



Cookson Road

Site Number: SNA45
Ecological District: Rotorua Lakes
Source of Information: Shaw and Beadel (1998)
Digital Scale: 1:2,000
Data Source: RDAM 2006
Regional Council: Bay of Plenty
1998 Site Number: NHS No. 45
Current Tenure: Unprotected
Site Area: 123.63 ha
Altitude Range: 330-540 ha
Bioclimatic Zone: Lowland
Grid Reference: NZTM E1894555, N5777747

VEGETATION		LANDFORM	EXTENT
CODE	TYPE		
1	Tawa-(rewarewa)-(mangeao) forest (with scattered pukatea and kahikatea) - fenced. 1b Heavily grazed.	Rolling hillslopes; gully	70.23 ha
2	Tawa-(rewarewa)-(mangeao) forest (with scattered pukatea and kahikatea) - heavily grazed (Shown as 5 on map).	Rolling hillslopes; gully	9.21 ha
3	Mamaku-mahoe-(tawa)-(rewarewa)-mangeao/bracken forest and scrub (with planted kohuhu and tarata).	Rolling hillslopes; gully	22.36 ha
4	(Rimu)-(pukatea)/tawa forest - fenced (Shown as 3 on map).	Gully, steep hillslopes, moderate hillslopes	4.48 ha
5	(Rimu)-(pukatea)/tawa forest - grazed (Shown as 6 on map).	Gully, steep hillslopes, moderate hillslopes	16.36 ha
6	Mahoe-mamaku/bracken shrubland and scrub (with local rank pasture and local silver poplar plantation).	Gully; hillslopes	0.99 ha

Indigenous Flora: No threatened or at risk species as listed in de Lange *et al.* (2009) have been recorded from this site. Tarata and titoki are present.

Fauna: No threatened or at risk species as listed in Hitchmough *et al.* (2007) or Miskelly *et al.* (2008) have been recorded from this site. Forest bird species include kereru and tui.

Notes on Overall Condition: Remnant tawa forest which has been logged for podocarps and isolated by clearance for farming. Includes secondary vegetation which has developed on steep hillslopes following clearance.

Change Relative to Shaw and Beadel (1998): Unknown. Probably little change.

Threats/Modification/Vulnerability: Part of this site is fenced to exclude grazing animals (these areas are included in a land improvement agreement). However, part of the northern area is unfenced and is heavily grazed.

Risk Assessment: Grazing stock: Risk to site - high; Timeframe - high.

Significance Level:	Regional (Appendix 4 - Table 1 - Criteria 1, 5, 8, 10, 11; Table 2 - Factors R4, R8).
Significance Justification:	<p>This site is of regional significance as it comprises several areas of indigenous vegetation which together make up a moderate-sized area of indigenous vegetation. Most areas are fenced.</p> <p>It includes a small example of indigenous vegetation on high terraces , an ecological unit in this ecological district that is very rare with less than 1% remaining.</p>
Field Work Required:	No fieldwork required to assess significance, but fieldwork required to update biodiversity and management information.
Notes:	<p>This site was identified as a “Recommended Area for Protection” (RAP No. 45) in the natural area survey of Rotorua Lakes ED (Beadel <i>et al.</i> 1998).</p> <p>Fencing of the northern area would improve ecological values.</p> <p>Only parts of the SNA were visited in 2016 (see accompanying Figure). The larger of the two areas - the long narrow ‘finger’ of vegetation on the eastern side of the SNA - is exotic plantation forest that is part of a soil conservation area administered by BOPRC. Indigenous vegetation is restricted to the very narrow and steep dry gully that the ‘finger’ approximately follows, and includes mahoe, wheki, kanono, and wheki ponga in the canopy and understorey.</p> <p>The smaller of the two areas comprises a single row of exotic trees, about 50 m in length, including <i>Eucalyptus</i>, redwoods, and several smaller deciduous trees. This area was removed from the SNA.</p>
References:	Shaw and Beadel (1998); Beadel <i>et al.</i> (1998).