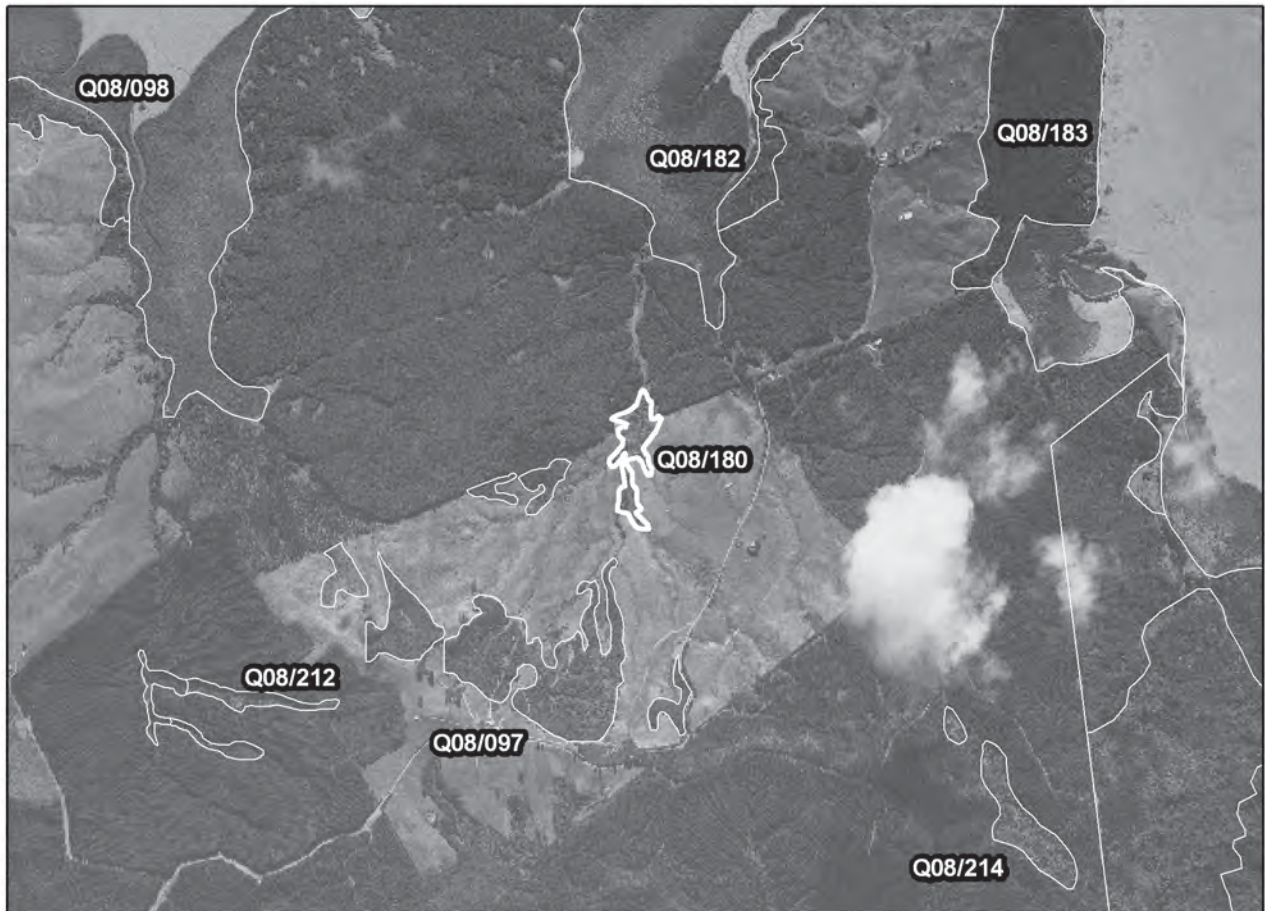


CHADWICK ROAD WETLAND

Survey no. Q08/180
Survey date Not surveyed
Grid reference Q08 226 532
Area 3.1 ha
Altitude 20-31 m asl

Ecological unit

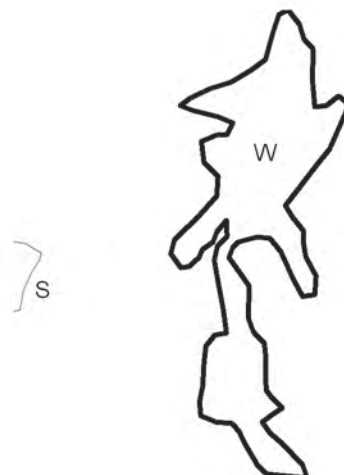
Not known



Q08/180 Chadwick Road Wetland

S = Shrubland
F = Forest
W = Wetland
E = Estuarine

0 250 500 1,000 Metres



Landform/geology

Hillside underlain by melange (undifferentiated Mangakahia & Motatau Complex lithologies), and valley wetland on Holocene alluvium.

