



Whakarewarewa South

Site Number: 132
Ecological District: Rotorua Lakes
Source of Information: Field work 2015
Digital Scale: 1:5,000
Data Source: BOPLASS Ltd 2011
Regional Council: Bay of Plenty
1998 Site Number: Not identified as a site in Shaw and Beadel (1998)
Current Tenure: Unprotected
Site Area: 22.52 ha
Altitude Range: 300-420 m
Bioclimatic Zone: Lowland
Grid Reference: NZTM E1884696, N5770365

VEGETATION		LANDFORM	EXTENT
CODE	TYPE		
1	Rewarewa-kamahi-kānuka/kōhūhū-whauwhaupaku forest Rewarewa, kamahi, and kānuka are emergent over abundant kōhūhū and whauwhaupaku, with scattered wattles - silver wattle (<i>Acacia dealbata</i>), black wattle (<i>Acacia mearnsii</i>), and green wattle (<i>Acacia decurrens</i>) - and eucalyptus. Other species present include mānuka, karamū, kiokio, māhoe, whekī, and toro (<i>Toronia toru</i>). Common alder is locally dominant and blackberry (<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>) occurs in patches adjacent to Puarenga Stream.	Hillslope	20.02 ha
2	Wilding pines/kōhūhū-whauwhaupaku forest Wilding pines (radiata pine (<i>Pinus radiata</i>), maritime pine, black pine (<i>Pinus nigra</i>), and Douglas fir (<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>)) are emergent over of kōhūhū and whauwhaupaku.	Hillslope	2.49 ha

Indigenous Flora: No threatened or at risk plant species as listed in de Lange *et al.* 2013 have been recorded from this site.

Fauna: There is a substantial nesting colony of little shag (*Phalacrocorax melanoleucos brevirostris*) along the Puarenga Stream. It is possible that black shag (*Phalacrocorax carbo novaehollandiae*; At Risk-Naturally Uncommon) and little black shag (*Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*; At Risk-Naturally Uncommon), both present in the Rotorua Lakes area, also utilise this site. New Zealand falcon (*Falco novaeseelandiae* “bush”; Threatened-Nationally Vulnerable) and North Island robin (*Petroica longipes*) are present in the adjacent forest and may use this area on an occasional basis.

Notes on Overall Condition: Secondary forest with exotic tree species including alder and wattle, and blackberry shrublands, on the Puarenga Stream margins. Exotic tree species are slowly being removed from the canopy of this site.

Change Relative to Shaw and Beadel (1998): Unknown. Wilding pine control has improved the quality of this site.

Threats/Modification/Vulnerability: Wallaby in the wider area are periodically controlled. Wilding pines and other exotic species are being slowly controlled over time. Alder on Puarenga Stream margins contain habitat for nesting little shags.

Risk Assessment: Pest plants: Risk to site - low; Timeframe - medium.

Pest animals: Risk to the site - medium; Timeframe - medium.

Significance Level: Regional (Appendix 8 - Table 1 - Criteria 3.1, 3.6; 3.9, 3.10, 3.11, 3.13; Table 2 - Factor R9, R17, R18).

Significance Justification: Secondary forest with some exotic species. A Regionally significant site which includes a little shag nesting colony and is contiguous with Te Puia geothermal area. This site also buffers Puarenga Stream from plantation forest and State Highway 5.

Field Work Required: No field work required.

Notes: A restoration plan for this area and the wider Te Puia area has been implemented by Te Puia. Ongoing weed control work at this site aims to remove exotic species from the canopy.

Southern Arikikapakapa Reserve and Whakarewarewa Thermal Springs Reserve (contiguous with the eastern and northern side of this site) were returned to the landowners under the Whakarewarewa and Roto-a-Tamaheke Vesting Act 2009. The Act gives formal protection to the natural values within these areas.

References: None