On 7 August 2011 eight members of the Rotorua Botanical Society and locals braved some winter weather to botanise the Ohiwa Scenic Reserve (4.4 ha) followed in the afternoon by Oscar Reeve Scenic Reserve (6.4 ha). The vegetation and flora of both reserves have been well documented in the West Gisborne report of the Biological Survey of Reserves Report (Clarkson and Regnier 1989) with a vegetation map and vascular plant species list produced.

Parking at the boat ramp on Ohiwa Loop Road we headed across the mudflats and through the stunted mangroves (*Avicennia marina* subsp. *australasica*) to the saltmarsh on the edge of the reserve. *Olearia solandri* was abundant on the edge over sea rush (*Juncus kraussii* subsp. *australiensis*) with *Baumea juncea* further in under the pohutukawa. We clambered under several large sprawling pohutukawa trees overhanging the mudflats taking note of epiphytes present including *Huperzia varia*, *Pyrrosia eleagnifolia*. Edging south along the forest margin with saltmarsh we noted several kahikatea (*Dacrycarpus dacrydioides*) seedlings and saplings along with puriri (*Vitex lucens*) and tawa (*Beilschmiedia tawa*).

Reaching the reserve's southern boundary we headed up the slope into rewarewa-kamahi forest. The understorey here was dominated by dense puakarimu (*Lycopodium deuterodensum*) in places with maidenhair fern (*Adiantum cunninghamii*) common. Understorey shrub species included abundant shining karamu (*Coprosma lucida*), rangiora (*Brachyglottis repanda*) and mapou (*Myrsine australis*). We dropped over the ridge into a mahoe (*Melicytus ramiflorus* subsp. *ramiflorus*) dominated gully with abundant nikau (*Rhopalostylis sapida*) saplings. Karaka (*Corynocarpus laevigatus*), mangeao (*Litsea calicaris*) and occasional titoki (*Alectryon excelsus*) seedlings were noted in the vicinity. After felling a few woolly nightshade (*Solanum mauritianum*) trees we continued uphill through rewarewa-kanuka-kamahi forest. The kanuka (*Kunzea ericoides*) trees here were some of

biggest ever seen and were obviously very old. Continuing uphill fallen old black wattle (*Acacia mearnsii*) trees became more common until we reached the paper road along the western boundary. This area adjoined some rough farmland to the east. The road reserve was dominated by exotic species with large black wattle in the canopy with kanuka and Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*) throughout. *Microlaena stipoides* was common in the ground cover in parts.

After a quick break we headed down the ridge and came across a vegetation plot further down the ridge before sidling around below further large pohutukawa trees on the steep bank. In this area we came across several scattered plants of wild ginger (*Hedychium gardnerianum*) that we attempted to treat and remove seed heads. Another few kohekohe (*Dysoxylum spectabile*) saplings were noted but it appeared this species was uncommon in the reserve. When we reached the gully to the north of the reserve we stopped to admire the wetland area adjoining the saltmarsh. Although small the wetland was comprised of scattered grey willow (*Salix cinerea*) and cabbage tree (*Cordyline australis*) over raupo-*Carex geminata*-blackberry with occasional *Muehlenbeckia complexa*. We then headed out through the wetland to the adjoining saltmarsh dominated by more oioi (*Apodasmia similis*) and mangroves. We ate lunch in the car in the pouring rain.

With rain still coming down we drove around the corner to Oscar Reeve Scenic Reserve (6.4 ha). We clambered down the bank through mahoe and kawakawa (*Macropiper excelsum*) and Chinese privet to the wetland in the gully bottom. The wetland was comprised of dense *Carex geminata* sedgeland throughout with local raupo and scattered blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.). At the bottom end of the wetland scattered clumps of *Carex secta* were present while the upper section of wetland had *Bolboschoenus fluviatilis* scattered throughout amongst *Carex geminata*. Occasional pampas (*Cortaderia selloana*) plants were present but most of these had been recently sprayed by the DOC contractor.

Across the wetland we headed to the western boundary of the reserve into pohutukawa dominated forest with some large puriri trees with abundant flowers present. *Pteris macilenta* and *Blechnum filiforme* were common in the understorey. Kiekie (*Freycinetia banksii*) was also abundant in the understorey in places unlike Ohiwa Scenic Reserve where it was absent. On the banks around the stream we noted *Blechnum chambersii*, kiokio (*Blechnum novae-zealandiae*) and *Machaerina sinclairii* common throughout. We continued across a stream noting more wild ginger present with a few scattered cherry (*Prunus campanulata*) trees in the canopy gaps. Some of the ginger had been controlled. We continued up the ridge.