Vegetation

This site was not visible from public roads and its vegetation type could not be interpreted from aerial photography (flown in 2002). The freshwater wetland on Chadwick Road was last surveyed in 1977 by the NZ Wildlife Service (SSBI Q08/H045). At this time it was a 'long, narrow, branching swamp, no open water' and contained 'cabbage tree/raupo-flax, border of totara-cabbage tree scrub', which was regarded as excellent habitat for spotless crane and Australasian bittern. 2002 aerial photography (flown in 2002) suggests that raupo is no longer present, and what remains may be either indigenous shrubland or gorse scrub. The wetland may have been drained. Another ground-based survey is required.

Fauna

Not surveyed. Spotless crane (Sparse) and Australasian bittern (Nationally Endangered) were recorded in 1977.

Significance

At present there is insufficient information about the nature of the current vegetation and the fauna that inhabit it to raise the significance of this site. If either of the above bird species were currently known to use the area this site would certainly be elevated to Level 1.

BEATSON ROAD FOREST REMNANT

Survey no.	Q08/181
Survey date	8 December 2005
Grid reference	Q08 222 580
Area	7.8 ha
Altitude	11-60 m asl

Ecological unit

(a) Totara-kahikatea forest on moderate hillslope (100%)

Landform/geology

Coastal hillslope underlain by melange (undifferentiated Mangakahia & Motatau Complex lithologies).

Vegetation

This site comprises an indigenous forest remnant on the southwestern side of Beatson Road, on the west coast of a small peninsula in the Arapaoa River (Q08/084). It is surrounded by grazed pasture. Livestock have access to the forest, and consequently there is a general lack of undergrowth. The forest comprises tall, young totara and kahikatea with frequent puriri, kanuka and tree privet. There are occasional ti kouka, nikau, kohekohe, mamangi, five finger, rewarewa, karaka and kowhai.

Fauna

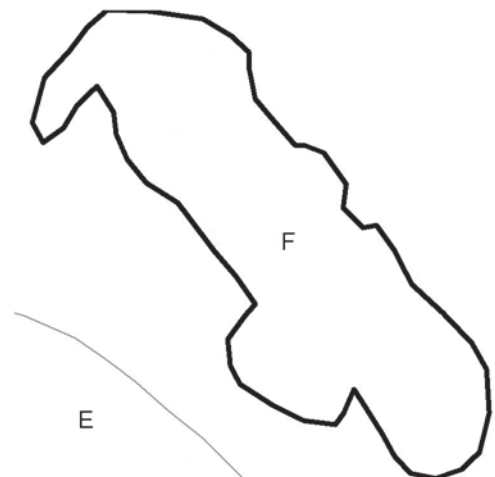
Grey warbler.



