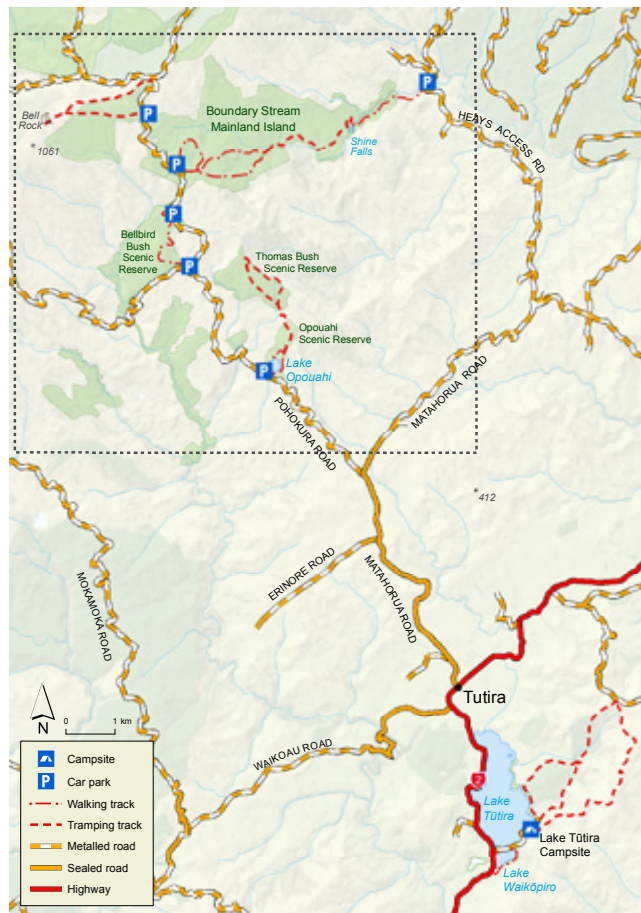


# Boundary Stream Mainland Island



## Getting there

Boundary Stream is a 1-hour drive north of Napier.  
From SH2 turn left just after Tūtira into Matahōrua Road, then left into Pohokura Road.



Poutiri Ao ō Tāne plans to see the return of native species that have been lost to the area over time – and to see these species flourish. It is a sister project of Cape to City.

Want to get involved?  
Go to [www.poutiri.co.nz](http://www.poutiri.co.nz).



## Further information:

### Ahuriri / Napier Office

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## Be prepared

- Weather conditions can change rapidly. Be prepared and carry wet weather and warm clothing.
- Do not disturb traps, poison stations and other equipment – actively supervise your children.
- Tracks to Shine Falls and Bell Rock cross private property. Please keep to marked tracks and use stiles.
- Camping is available at designated sites along the Mohaka River, accessible from Waitara Road, and at Lake Tūtira.
- Pohokura and Heays Access Road car parks have toilets.



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**DOC HOTline**  
**0800 362 468**  
Report any safety hazards  
or conservation emergencies  
For Fire and Search and Rescue Call 111

## Boundary Stream Mainland Island

Boundary Stream Mainland Island is the largest and most intact forest tract remaining in the Maungaharuru Ecological District and provides an unparalleled series of habitats for native wildlife. It is home to many rare and endangered species such as kiwi, kōkako and kākā, wētā and other invertebrates, and over 220 species of native plants.

This conservation reserve covers approximately 800 ha in the Maungaharuru Range in northern Hawke's Bay. It ranges in elevation from 300 m (lowland environment) to 950 m (montane) above sea level.

Boundary Stream is part of Poutiri Ao ō Tāne, a ground-breaking collaborative initiative to protect and return native species to northern Hawke's Bay. Poutiri Ao ō Tāne is located in the Maungaharuru-Tūtira catchment, with Boundary Stream Mainland Island at its heart. Find out more by visiting [www.poutiri.co.nz](http://www.poutiri.co.nz).

## What are mainland islands?

Mainland islands aim to protect and restore habitats on the mainland of New Zealand through intensive management of introduced pests. They are called 'mainland islands' because they are defined areas isolated by fencing, geographical features or, more commonly, intensive management of pests.

Management of mainland islands is challenging because, unlike islands surrounded by sea, mainland islands are subjected to continual reinvasion pressure from pests and predators and therefore require ongoing commitment.



Kererū/New Zealand wood pigeon. Photo: [www.jamesreardon.org](http://www.jamesreardon.org)

## Why do we need them?

Introduced pests have had a devastating impact on a range of unique habitat types on the New Zealand mainland. Many species are now extinct, some have been transferred to predator-free islands, while others are still trying to hold on in their modified environments.