At one point we were faced with a steep section of ridge with a small waterfall below which required some sidling and scrambling up the stream above the waterfall. While the rain had stopped the understorey was pretty wet and the steep slopes very slippery making travel relatively slow. We reached another area of large pohutukawa in the NW corner of the reserve where we reached the northern boundary with farmland. As the slopes were very steep in places with small drop offs we decided to hop the fence and walk along the farm boundary for a while. The vegetation on the margins was less exciting with barberry (*Berberis glaucocarpa*) and mainly secondary scrub including five-finger (*Pseudopanax arboreus*) and mahoe common on the edge.

We walked along the farm boundary until we spotted the small stand of hard beech (*Nothofagus truncata*) described in Clarkson and Regnier (1989). We headed down the ridge to confirm its identity. The understorey was relatively open as you would expect in this forest type, with mingimingi (*Leucopogon fasciculatus*) scattered throughout. We continued sidling along below the farmland heading east to the nearby ridge of black beech (*Nothofagus solandri* var. *solandri*) passing some more impressively large pohutukawa trees. The group re-formed and wandered down the ridge through the stand noting the presence of *Coprosma spathulata* and *C. rhamnoides*, both common in the understorey along with hangehange (*Geniostoma ligustrifolium*), *Adiantum cunninghamii* and *Microsorium pustulatum*.

From here we dropped into a deep gully that had a large infestation of wandering willie (*Tradescantia fluminensis*) and wild ginger which appeared to have come from an old farm dump site above. The party split into two as half the party headed down gully through dense kiekie with several small drop-offs while the remainder sidled around further and came down a spur. Lower down the gully a large pohutukawa windfall was present amongst tawa and kohekohe trees. Nikau and karaka seedlings were also common throughout.

At the bottom of the gully we broke out into the wetland again crossing it and scrambling back up the road bank through a mixture of exotic species (including crack willow (*Salix fragilis*), buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*), kikuyu (*Pennisetum clandestinum*) and felled wattle) and native vegetation. Regrouping in the light rain on the road we compared notes on species seen.

While Oscar Reeve Scenic Reserve is relatively small it is an excellent example of coastal pohutukawa-puriri forest on the northern side of the wetland, although very steep in places. No animal sign was noted in the reserve with the largest threat being wild ginger, which is lightly scattered throughout most of the gullies in the reserve. *Pimelea tomentosa*, previously recorded by Clarkson and Regnier (1989), was not seen. The area between the road and wetland is more modified and weedy. As we were all fairly wet by now we decided to head home so did not look at the area of reserve on the southern side of Ohiwa Harbour Road.

Several coastal species were notably sparse or absent from the coastal vegetation of both reserves with only a few seedling houpara (*Pseudopanax lessonii*) noted. No karo (*Pittosporum crassifolium*) was seen for reasons unknown. A few miro (*Prumnopitys ferruginea*) were noted, indicating what would comprise the future climax forest of the island.

REFERENCES

- Beadel, S. M. 1994: Significant indigenous vegetation of the Bay of Plenty coastal zone. Bay of Plenty Regional Council. 412 p.
- Clarkson, B.R. and Regnier, C.E. 1989: West Gisborne. Biological Survey of Reserves Series Report No. 16. 176 p.

