

Motuoapa wetland and Peninsula - Lake Taupo

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The area is a very large wetland with open water banded by numerous old beaches, loosely connected to an old island. Water levels were high so we followed a track down the Waimarino Stream to the lake shore, then along a trapline to the headland (island).

The track to the shore was initially fringed by revegetation plantings. It was very weedy with *Chamaesyce maculata* and *Spergularia rubra* prominent in the carpark, then garden discards and plants such as barberry, buddelia, Japanese honeysuckle, *Scrophularia auriculata*, spurrey, yarrow, white clover, cocksfoot, and browntop. But soon the track was fringed by bracken, blackberry, fivefinger, mahoe and tall fescue over which scrambled *Calystegia sepium* and the odd *Parsonsia capsularis* or *Muehlenbeckia australis*. In the wetter areas beneath the grey willow, *Carex lessonii* was prominent along with *Ludwigia palustris*, *Juncus articulatus*, *J. bufonius*, *Lycopus europeaus* and *Elatine gratioloides*. Once on the shore we pushed through crack willow to find the trapline along which blackberry and mahoe predominated with the odd patch of tall kanuka and grassy clearings. Highlights here were unexpected patches of *Apodasmia similis*, *Pellaea rotundifolia* and the dreaded *Dryopteris filix-mas*. We escaped this tangle to the shore at about half way and headed along the beach to the base of the peninsula for lunch.

After lunch we scrambled up the short cliff onto the base of the peninsula into tall kanua forest. On the bank *Blechnum vulcanicum*, *Hymenophyllum rarum* and *H. flabellifolium* were common along with *Earina autumnalis*, mingimingi and prickly mingimingi. At last we were in some real forest with a kanuka canopy, scattered large, emergent black beech and rewarewa. It was mostly fairly simple with a privet understorey, swathes of *Hymenophyllum scabrum* on the ground, scattered occurrences of kamahi, rimu saplings, black maire, *Carmichaelia australis*, mamaku, silver fern, and smaller ferns such as kidney fern, *Blechnum discolor*, *Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum* and *H. dilatatum*. A highlight here was scattered patches of *Acianthus sinclairii* in flower.

As we started back and descended to the track we were met by Nick Singers who arrived

wisely by kayak. He was about to check and reset the traps. We offered to do that job so he got us started on the track and explained a little about the area. The return was initially along the trapline on the inside of the beach/spit through swathes of *Carex lessonii* with frequent wet feet until we reached our earlier tracks. Plants such as raupo and *Eleocharis sphacelata* were especially prominent but smaller plants included *Lobelia angulata*, *Ranunculus flammula* and *Azolla filicoides* and views across expanses of open water at raupo and grey willow. As we returned, traps were reset and several long-dead rats noted.

Motuoapa Species list

A: = Waimarino River bank and Lake Taupo shore

B: = Waimarino River Recreation Reserve (Motuapa peninsula base)

E: = Exotic

A	B	E	Name
			<i>Gymnosperm trees and shrubs</i>
	x		<i>Dacrydium cupressinum</i>
x		*	<i>Pinus radiata</i>
	x		<i>Prumnopitys taxifolia</i>
			<i>Dicotyledonous trees and shrubs</i>
x			<i>Aristotelia serrata</i>
x		*	<i>Berberis glaucocarpa</i>
	x		<i>Brachyglottis repanda</i>
x		*	<i>Buddleja davidii</i>
	x		<i>Carmichaelia australis</i>
x			<i>Coprosma cunninghamii</i> X
	x		<i>Coprosma lucida</i>
x			<i>Coprosma propinqua</i> var. <i>propinqua</i>
x	x		<i>Coprosma robusta</i>
x			<i>Coriaria arborea</i> var. <i>arborea</i>
x		*	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>
x			<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i>
	x		<i>Fuscospora solandri</i>
	x		<i>Gaultheria antipoda</i>
x	x		<i>Geniostoma ligustrifolium</i> var. <i>ligustrifolium</i>
x			<i>Hebe stricta</i> var. <i>stricta</i>
	x		<i>Knightia excelsa</i>
x	x		<i>Kunzea serotina</i>
	x		<i>Leptecophylla juniperina</i> ssp. <i>juniperina</i>

x	x		<i>Leucopogon fasciculatus</i>
x		*	<i>Leycesteria formosa</i>
x		*	<i>Lupinus arboreus</i>
	x		<i>Melicytus ramiflorus</i>
x	x		<i>Myrsine australis</i>
x	x		<i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i>
x		*	<i>Prunus campanulata</i>
x		*	<i>Prunus serrulata</i>
x	x		<i>Pseudopanax arboreus</i>
	x		<i>Pseudopanax crassifolius</i>
x		*	<i>Robinia pseudacacia</i>
x		*	<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>
x		*	<i>Salix cinerea</i>
x		*	<i>Salix fragilis</i>
	x		<i>Solanum laciniatum</i>
x			<i>Sophora microphylla</i>
x		*	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>
	x		<i>Weinmannia racemosa</i>

