

Bay of Plenty
Conservancy

Schedule of Sites of
Significant Conservation
Value.

WESTERN BAY OF
PLENTY

Volume 2 B (U14/110 - V15/9)



Bay of Plenty
Conservancy

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Schedule of Sites of Significant Conservation Value

WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY

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SCHEDULE OF SITES OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE

WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY

Site no: U14/110

Date of completion: 1.12.93

Category: A

Ecological District: TGA

Habitat Type: Estuarine and freshwater wetland

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WBOPDC Map: E6

Name: Waipapa Estuary

Area:

Protection Status: Unprotected except for esplanade reserve along the river.

Map Series: NZMS260

Grid Reference: 756 903

Aerial photo no: 170715

Date Flown:

Landform: Streambanks, flats and escarpment.

Habitat Description:

Wetland located in upper reaches of Waipapa Estuary, alongside Waipapa River, above railway bridge. Wetland has a wide variety of vegetation types dominated by oioi sedgelands (70% of area) with a mixed mosaic of searush sedgeland, mangrove shrubland, raupo reedland, manuka scrubland, marsh ribbonwood scrub, *Olearia solandri* scrub, flaxland, grey willow forest, toetoe grassland, *Baumea* sp. sedgeland, *Cyperus ustulatus* and *Isolepis cernua* sedgeland. Adventive plants are scattered throughout the wetland margins. They include gorse, bracken, woolly nightshade, blackberry, pampas and wilding pines. Steep faces on northern side have regenerating forest.

The banded rail and North Island fernbird are present at this site.

(Source: Owen, 1993a).

Vegetation also mapped and described in Beadel (1992a) and described in Beadel (1993).

CONSERVATION VALUES AND JUSTIFICATIONS:

Botanical: Identified as high botanical conservation value. This site contains a representative, relatively large area of high quality oioi sedgeland inland from the main harbour adjacent to a tidal stream. It was identified as a Category one area in Beadel (1992a). (Source: Beadel, 1993).

Wildlife: Assessed as having high wildlife habitat values for wildlife. (Owen, 1993a).

Other: Natural character and water and soil values.

THREATS AND REMARKS:

see Owen (1993a).

REFERENCES:

Beadel, S.M., 1992a: Tauranga Harbour Wetland vegetation. Report prepared for Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Whakatane. 82pp plus maps.

Beadel, S.M., 1993: Significant sites of indigenous vegetation of Bay of Plenty coastal zone. Bay of Plenty Regional Council.

Owen, K.L., 1993a: Tauranga Harbour Marshbird Habitat Survey, Vol 2, Technical Report Series No.17. Department of Conservation, Bay of Plenty Conservancy.

LANDOWNER VISITS:

1. P. Altham, 24 Pahoia Road. Legal Description: Lot 2 DPS 54678. Visited by V. Froude (DOC), B. Hawkins (WBOPDC) on 8.8.94.

Outcome of visit:

Site boundaries amended.

Agreements between WBOPDC and Landowners:

1. Altham: The site excludes the steep hill-faces on the Altham property except for the area of regenerating indigenous forest near the northern boundary of the property. (see map E6).

SCHEDULE OF SITES OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE

WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY

Site no: U14/111

Date of completion: 2.12.93

Category: A

Ecological District: TGA

Habitat Type: Estuarine wetland

Name: Apata Estuary

Area:

Protection Status: Unprotected

Map Series: NZMS260

Grid Reference: 745 912

Aerial photo no: 170731

Date Flown: 24.3.93

Landform:

Habitat Description:

A large, good quality mangrove stand with relatively narrow areas of saltmarsh along the margins (Oioi sedgeland, searush tussockland, local freshwater wetlands, Raupo reedland and willow forest. (Source: Beadel, 1992a).

Vegetation is mapped in Beadel (1992a) and described in Owen (1993a) and Beadel (1993).

The Australasian bittern, banded rail and NI fernbird are present in this site. (Owen, 1993a).

CONSERVATION VALUES AND JUSTIFICATIONS:

Botanical: Identified as high botanical conservation value for reason in above habitat description. (Beadel, 1993).

Wildlife: The larger part of the site being Apata estuary is assessed as having outstanding wildlife habitat quality for marshbirds and the rest of site is assessed as having moderate habitat quality for marshbirds. (See Owen, 1993a).

Other:

THREATS AND REMARKS:

See (Owen, 1993a).

REFERENCES:

Beadel, S.M., 1992a: Tauranga Harbour Wetland vegetation. Report prepared for Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Whakatane. 82pp plus maps.

Beadel, S.M., 1993: Significant sites of indigenous vegetation of Bay of Plenty coastal zone. Bay of Plenty Regional Council.

Owen, K.L., 1993a: Tauranga Harbour Marshbird Habitat Survey, Vol 2, Technical Report Series No.17. Department of Conservation, Bay of Plenty Conservancy.