Q08/181 Beatson Road Forest Remnant

S = Shrubland
 F = Forest
 W = Wetland
 E = Estuarine

0 250 500 1,000 Metres



Significance

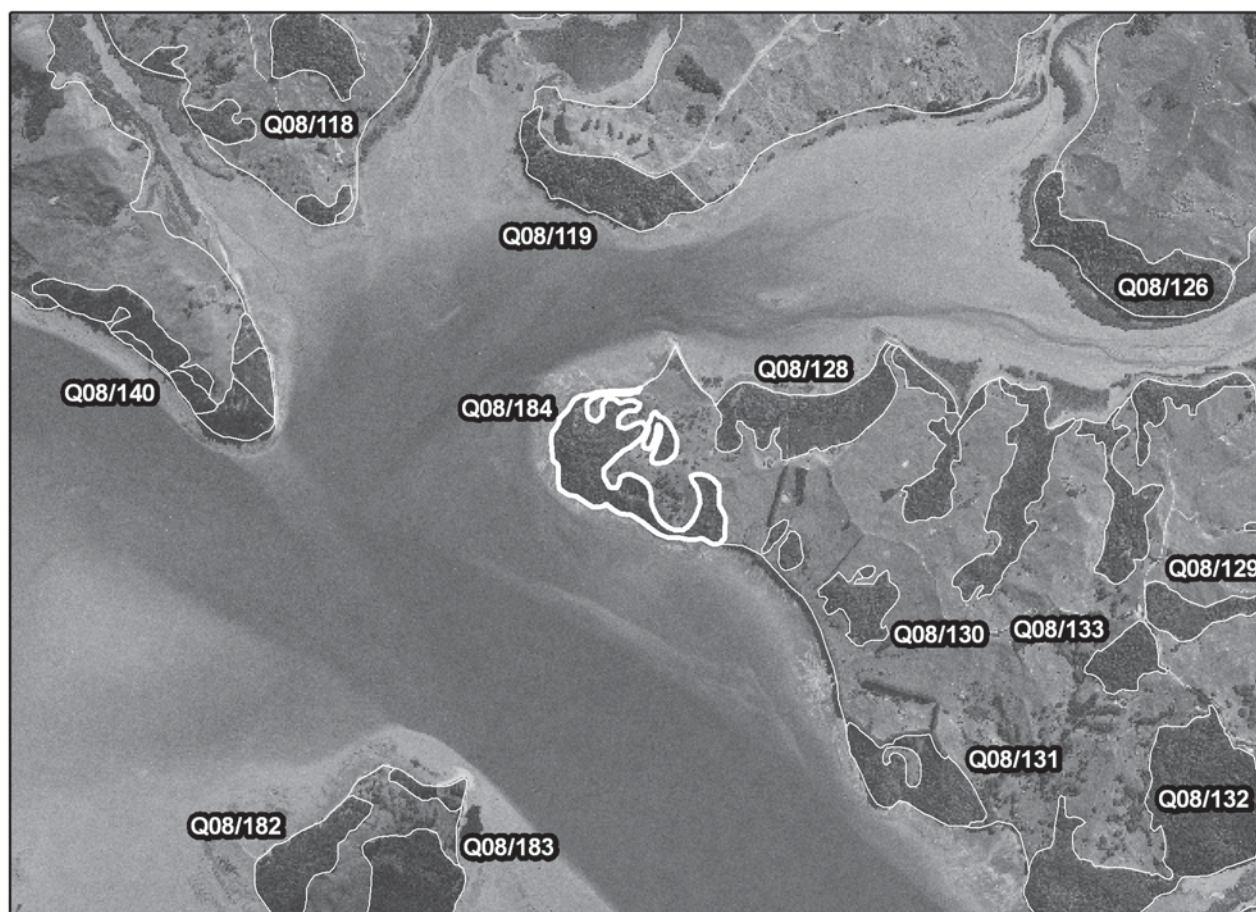
This site is not a good example of its ecological unit, which is better represented at other sites in Otamatea ED Northland. It suffers from strong edge effects, grazing, and weed infestation.

MASSEY ROAD POINT FOREST REMNANTS

Survey no. Q08/184
 Survey date 9 December 2005
 Grid reference Q08 247 567 (4 remnants)
 Area 8.7 ha
 Altitude 0–60 m asl

Ecological units

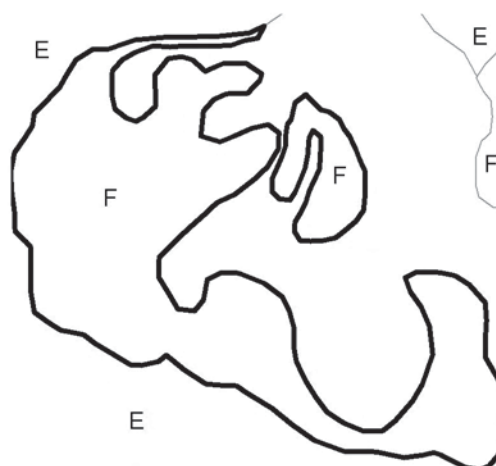
(a) Totara–puriri forest on steep coastal margin (60%)



Q08/184 Massey Road Point Forest Remnants

S = Shrubland
 F = Forest
 W = Wetland
 E = Estuarine

0 250 500 1,000 Metres



(b) Kanuka-totara forest on gentle coastal margin (40%)

Landform/geology

Coastal headland underlain by Cretaceous sandstone and mudstone (Mangakahia Complex).