The potential benefits of mainland islands are enormous for habitats and their unique ecosystems, for the survival of individual species (flora and fauna) and for New Zealanders to experience first-hand a unique New Zealand habitat.

## History

Maungaharuru is the most sacred and spiritual maunga (mountain) of the local hapū Ngāti Kurumōkihi. It was occupied by hapū and the ngahere (forest) was a source of food, rongoā (medicine) and resources. Boundary Stream is situated high on Maungaharuru.

Oral tradition recounts the migration of the waka Tākitimu southwards, and a tohunga/high priest of the waka, Tūpai, who cast the staff Papauma high into the air. Papauma took flight and landed on the maunga. Papauma embodied the mauri (life force) of birdlife. The maunga rumbled and roared on receiving this most sacred of taonga (treasure), and the maunga proliferated with birdlife. It is said that the mountain roared every morning as the many birds took flight and every evening as they returned. Hence the name, Maungaharuru - the mountain that rumbled and roared.

In 1882 Herbert Guthrie-Smith and Arthur Cunningham purchased the Tūtira Block, which included the Boundary Stream area. Logging and land development substantially reduced the forested area. Guthrie-Smith recorded the history of the area, which he published in the book *Tutira, the story of a New Zealand sheep station*.

In 1976 the Shine family gifted the region's highest waterfall and surrounding land, which was included in the Boundary Stream Scenic Reserve established in 1979. Land in the Bell Rock Track area was made available by the Heays family and included in the reserve in 1984. The Boundary Stream Reserve became a Mainland Island in 1996.



Hygrocybe species, commonly known as Waxcaps. Photo: Mike Lusk

## Cultural importance – Whakatauāki

Ngāti Kurumōkihi are the kaitiaki (guardians) of Boundary Stream and nearby reserves and have cultural, spiritual, traditional and historical associations with the associated land and water, flora and fauna.

*Ka tuwhera a Maungaharuru, ka kati a Tangitū  
Ka tuwhera a Tangitū, ka kati a Maungaharuru.*

*When the season of Maungaharuru opens,  
the season of Tangitū closes,  
When the season of Tangitū opens,  
the season of Maungaharuru closes.*

The whakatauāki (tribal proverb) above describes the takiwā (traditional area) and mahinga kai (places for gathering food) of the hapū. The ngahere (forest) on Maungaharuru was the source of kai (food) for the hapū in winter. Tangitū (the sea) was, and remains, the source of kai in the summer.

## A gift to the people of Aotearoa

In January 2017, as part of a Treaty settlement to redress grievances that arose 150 years ago, four Department of Conservation reserves in northern Hawke's Bay were returned to their original owners, hapū (including Ngāti Kurumōkihi) represented by the Maungaharuru-Tangitū Trust.

One week later, on 18 January 2017, in a generous move, the hapū gifted back the four reserves to the people of Aotearoa. Three of those sites, Boundary Stream Mainland Island, Bellbird Bush Scenic Reserve and the balance of Opouahi Scenic Reserve, are located on the Maungaharuru Range.



Above: Tuku whenua gifting ceremony at Tangoio Marae, January 2017. Photo: Lauren Buchholz, DOC

## Tracks



### Bell Rock Loop Track

3 hr, 5.3 km loop

From the Pohokura Road entrance, the Bell Rock Loop Track climbs through a forest of gnarled broadleaf, horopito/pepperwood, fuchsia and matai. The track emerges onto the range through a dense stand of mountain holly providing spectacular midsummer floral displays. Bell Rock is 40 minutes further along the left track. The right track returns to Pohokura Road via a 4WD track and provides panoramic views, including the Mohaka valley to Te Kooti's Lookout and further afield to Whirinaki Te Pua-a-Tāne Conservation Park. Return via Pohokura Road.



Korimako/bellbird. Photo: DOC



### Tūmanako Loop Track

1 hr, 1.4 km loop

The Tūmanako Loop Track is great for children. It offers a variety of forest types, birdlife and viewpoints with evidence of pioneer logging history and subsequent natural forest recovery of kāmahi, tawa, tawhairaunui/red beech and tawhairauriki/black beech forests. A variety of birds including pītoitōi/North Island robin, pōpokotea/whitehead, tītītipounamu/rifleman, kōkako and korimako/bellbird live here. Sometimes you can spot an inquisitive kākā and, if you're lucky, you may hear a kōkako. Keep your eyes open for wētā motels along the track. Rare plants such as neinei, yellow-flowered mistletoe and ngutu kākā/kākābeak may be seen. Kārearea/New Zealand falcon are frequently seen from vantage points along the track.