Dicotyledonous lianes and related trailing plants

x			<i>Calystegia sepium ssp. roseata</i>
	x		<i>Clematis paniculata</i>
x		*	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>
x			<i>Muehlenbeckia australis</i>
x			<i>Parsonsia capsularis var. capsularis</i>
x	x	*	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>
x			<i>Rubus schmidelioides var. schmidelioides</i>

Ferns & Fern Allies

	x		<i>Asplenium bulbiferum x A. flaccidum</i>
x	x		<i>Asplenium flaccidum</i>
	x		<i>Asplenium hookerianum var. hookerianum</i>
x	x		<i>Asplenium oblongifolium</i>
x	x		<i>Asplenium polyodon</i>
x			<i>Azolla filiculoides</i>
	x		<i>Blechnum discolor</i>
x			<i>Blechnum minus</i>
x			<i>Blechnum novae-zelandiae</i>
	x		<i>Blechnum vulcanicum</i>
	x		<i>Cyathea dealbata</i>
	x		<i>Cyathea medullaris</i>
x			<i>Dicksonia fibrosa</i>
x	x		<i>Dicksonia squarrosa</i>

x	*	<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>
	x	<i>Hymenophyllum dilatatum</i>
	x	<i>Hymenophyllum flabellatum</i>
	x	<i>Hymenophyllum multifidum</i>
	x	<i>Hymenophyllum nephrophyllum</i>
	x	<i>Hymenophyllum rarum</i>
x	x	<i>Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum</i>
x		<i>Hypolepis millefolium</i>
	x	<i>Lycopodium volubile</i>
x	x	<i>Microsorium pustulatum ssp. pustulatum</i>
	x	<i>Notogrammitis heterophylla</i>
x		<i>Pellaea rotundifolia</i>
x		<i>Pneumatopteris pennigera</i>
x	x	<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>
x	x	<i>Pyrrhosia eleagnifolia</i>

Orchids

	x	<i>Acianthus sinclairii</i>
	x	<i>Earina mucronata</i>
	x	<i>Microtis unifolia</i>

Grasses

x	*	<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>
x		<i>Austroderia fulvida</i>
x	*	<i>Bromus catharticus var. catharticus</i>
x	*	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>
x		<i>Microlaena stipoides</i>
x	*	<i>Paspalum dilatatum</i>
x	*	<i>Schedonorus arundinaceus</i>
	x	<i>Trisetum antarcticum</i>

Rushes, Sedges and allied plants

x		<i>Apodasmia similis</i>
x		<i>Carex geminata</i>
	x	<i>Carex imbecilla</i>
x		<i>Carex lessoniana</i>
	x	<i>Carex subviridis</i>
	x	<i>Carex uncinata</i>
x		<i>Carex virgata</i>
x		<i>Juncus articulatus</i>
x	*	<i>Juncus bufonius var. bufonius</i>
x	*	<i>Juncus effusus var. effusus</i>
x	*	<i>Juncus tenuis ssp. tenuis</i>

x *Machaerina rubiginosa*
x *Schoenus maschalinus*

Remaining Monocotyledonous herbs

x x *Dianella nigra*
x *Lemna disperma*
Phormium tenax
Typha orientalis

Daisy-like herbs

x * *Achillea millefolium*
x * *Cirsium arvense*
x * *Cirsium vulgare*
x * *Erigeron sumatrensis*
x *Euchiton involucratus*
x * *Hypochaeris radicata*
x * *Lactuca serriola*
x * *Lapsana communis*
x x * *Mycelis muralis*
x * *Senecio bipinnatisectus*

Other Dicotyledonous herbs

x * *Callitriche stagnalis*
x * *Chamaesyce maculata*
x * *Galium aparine*
x *Haloragis erecta ssp. erecta*
x *Lobelia angulata*
x * *Lotus pedunculatus*
x * *Lycopus europaeus*
x * *Lythrum hyssopifolia*
x * *Lythrum portula*
x * *Mentha spicata ssp. spicata*
x *Persicaria prostrata*
x * *Plantago lanceolata*
x * *Plantago major*
x * *Prunella vulgaris*
x * *Ranunculus acris ssp. acris*
x *Ranunculus amphitrichus*
x * *Ranunculus flammula*
x * *Ranunculus repens*
x * *Scrophularia auriculata*
x *Solanum nodiflorum*
x * *Spergularia rubra*
x *Stellaria parviflora*

- x * *Trifolium repens*
 - x * *Verbascum thapsus*
 - x * *Vicia sativa*
 - x *Wahlenbergia violacea*
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Okareka mistletoe restoration project

Weed control/plant releasing work days for 2017

Come and join Rotorua Botanical Society to control weeds threatening mistletoe sites and plant new host trees.

Activities will involve hand-pulling, cutting, sawing of vines, climbers and small trees.

When: Sat 14 October – Weed control/plant releasing work day

Meet: Cnr Summit and Loop Roads (lake end) @ 8:45 am

Grade: medium-hard – activities suitable for all ages and abilities will be provided

**Please contact the organiser Paul Cashmore
027 650 7264 (mob) or 07 349 7432 (work) to RSVP.**

Equipment to bring will be advised.