Vegetation

This site comprises a stand of indigenous forest on the point forming the southern edge of Whakapirau Creek (which is opposite Page Point Forest and Shrubland (Q08/140) on the northern edge). Massey Road extends part way along the point. This site was surveyed from the water, though views were often obscured by several rows of radiata pine planted immediately adjacent to the coastline. These pines shield the indigenous forest from northwest winds blowing down the Arapaoa River (Q08/084). The forest remnants are intermingled with patches of pasture and scattered indigenous trees. The whole point, including the forest, appears to be grazed.

(a) The main remnant on the end of the point is dominated by totara and puriri. Kowhai, taraire and kanuka are frequent, and emergent kahikatea are scattered throughout.

(b) The outlying remnants and edges contain an impoverished kanuka-totara forest.

Fauna

Australasian harrier.

Significance

Neither of the ecological units present is a particularly good example of its type, and no threatened or significant species are known to occur here. The existing forest is threatened by degradation from grazing and trampling by livestock.

TAHUPO CREEK COASTAL FOREST REMNANTS

Survey no.	Q08/186
Survey date	9 December 2005
Grid reference	Q08 225 551 (2 remnants)
Area	4.4 ha
Altitude	0-26 m asl

Ecological unit

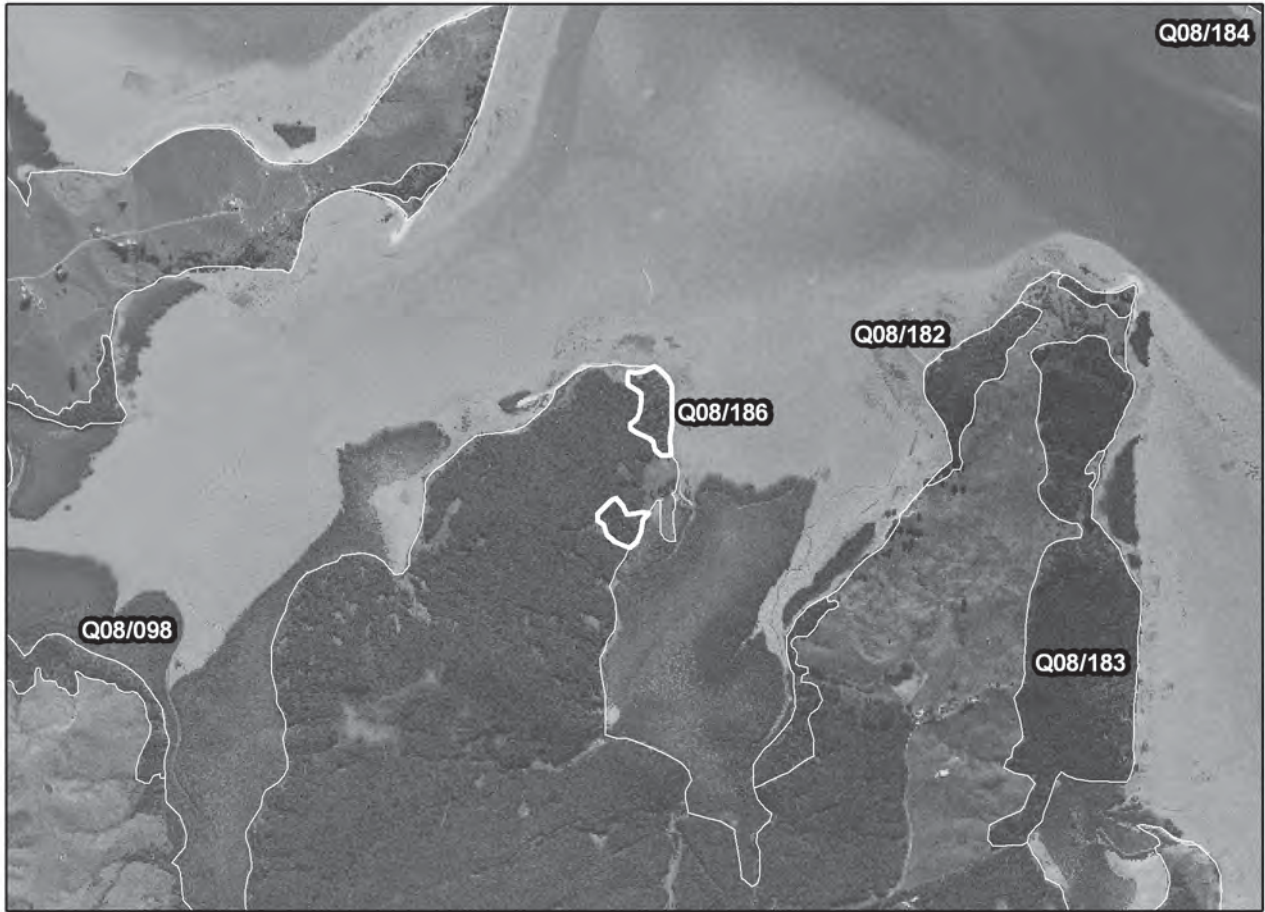
(a) Puriri-kanuka forest on gentle coastal margin (100%)

