

NORTH-EAST COAST REPORTING AREA

Includes Devonport-Takapuna and Hibiscus and Bays local boards

STATE OF AUCKLAND TERRESTRIAL REPORT CARD

JULY 2014

AREA
GRADE

D

QUICK FACTS

THE REPORTING AREA IS APPROXIMATELY

13,500
HECTARES IN SIZE

LAKE PUPUKE
IS ONE OF THE OLDEST
VOLCANOES IN AUCKLAND,

150,000 YEARS

OVERALL GRADE



LAND COVER



NATIVE PLANTS



BIRDS



PESTS



WEEDS



WHAT MAKES UP THIS GRADE?

The overall grade is made up of five indicators:

Land cover: Based on different ecosystems mapped in NZ Land Cover Database 3 (2008).

Native plants: Average of four sub-indicators which reflect the diversity and biomass of native plants, and the regeneration of native saplings and seedlings.

Birds: Average of three sub-indicators which reflect the average diversity and conspicuousness of native birds, and the total number of bird species found within the reporting area.

Weeds: Average of three sub-indicators which reflect the abundance and relative dominance of weedy and exotic trees, saplings and seedlings.

Pests: Average of four sub-indicators which indicate the number of pest-free sites, and presence of rats, mice and possums in the landscape.

Note: Includes forest data only. From 2015 wetland data will also be reported.

MONITORING SITES – NORTH-EAST COAST REPORTING AREA



CURRENT ECOLOGICAL CONTEXT

The north-east coast reporting area generally contains east-facing rolling coastal hills, fringed along the coast by a string of sandy beaches, islands and numerous estuaries and inlets.

The area includes two high-density urban concentrations centred on Albany/East Coast Bays/Takapuna and Orewa/Whangaparaoa Peninsula. These urban zones are divided by around 3,500 hectares of pastoral farms, plantation forest and lifestyle blocks around Okura and Stillwater.

The reporting area still retains a relatively high cover of native forest and shrubland for an urban area (approx 15%).

These are mostly present as patches within the rural landscape, although there are significant forest reserves in some urban settings. A number of important ecological features are present, including many ecologically important original native forest and wetland habitats.

Shakespear Regional Park and Tiritiri Matangi Island Scientific Reserve also lie within the boundaries of this reporting area. Tiritiri Matangi is free of pest mammals, while mice are the sole remaining pest mammal at Shakespear.

KEY BIODIVERSITY SITE

TIRITIRI MATANGI ISLAND

Tiritiri Matangi (or Tiri) is located just 4km from the end of the Whangaparaoa Peninsula. Originally cleared for farming, between 1984 and 1994 the farm animals were removed and the island planted up with native trees by volunteers. This project was organised by DOC, Supporters of Tiritiri Matangi (a volunteer group formed in 1988), and the University of Auckland. Today, Tiri is an open wildlife sanctuary, and is internationally famous as one of the World's most important and exciting examples of a successful community-conservation project.

In conjunction with this planting programme, all mammalian predators were eradicated and a number of endangered bird and reptilian species have been successfully introduced, including the flightless takahe (one of the world's rarest bird species), kokako, hihi, North Island saddleback, and tuatara. The island provides habitat for many other native animals, such as common gecko, moko skink, and banded kokopu. As well as being an important sanctuary for wildlife, Tiri also acts as a source of dispersal for birds to pest-free sites on the mainland (especially Tawharanui and Shakespear sanctuaries) and other pest-free islands in the Hauraki Gulf.



Tiritiri Matangi Island

FIND OUT MORE

This report card is part of a series prepared by the Auckland Council's Research, Investigations and Monitoring Unit, which undertakes monitoring and research to provide information and evidence to inform the council's activities and reporting. Auckland's environment must be healthy and resilient in order

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