OHIWA SCENIC RESERVE

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Ferns and fern allies

<i>Adiantum cunninghamii</i>	maiden hair fern
<i>Asplenium bulbiferum</i>	hen and chickens fern; moku
<i>Asplenium flaccidum</i>	hanging spleenwort; makawe
<i>Asplenium oblongifolium</i>	shining spleenwort
<i>Asplenium polyodon</i>	sickle spleenwort; petako
<i>Blechnum filiforme</i>	Climbing hard fern; thread fern
<i>Blechnum minus</i>	
<i>Blechnum novae-zelandiae</i>	kiokio
<i>Cyathea dealbata</i>	ponga; silver fern
<i>Cyathea medullaris</i>	mamaku; korau; black tree fern
<i>Deparia petersenii</i> subsp. <i>congrua</i>	
<i>Dicksonia squarrosa</i>	wheki; harsh tree fern
<i>Diplazium australe</i>	
<i>Doodia australis</i>	pukupuku; rasp fern
<i>Huperzia varia</i>	hanging clubmoss; iwituna
<i>Hymenophyllum bivalve</i>	
<i>Hymenophyllum flabellatum</i>	fan fern
<i>Hymenophyllum rarum</i>	wire-stemmed filmy fern
<i>Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum</i>	blood-scented filmy fern
<i>Lycopodium deuterodensum</i>	puakarimu
<i>Microsorium pustulatum</i> subsp. <i>pustulatum</i>	hounds tongue; kowaowao
<i>Microsorium scandens</i>	mokimoki; fragrant fern
<i>Pneumatopteris pennigera</i>	gully fern; pakau;
<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	bracken; rauaruhe
<i>Pteris macilenta</i>	sweet fern
<i>Pteris tremula</i>	turawera
<i>Pyrrhosia eleagnifolia</i>	leather-leaf fern
<i>Tmesipteris elongata</i>	
<i>Tmesipteris sigmatifolia</i>	
<i>Tmesipteris tannensis</i>	chain fern; fork fern
<i>Trichomanes venosum</i>	veined bristle fern

Shrubs, trees & lianes

* <i>Acacia mearnsii</i>	black wattle
<i>Alectryon excelsus</i> subsp. <i>excelsus</i>	titoki
<i>Aristotelia serrata</i>	wineberry; makomako
<i>Avicennia marina</i> subsp. <i>australasica</i>	manawa; mangrove
<i>Beilschmiedia tawa</i>	tawa
* <i>Berberis vulgaris</i>	european barberry
<i>Calystegia tuguriorum</i>	NZ bidweed; powhiwhi
<i>Carmichaelia australis</i> agg.	whip broom; maukoro
<i>Carpodetus serratus</i>	putaputaweta; marbleleaf
<i>Coprosma</i> × <i>cunninghamii</i>	
<i>Coprosma lucida</i>	karamu; shining karamu
<i>Coprosma propinqua</i> var. <i>propinqua</i>	mingimingi
<i>Coprosma robusta</i>	karamu
<i>Cordyline australis</i>	cabbage tree; ti-kouka
<i>Corynocarpus laevigatus</i>	karaka; kopi
<i>Dacrycarpus dacrydioides</i>	kahikatea, white pine
<i>Dysoxylum spectabile</i>	kohekohe
<i>Geniostoma ligustrifolium</i> var. <i>ligustrifolium</i>	hangehange; privet
<i>Hebe stricta</i> var. <i>stricta</i>	koromiko
<i>Hedycarya arborea</i>	pigeonwood; porokaiwhiri
<i>Knightia excelsa</i>	rewarewa; NZ honeysuckle
<i>Kunzea ericoides</i> var. <i>ericoides</i>	kanuka; white teatree
<i>Leucopogon fasciculatus</i>	mingimingi; kaikaitau
* <i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	Chinese privet
<i>Litsea calicaris</i>	mangeo
<i>Meliccytus ramiflorus</i>	mahoe
<i>Metrosideros diffusa</i>	white climbing rata; akatea
<i>Metrosideros excelsa</i>	pohutukawa
<i>Muehlenbeckia complexa</i>	pohuehue; wire vine
<i>Myrsine australis</i>	red matipo; mapou
<i>Olearia rani</i> var. <i>colorata</i>	heketara
<i>Olearia solandri</i>	coastal tree daisy
* <i>Paraserianthes lophantha</i>	brush wattle
<i>Parsonsia heterophylla</i>	maori jasmine; kaihu; kaiwhiria
* <i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey pine; radiata
<i>Pittosporum crassifolium</i>	karo
* <i>Prunus campanulata</i>	Taiwan cherry
<i>Pseudopanax lessonii</i>	houpara
<i>Rhopalostylis sapida</i>	nikau
* <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	blackberry
* <i>Salix fragilis</i>	crack willow
<i>Schefflera digitata</i>	pate; patae; kotete
* <i>Solanum mauritianum</i>	woolly nightshade

