



Tumunui Bush

Site Number:	SNA553
Ecological District:	Atiamuri
Source of Information:	Shaw and Beadel (1998); Spring-Rice (Unpublished)
Digital Scale:	1:5,000
Data Source:	WRAPS 2007
Regional Council:	Waikato
1998 Site Number:	NHS 553
Current Tenure:	Tumunui Trust - Unprotected
Site Area:	579.5 ha
Altitude Range:	480-680 m
Bioclimatic Zone:	Lowland; Sub-montane
Grid Reference:	NZTM E1889183, N5758118

VEGETATION		LANDFORM	EXTENT
CODE	TYPE		
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tawa-rewarewa-mangeao forest, canopy height 15-20 m Kamaha-(rewarewa) forest, c.10-15 m tall Kanuka-whauwhaupaku-Spanish heath shrubland 	Hillslopes	Not mapped
		Hillslopes	Not mapped
		Steep bluffs	Not mapped

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

Fauna: Three species listed as threatened or at risk in Miskelly *et al.* (2008) have been recorded from this site (Spring-Rice Unpublished): New Zealand “bush” falcon (‘Threatened - Nationally Vulnerable’), North Island rifleman (‘At Risk - Declining’), and long-tailed cuckoo (‘At Risk - Naturally Uncommon’). Other species recorded by Spring-Rice (Unpublished) include paradise shelduck, tui, fantail, shining cuckoo, pied tit, whitehead, bellbird, kereru, and kingfisher.

Notes on Overall Condition: This site comprises an impressive forest-covered dome surrounded by pasture, which is clearly visible on the west side of the Rotorua-Taupo Highway (SH 5) from near the Waimangu Road turnoff. Although heavily logged during the 1950s it has recovered well, and now appears quite natural from a distance. Old logging roads are kept open by the owners, who regularly hunt here, and deer browsing also serves to keep tracks open. There are excellent fences all round, and no sign of cattle damage was seen (Spring-Rice Unpublished).

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

Threats/Modification/Vulnerability: Pigs, deer, wallabies, and possums are all present. It was well fenced in 1996 (Spring-Rice Unpublished).

Risk Assessment: Pest animals (pigs, deer, wallabies, possums): Risk to site - medium; Timeframe - medium.

Significance Level: Interim ranking: Regional (Appendix 5, Table 1 - Criteria 7, 9; Table 2 - Factors L, M).

Significance Justification: This site is of at least regional significance as it is relatively large and typical of Atiamuri Ecological District, and provides moderately important habitat for threatened and at risk bird species. Only *c.*7% cover of indigenous vegetation remains in Atiamuri Ecological District.

Fieldwork Required: No fieldwork required to assess that the site is significant, but fieldwork required to update biodiversity and management information. Fieldwork is required to confirm significance ranking.

Notes: The area is used extensively for hunting by the owners. Tumunui Bush rates highly amongst the recommended areas for protection on account of its large area. It has a reasonable botanical species diversity. It had the most extensive range of forest bird species encountered during the 1996 field survey (Spring-Rice Unpublished).

This site was identified as a Category 1 site in Spring-Rice (Unpublished).