Landform/geology

Coastal hillsides underlain by melange (undifferentiated Mangakahia & Motatau Complex lithologies).

Vegetation

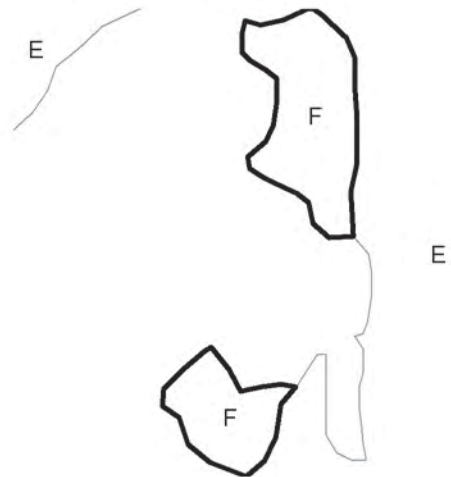
This site comprises two small, indigenous forest remnants on the banks of a tidal inlet named Tahupo Creek, which is a small indentation of the Arapaoa River (Q08/084) coastline. The remnants are surrounded by a tall Tasmanian blackwood plantation. The northern remnant lies opposite shallow mudflats, and the southern remnant lies next to mangrove shrubland and forest. Puriri is abundant and kanuka is common in the forest canopy. Several species occur



Q08/186 Tahupo Creek Coastal Forest Remnants

S = Shrubland
 F = Forest
 W = Wetland
 E = Estuarine

0 250 500 1,000 Metres



frequently, including kahikatea, kowhai, ti kouka and totara. Pukatea and matai are scattered throughout.

Fauna

White-faced heron, kingfisher, grey warbler.

Significance

This site contains small remnants dominated by common coastal trees and is not considered representative of its type. However, it provides habitat for indigenous birds, and may be important as part of their habitat network.

KARAKANUI ROAD FOREST REMNANTS

Survey no. Q08/187
Survey date 9 December 2005
Grid reference Q08 198 578 (3 remnants)
Area 10.7 ha
Altitude 0-40 m asl

Ecological units

- (a) Kahikatea-totara forest on gentle coastal margin (35%)
- (b) Kanuka-kowhai-puriri forest on gentle coastal margin (35%)



Q08/187 Karakanui Road Forest Remnants

S = Shrubland
F = Forest
W = Wetland
E = Estuarine

0 250 500 1,000 Metres



(c) Totara-puriri forest on gentle coastal margin (15%)

(d) Kanuka forest on gentle coastal margin (15%)

Landform/geology

Coastal hillside underlain by melange (undifferentiated Mangakahia & Motatau Complex lithologies).

Vegetation

This site comprises three remnants of indigenous forest on the coast below Karakanui Road. One is inside the Kirikiri Inlet next to open mudflats, and two are on a small mangrove-filled indentation of the Arapaoa River (Q08/084).

(a) Tall kahikatea are emergent over totara in the main remnant, which extends right to the coastline. Kowhai, karaka, ti kouka, puriri and hawthorn occur frequently, with occasional kohekohe.

(b) The easternmost remnant comprises kanuka-kowhai-puriri forest with frequent karaka and occasional emergent kauri and kahikatea.