Vitex lucens
Weinmannia racemosa

pururi; kauere
kamahi; towai; tawhero

Herbs

<i>Astelia solandri</i>	<i>kowharawhara</i>
* <i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Scotch thistle
<i>Collospermum hastatum</i>	kahakaha
<i>Collospermum microspermum</i>	
* <i>Conyza sumatrensis</i>	broad-leaved fleabane
<i>Dianella nigra</i>	blueberry; turutu
<i>Earina autumnalis</i>	Easter orchid; raupeka
<i>Earina mucronata</i>	spring orchid; peka-a-waka
* <i>Galium aparine</i>	cleavers
<i>Haloragis erecta</i> subsp. <i>erecta</i>	toatoa
* <i>Hedychium gardnerianum</i>	wild ginger
* <i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	ragwort
* <i>Mycelis muralis</i>	wall lettuce
<i>Phormium tenax</i>	flax
* <i>Phytolacca octandra</i>	inkweed
* <i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	ribwort; narrow-leaved plantain
<i>Pterostylis banksii</i>	tutukiwi
* <i>Senecio bipinnatisectus</i>	Australian fireweed
* <i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	dandelion
<i>Typha orientalis</i>	raupo

Grasses and grass-like plants

<i>Apodasmia similis</i>	
<i>Baumea juncea</i>	
<i>Baumea rubiginosa</i>	
<i>Baumea tenax</i>	
<i>Carex geminata</i> agg.	
<i>Carex lambertiana</i>	
<i>Carex solandri</i>	
<i>Carex virgata</i>	
* <i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	pampas
<i>Cyperus ustulatus</i> f. <i>ustulatus</i>	coastal cutty grass
* <i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	cocksfoot
<i>Isachne globosa</i>	swamp millet
<i>Juncus kraussii</i> subsp. <i>australiensis</i>	sea rush
<i>Machaerina sinclairii</i>	broad-leaved sedge
<i>Microlaena stipoides</i>	forest rice grass
<i>Oplismenus hirtellus</i> subsp. <i>imbecillis</i>	oat grass
<i>Poa anceps</i> subsp. <i>anceps</i>	coastal poa

- * *Schedonorus arundinaceus* tall fescue
Schoenus tendo
Uncinia uncinata

OSCAR REEVE SCENIC RESERVE

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Ferns and fern allies

- Adiantum cunninghamii* maidenhair fern
Adiantum hispidulum rosy maidenhair fern
Asplenium bulbiferum hen and chickens fern; moku
Asplenium flaccidum hanging spleenwort; makawe
Asplenium polyodon sickle spleenwort; petako
Blechnum chambersii nini; lance fern
Blechnum filiforme Climbing hard fern; thread fern
Blechnum novae-zelandiae kiokio
Cyathea dealbata ponga; silver fern
Cyathea medullaris mamaku; korau; black tree fern
Dicksonia squarrosa wheki; harsh tree fern
Diplazium australe
Doodia australis pukupuku; rasp fern
Huperzia varia hanging clubmoss; iwituna
Hymenophyllum demissum piripiri; irirangi
Lastreopsis hispida hairy fern, hairy legs
Leptopteris hymenophylloides single crepe fern; heruheru
Microsorium pustulatum subsp. *pustulatum* hounds tongue; kowaowao
Microsorium scandens mokimoki; fragrant fern
Pellaea rotundifolia tarawera; button fern
Pneumatopteris pennigera gully fern; pakau;
Polystichum wanranum common shield fern; pikopiko
Pteridium esculentum bracken; rauaruhe
Pteris macilenta sweet fern
Pteris tremula turawera
Pyrrosia eleagnifolia leather-leaf fern
Rumohra adiantiformis butcher's fern
Tmesipteris elongata
Tmesipteris tannensis chain fern; fork fern

Shrubs, trees & lianes

- * *Acacia mearnsii* black wattle
Alectryon excelsus subsp. *excelsus* titoki
Beilschmiedia tawa tawa
* *Berberis glaucocarpa* barberry