Kārearea/New Zealand falcon. Photo: Ian McHenry



### Kamahi Loop Track to Shine Falls and Heays Access Road

5 hr, 8.3 km one way

Starting at the Pohokura Road car park and taking in part of the Tūmanako and Kamahi loops, visitors experience a cross-section of the reserve's features - including an ancient matai about 800 years old and birds such as tītītipounamu/rifleman and the reintroduced pītoitōi/North Island robin. Middle Track, between the midpoint of Kamahi Loop and Shine Falls, may be steep and rough in some sections. From above Shine Falls, the track descends steeply through stands of rewarewa, crossing Boundary Stream to reach the bottom of the spectacular Shine Falls before continuing to Heays Access Road.



### Kamahi Loop Track

2 hr, 4.5 km loop

The Kamahi Loop Track passes through mature podocarp forest for the first 400 metres. An ancient matai grows near the junction of the loop track. Along the bluff tops, aerial displays from kererū, tūi and korimako/bellbird are often seen. This is a key site for visitors to observe vegetation recovery and the diverse vegetation of the reserve. The 'ghost forest', a monoculture of kāmahi trees, sprang up after fires swept through the area around 100 years ago. The kāmahi is one of the first trees to regenerate when land has been cleared. It provides a stable environment that allows other species, like podocarp and broadleaf, to mature. Once these species reach the canopy they will out-compete the kāmahi for light and the forest will revert to its original state.



### Heays Access Road to Shine Falls

1 hr 30 min, 4.4 km return

This popular track, suitable for children, wanders through farmland, past castle-like limestone formations and into mixed lowland forest before emerging at the base of the stunning Shine Falls - the highest waterfall in Hawke's Bay at 58 m. Kākābeak grow on the cliffs with the surrounding forest made up of kānuka, kawakawa, kōwhai and tītōki. Pack a picnic lunch and look for tuna/eels living in the stream at the base of the falls.



Above: Shine falls. Photo: L Buchholz



### Bellbird Bush Loop Track

15 min, 800 m loop

An easy short-loop walk through native bush in the Bellbird Bush Scenic Reserve, aptly named for the number of korimako/bellbirds in the area.

Right: Korimako/bellbird. Photo: Brendan Bombaci



### Bellbird Bush Track

1 hr, 1.9 km one way

This track from the corner of Pohokura and Toi Flat Roads is through forest dominated by red and black beech. Take a short detour halfway along the track for extensive views of the Maungaharuru Range. Return on the same track or exit further up onto Pohokura Road and walk back along the road.



### Opouahi Walkway

40 min, 1.4 km loop

Lake Opouahi Scenic Reserve is located on Pohokura Road between Tūtira and Boundary Stream.

The Opouahi Pan Pac Kiwi Crèche opened in 2008. Newly hatched kiwi chicks are brought from the wild to stay in the fenced pest-free environment of the reserve until they reach 900 gm, the weight at which it is considered they can protect themselves from predators in their natural environment. Behind the 3.3 km predator-proof fence lies an idyllic lake surrounded by bush. Picnic under the shelter, admire the carvings on the whare waka (canoe shelter), walk around the lake or spend some time swimming, fishing or kayaking.



### Thomas Bush Track

4 hr, 5.4 km one way /loop

The track turns off from a junction half way round the Opouahi Walkway, at the far end of the lake. It heads uphill, crossing farmland before entering Thomas Bush and continues climbing up the top before looping around and dropping down, rejoining the track before you leave Thomas Bush. Continue back down through the farmland to the junction where you started. From there, return via the Opouahi Walkway.



It is one way however you return to the starting point. The time given includes the Opouahi Walkway sections.