(c) To the west of type (a) kahikatea-totara forest, there is a treeland extending along a narrow margin of the coast comprising puriri and totara, with frequent kowhai, kahikatea and hawthorn, and occasional ti kouka.

(d) Sparse kanuka forest is present in the smallest remnant.

Fauna

Kingfisher.

Significance

None of the ecological units present are good or extensive examples of their types. The natural character of this site is negatively impacted by the hawthorn infestation. However, this site is one of the only indigenous forest remnants left on the fringes of Kirikiri Inlet, and as habitat for indigenous flora and fauna and buffer to the estuary it merits inclusion as a Level 2 site.

MOHINUI FOREST REMNANT 2

Survey no.	Q08/189
Survey date	13 December 2005
Grid reference	Q08 345 510 (3 remnants)
Area	13.4 ha
Altitude	20-100 m asl

Ecological unit

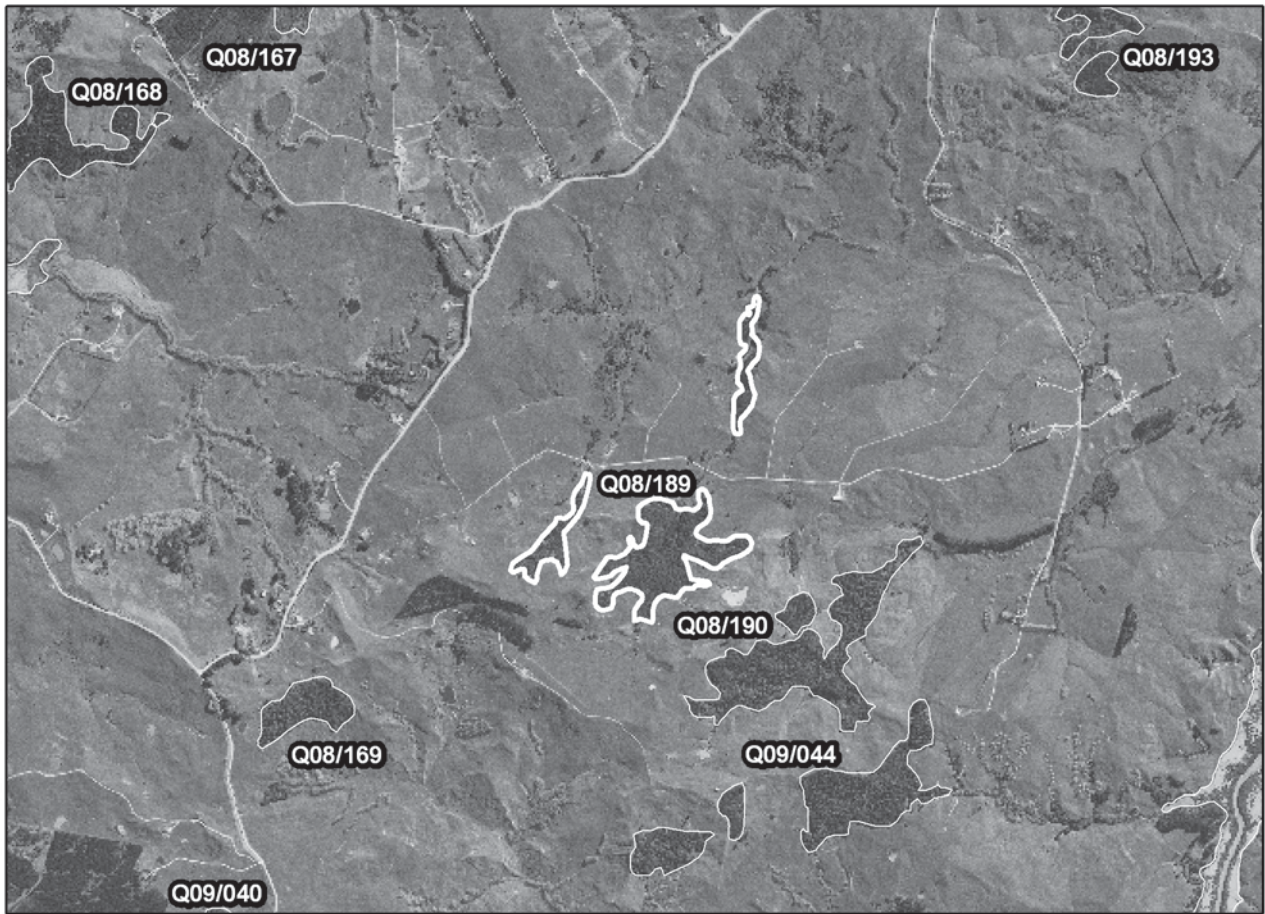
(a) Totara forest on moderate hillslope (100%)