<i>Brachyglottis repanda</i>	rangiora; bushmans friend
<i>Calystegia tuguriorum</i>	NZ bidweed; powhiwhi
<i>Clematis foetida</i>	scented clematis
<i>Coprosma lucida</i>	karamu; shining karamu
<i>Coprosma rhamnoides</i> agg.	thorny coprosma
<i>Coprosma robusta</i>	karamu
<i>Coprosma spathulata</i> subsp. <i>spathulata</i>	
<i>Coriaria arborea</i> var. <i>arborea</i>	tree tutu
<i>Corynocarpus laevigatus</i>	karaka; kopi
* <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	hawthorn
<i>Dysoxylum spectabile</i>	kohekohe
<i>Freycinetia banksii</i>	kiekie
<i>Hebe stricta</i> var. <i>stricta</i>	koromiko
<i>Hedycarya arborea</i>	pigeonwood; porokaiwhiri
<i>Knightia excelsa</i>	rewarewa; NZ honeysuckle
<i>Kunzea ericoides</i> var. <i>ericoides</i>	kanuka; white teatree
<i>Laurelia novae-zelandiae</i>	pukatea
<i>Leptocophylla juniperina</i> subsp. <i>juniperina</i>	prickly mingimingi
<i>Leucopogon fasciculatus</i>	mingimingi; kaikaitau
* <i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	Chinese privet
<i>Litsea calicaris</i>	mangeo
<i>Melicytus ramiflorus</i>	mahoe
<i>Metrosideros diffusa</i>	white climbing rata; akatea
<i>Metrosideros excelsa</i>	pohutukawa
<i>Metrosideros fulgens</i>	scarlet rata; winter rata
<i>Metrosideros perforata</i>	aka; small white rata; torotoro
<i>Muehlenbeckia australis</i>	poheuheu
<i>Muehlenbeckia complexa</i>	pohuehue; wire vine
<i>Myrsine australis</i>	red matipo; mapou
<i>Nothofagus solandri</i> var. <i>solandri</i>	black beech
<i>Nothofagus truncata</i>	hard beech; tawhairaunui
* <i>Paraserianthes lophantha</i>	brush wattle
<i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i> agg.	black matipo; kohuhu
* <i>Populus alba</i>	silver poplar
<i>Prumnopitys ferruginea</i>	miro; brown pine
* <i>Prunus campanulata</i>	Taiwan cherry
<i>Pseudopanax arboreus</i> agg.	five finger; puhou; whaupaku
<i>Pseudopanax crassifolius</i>	lancewood; horoeaka
<i>Rhopalostylis sapida</i>	nikau
<i>Ripogonum scandens</i>	supplejack; kareao
* <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	blackberry
* <i>Salix fragilis</i>	crack willow
<i>Schefflera digitata</i>	pate; patae; kotete
* <i>Solanum mauritianum</i>	woolly nightshade

* <i>Ulex europaeus</i>	gorse
<i>Vitex lucens</i>	pururi; kauere
<i>Weinmannia racemosa</i>	kamahi; towai; tawhero

Herbs

<i>Acaena anserinifolia</i>	bidibid
<i>Collospermum hastatum</i>	kahakaha
<i>Dianella nigra</i>	blueberry; turutu
<i>Galium propinquum</i>	
<i>Haloragis erecta</i> subsp. <i>erecta</i> agg.	toatoa
* <i>Hedychium gardnerianum</i>	wild ginger
* <i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	lotus major
* <i>Myosotis sylvatica</i> subsp. <i>sylvatica</i>	garden forget-me-not
* <i>Phytolacca octandra</i>	inkweed
* <i>Ranunculus repens</i>	creeping buttercup
* <i>Sison amomum</i>	stone parsley
* <i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	sow thistle; puha; puka
* <i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i>	wandering Jew
<i>Typha orientalis</i>	raupo

Grasses and grass-like plants

<i>Bolboschoenus fluviatilis</i>	
<i>Carex geminata</i> agg.	
<i>Carex dissita</i>	
<i>Carex secta</i>	niggerhead; pukio
<i>Carex virgata</i>	
<i>Cyperus ustulatus</i> f. <i>ustulatus</i>	coastal cutty grass
* <i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	cocksfoot
<i>Gabnia pauciflora</i>	
<i>Gabnia setifolia</i>	
* <i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire fog
<i>Machaerina sinclairii</i>	broad-leaved sedge
<i>Microlaena stipoides</i>	forest rice grass
* <i>Miscanthus nepalensis</i>	Himalayan fairy grass
<i>Oplismenus hirtellus</i> subsp. <i>imbecillis</i>	oat grass
* <i>Paspalum dilatatum</i>	paspalum
* <i>Pennisetum clandestinum</i>	kikuyu
<i>Schoenus maschalinus</i>	
<i>Schoenus tendo</i>	
<i>Uncinia banksii</i>	
<i>Uncinia longifructus</i>	
<i>Uncinia uncinata</i>	watu