SCHEDULE OF SITES OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE

WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY

Site no: U14/112

Date of completion: 1.12.93

Category: B

Ecological District: TGA

Habitat Type: Islet vegetation

Name: Opureora Islet

Area:

Protection Status: Unprotected

Map Series: NZMS260

Grid Reference: 826 938

Aerial photo no:

Date Flown:

Landform: Islet

Habitat Description:

Small unnamed islet near Opureora Settlement, Matakana Island. Islet vegetation dominated by searush sedgelands (75%) with oioi sedgelands and marsh ribbonwood scrub. On higher ground mixed associations of manuka scrub and *Olearia solandri* scrub can be found with localised *Stipa stipoides* grassland, gorse, wattle, red mapou, blackberry, *Carmichaelia arborea*, cabbage tree, *Coprosma robusta*, tree tobacco and pohutukawa vegetation.

The North Island banded rail is present at this site.

(Source: Owen, 1993a).

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CONSERVATION VALUES AND JUSTIFICATIONS:

Botanical: Identified as moderate botanical conservation value. There are other better quality examples of similar vegetation elsewhere in the Tauranga Harbour. (S.M. Beadel, pers comm).

Wildlife: Assessed as having moderate wildlife habitat quality for marshbirds (Owen, 1993a).

Other:

THREATS AND REMARKS:

REFERENCES:

Owen, K.L., 1993a: Tauranga Harbour Marshbird Habitat Survey, Vol 2, Technical Report Series No.17.
Department of Conservation, Bay of Plenty Conservancy.

SCHEDULE OF SITES OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE

WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY

Site no: U14/113

Date of completion: 1.12.93

Category: B

Ecological District: TGA

Habitat Type: Estuarine wetland

Name: Opureora Inlet

Area:

Protection Status: Unprotected

Map Series: NZMS260

Grid Reference: 820 935

Aerial photo no:

Date Flown:

Landform:

Habitat Description:

Small, narrow tidal inlet near Opureora settlement. Inlet has a narrow band of searush sedgelands around its margins with limited areas of oioi sedgelands and marsh ribbonwood shrub and occasional *Cyperus ustulatus*, manuka scrub, cabbage tree, grey willow forest and wattle. Tree tobacco, blackberry and pampas are found around wetland edge.

The NI Fernbird is found at this site.

(Source: Owen, 1993a).

Vegetation mapped in Beadel (1992a).

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CONSERVATION VALUES AND JUSTIFICATIONS:

Botanical: Identified as moderate botanical conservation value. There are better quality larger examples of similar vegetation elsewhere in the ecological district. (S.M. Beadel, per comm).

Wildlife: Assessed as having moderate wildlife habitat values for marshbirds. (Owen, 1993a).

Other:

THREATS AND REMARKS:

see (Owen, 1993a).

REFERENCES:

Beadel, S.M., 1992a: Tauranga Harbour Wetland vegetation. Report prepared for Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Whakatane. 82pp plus maps.

Owen, K.L., 1993a: Tauranga Harbour Marshbird Habitat Survey, Vol 2, Technical Report Series No.17. Department of Conservation, Bay of Plenty Conservancy.

SCHEDULE OF SITES OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE

WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY

Site no: U14/114

Date of completion: 1.12.93

Category: B

Ecological District: TGA

Habitat Type: Estuarine wetland

Name: Waiherehere road

Area:

Protection Status: Unprotected

Map Series: NZMS260

Grid Reference: 821 959

Aerial photo no: 170749

Date Flown: 4.2.93

Landform:

Habitat Description:

Narrow inlet, with estuarine vegetation, near Hunters Creek. A shallow band of *Schoenoplectus pungens* sedgelands with mixed searush and oioi sedgelands merging into a mixed association of marsh ribbonwood scrub, manuka scrub, cabbage tree, raupo reedland, tree fern and wilding pines. Further inland a freshwater wetland gully comprises dense grey willow forest with an understorey dominated by *Baumea* sp. sedgeland, Spanish heath scrub, *Coprosma robusta*, *Coprosma tenuicaulis*, blackberry, *Blechnum* "blackspot" and emergent cabbage trees.

The banded rail is present at this site.

(Source: Owen, 1993a).

Vegetation mapped in Beadel (1992a).

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CONSERVATION VALUES AND JUSTIFICATIONS:

Botanical: Not ranked.

Wildlife: Assessed as having moderate wildlife habitat quality for marshbirds. (Owen, 1993a).

Other:

THREATS AND REMARKS:

see (Owen, 1993a).

REFERENCES:

Beadel, S.M., 1992a: Tauranga Harbour Wetland vegetation. Report prepared for Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Whakatane. 82pp plus maps.

Owen, K.L., 1993a: Tauranga Harbour Marshbird Habitat Survey, Vol 2, Technical Report Series No.17. Department of Conservation, Bay of Plenty Conservancy.

SCHEDULE OF SITES OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE

WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY

Site no: U14/115

Date of completion: 1.12.93

Category: B

Ecological District: TGA

Habitat Type: sandspit and saltmarsh vegetation.