Landform/geology

Hillslopes and gullies underlain by Cretaceous siliceous mudstone (Whangai Fmn, Mangakahia Complex) and melange (undifferentiated Mangakahia & Motatau Complex lithologies).

Vegetation

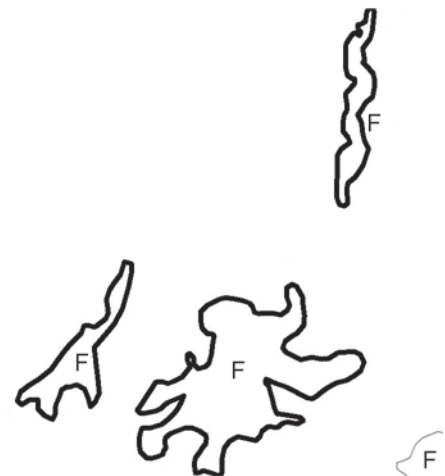
The Mohinui Peak (119 m asl) lies approximately in the middle of the Oneriri Peninsula, to the east of the road. This site comprises remnant indigenous vegetation in two of its northern valleys, which carry northeast-draining tributaries of the Kaira Creek. Totara is overwhelmingly abundant, and the only



Q08/189 Mohinui Forest Remnant 2

S = Shrubland
 F = Forest
 W = Wetland
 E = Estuarine

0 250 500 1,000 Metres



other tree which is present at greater than 5% canopy cover is kanuka. Occasional ti kouka, puriri, kahikatea and woolly nightshade are present, however more diversity may be present. The condition of the forest appears to be poor, it does not appear to have much vegetation in the understorey, and its shape and composition indicate a prolonged history of grazing in which only the hardiest species have been able to survive (i.e. totara and kanuka).

Fauna

Not surveyed.

Significance

This site provides some riparian protection for streams in the Kaira Creek catchment, however it does not warrant a higher significance level due to its poor condition. There are better examples of totara forest elsewhere in Otamatea ED Northland.

OTAIRI CREEK FOREST AND WETLAND

Survey no.	Q08/191
Survey date	13 December 2005
Grid reference	Q08 316 511 (4 remnants)
Area	3.8 ha (3.0 ha forest, 0.8 ha wetland)
Altitude	0–48 m asl

Ecological units

- (a) Kowhai-ti kouka forest on moderate hillslope (59%)
- (b) Raupo reedland in small depression (21%)
- (c) Totara-kowhai-karaka forest on gentle coastal margin (20%)

Landform/geology

Hillslope and gully underlain by Oligocene micritic limestone (Mahurangi Limestone, Motatau Complex), and valley flat on Holocene alluvium.

Vegetation

Otairi Creek is a small, convoluted inlet on the eastern side of the Otamatea River (Q08/062) which is filled with tall mangrove forest and saltmarsh rushes and sedges. This site comprises two wetlands at the very upper end of the inlet in the freshwater zone, and forest remnants on the coastal fringe next to the inlet.

- (a) The largest forest remnant comprises sparse kowhai-ti kouka forest with occasional puriri, karaka, titoki and woolly nightshade.
- (b) The wetlands are dominated by raupo, with occasional emergent ti kouka.
- (c) The smaller forest remnant has equal proportions of totara, kowhai and karaka with occasional titoki and ti kouka.

Fauna

Australasian harrier. A spotless crane and fernbird call tape was played in fine, calm weather but no response was elicited.

Significance

These remnants are very small and represent the last vestiges of what would once have been a continuous ecological sequence from forest to freshwater wetland to saltmarsh to mangrove. The current freshwater wetlands identified are probably on land reclaimed from tidal mudflats, whether through natural infilling and succession, or through human intervention (this is not clear). They may provide habitat for wetland birds such as rails and Australasian bittern. At present these remnants do not provide much of a buffer to the inlet due to their small size and degraded state.