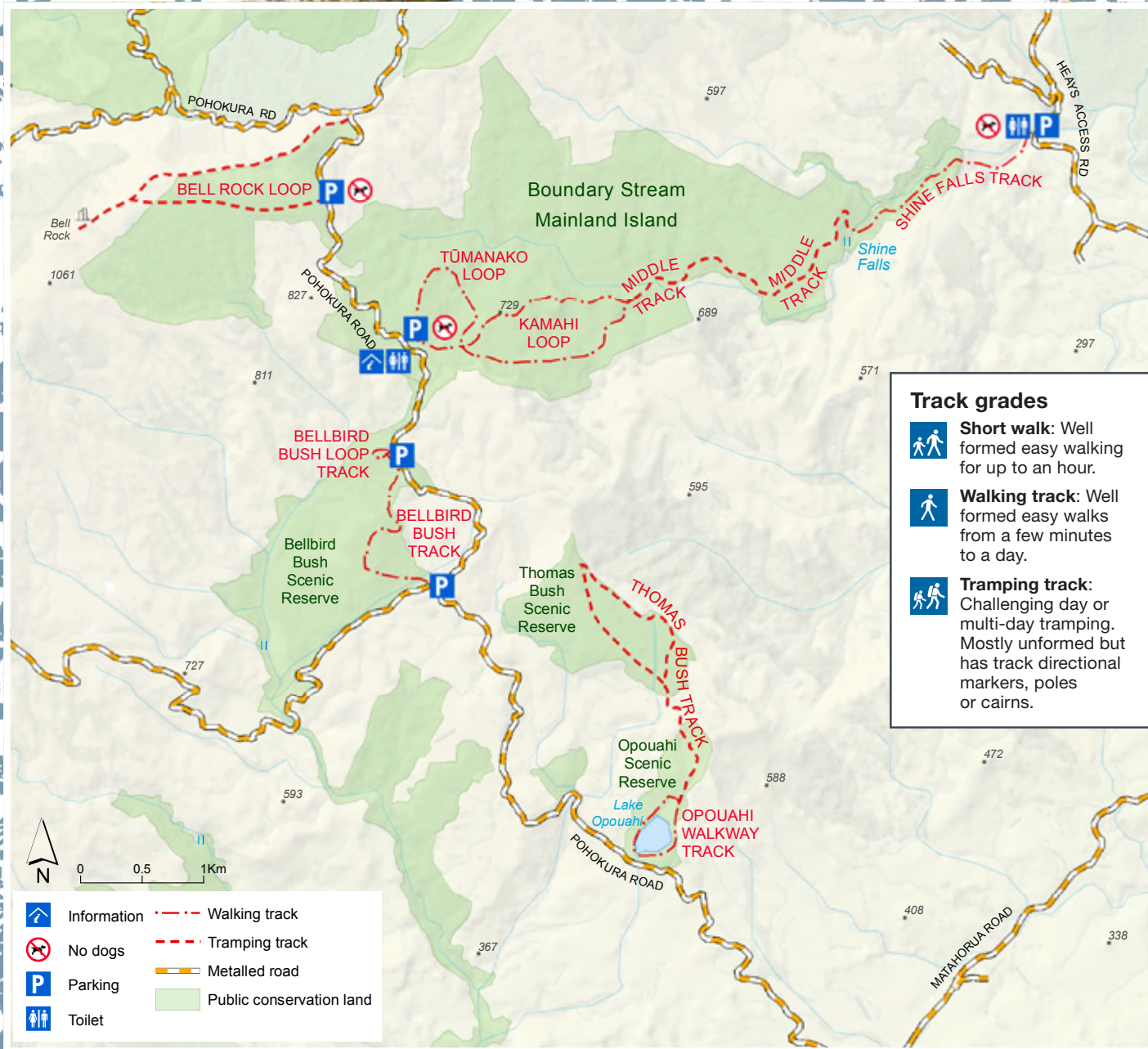
Left: Lake Opouahi. Photo: Hagen Klaile



Left: Tawhairaunui/red beech foliage.

Right: Pitoitoi/North Island robin.  
Photo: Denise Fastier, DOC

Far right: Powelliphanta snail.  
Photo: Kath Walker, DOC



## Ngāi kīrehe me ngāi tipu Fauna and flora

Years of intensive management - with the help of volunteers - has resulted in a huge increase in volume of both the dawn and dusk chorus.

Common bird species include tūi, korimako/bellbird, tītītipounamu/rifleman, miromiro/tomtit, tiwaiwaka/fantail, pōpokotea/whitehead, tauhou/silver-eye, riroriro/grey warbler, kererū/wood pigeon and ruru/morepork. Koekoeā/long-tailed cuckoo and pīpīwharau/shining cuckoo are present in the summer months. Other birds include pītoitoi/North Island robin, kōkako and, occasionally, the threatened North Island kākā and kārearea/New Zealand falcon.

The large New Zealand land snail *Powelliphanta traversii* "Maungaharuru" is found only in a few sites along the Maungaharuru Range. Small numbers of pekapeka/long-tailed bat and mokomoko/lizard have been seen along with a diverse range of ngāngara/insects.

The combination of altitude, rainfall, climate and physical features contribute to the remarkable variety of plant life. There are more than 200 species of native plants in the reserve and several of these are threatened either locally and/or nationally, such as ngutu kākā/kākābeak, pirita/yellow-flowered mistletoe and neinei. On the crest of the range, the reserve is dominated by mountain holly forest, while areas of maire, tawa, whekī ponga/common tree fern, ponga/silver fern, mamaku/black tree fern and kahikatea, tōtara and mataī predominate within the wetter regions. Spring reveals an abundance of kōwhai as the cliff faces are adorned with their yellow flowers.

### Pest control

Introduced mammals (deer, pigs, goats, possums, rats, cats, stoats, ferrets, weasels and hedgehogs) are having a devastating effect on our native forests and wildlife. Intensive efforts to reduce their impacts are continuing in the area.

Don't touch any traps you may see.