Name: Tahunanmau Spit

Area:

Protection Status: Unprotected

Map Series: NZMS260

Grid Reference: 803 948

Aerial photo no: 170729

Date Flown: 4.2.93

Landform:

Habitat Description:

Small tidal area of saltmarsh on the inland side of a narrow sandspit near Tahunamanu Island, Matakana Island. Saltmarsh comprises of searush and oioi sedgeland, marsh ribbonwood scrub and a herbfield dominated by *Triglochin striata* and *Cotula coronopifolia*. Sandspit has local areas of *Carex pumila* sedgeland, New Zealand iceplant, *Cotula coronopifolia*, *Stipa stipoides*, searush and gorse.

(Source: Owen, 1993a).

Vegetation mapped in Beadel (1992a).

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CONSERVATION VALUES AND JUSTIFICATIONS:

Botanical: Not ranked.

Wildlife: Assessed as having moderate wildlife habitat quality for marshbirds. (Owen, 1993a).

Other:

THREATS AND REMARKS:

see (Owen, 1993a).

REFERENCES:

Beadel, S.M., 1992a: Tauranga Harbour Wetland vegetation.
Report prepared for Bay of Plenty Regional Council,
Whakatane. 82pp plus maps.

Owen, K.L., 1993a: Tauranga Harbour Marshbird Habitat
Survey, Vol 2, Technical Report Series No.17.
Department of Conservation, Bay of Plenty Conservancy.

SCHEDULE OF SITES OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE

WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY

Site no: U14/116

Date of completion: 1.12.93

Category: A

Ecological District: TGA

Habitat Type: Estuarine wetland

Name: Blue Gum Bay 1

Area:

Protection Status: Unprotected

Map Series: NZMS260

Grid Reference: 816 977

Aerial photo no: 170754 & 170753

Date Flown: 4.2.93

Landform:

Habitat Description:

Extensive estuarine vegetation sequence. The seaward side has small areas of *Schoenoplectus pungens* sedgelands, mangrove scrub (0.2m - 0.5m high) merging into substantial areas of mixed sedgelands dominated by searush and oioi with scattered *Baumea juncea* sedgelands and marsh ribbonwood scrublands. These in turn give way to low manuka scrub, cabbage trees, oioi sedgeland, *Olearia solandri* scrub, marsh ribbonwood scrub and flaxland associations which merge into manuka forest with a mixed understorey of *Coprosma tenuicaulis*, *Baumea* sp., *Schoenus* sp. and *Gleichenia dicarpa* fernlands. Further inland there is a wide band of grey willow forest with an understorey dominated by manuka, hangehange, *Coprosma robusta*, *Coprosma propinqua*, *Coprosma tenuicaulis*, *Baumea* sp. and *Schoenus* sp.

The banded rail and NI fernbird are present at this site.

(Source: Owen, 1993a).

Vegetation mapped in Beadel (1992a) and described in Beadel (1993).

CONSERVATION VALUES AND JUSTIFICATIONS:

Botanical: Identified as exceptional botanical conservation value. An extensive wetland, much of which is relatively unmodified, comprising a representative example of the estuarine and freshwater vegetation of Tauranga Harbour (Beadel, 1992a). It was identified as a category one area in Beadel (1992a). (Source: Beadel, 1993).

Wildlife: Assessed as having outstanding wildlife habitat quality for marshbirds (Owen, 1993a).

Other:

THREATS AND REMARKS:

See (Owen, 1993a).

REFERENCES:

Beadel, S.M., 1992a: Tauranga Harbour Wetland vegetation. Report prepared for Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Whakatane. 82pp plus maps.

Beadel, S.M., 1993: Significant sites of indigenous vegetation of Bay of Plenty coastal zone. Bay of Plenty Regional Council.

Owen, K.L., 1993a: Tauranga Harbour Marshbird Habitat Survey, Vol 2, Technical Report Series No.17. Department of Conservation, Bay of Plenty Conservancy.

SCHEDULE OF SITES OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE

WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY

Site no: U14/117

Date of completion: 1.12.93

Category: B

Ecological District: TGA

Habitat Type:

Name: Tirohanga

Area:

Protection Status: Unprotected

Map Series: NZMS260

Grid Reference: 800 986

Aerial photo no:

Date Flown:

Landform:

Habitat Description:

Vegetated strip along the western side of Blue Gum Bay. Localised patches of *Schoenoplectus pungens* sedgelands with mangrove scrub and shrublands (northern end), mixed sedgelands of oioi, searush and *Baumea juncea* merging into a thin band of mixed marsh ribbonwood shrub, *Olearia solandri* scrub, flaxlands, raupo and *Baumea articulata* reedlands. Localised areas of manuka and Spanish heath scrub, grey willow forest and cabbage trees prevail along the upper shoreline.

The banded rail and NI fernbird are found at this site.

(Source: Owen: 1993a).

Vegetation is mapped in Beadel (1992a).

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