

# RODNEY REPORTING AREA

Rodney Local Board

## STATE OF AUCKLAND TERRESTRIAL REPORT CARD

2018



### QUICK FACTS

THE REPORTING AREA  
IS APPROXIMATELY

**235,500**  
HECTARES IN SIZE

TAMAHUNGA, CLOSE TO  
MATAKANA, IS AN EASILY  
ACCESSIBLE LOCATION WITH  
A FANTASTIC EXAMPLE OF  
**NORTHERN RĀTĀ,  
TARAIRE, TAWA,  
PODOCARP FOREST**  
TO WALK THROUGH.

#### FOREST - LANDCOVER

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | D | C | B | A |
|---|---|---|---|---|

#### FOREST - NATIVE PLANTS

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | D | C | B | A |
|---|---|---|---|---|

#### FOREST - NATIVE BIRDS

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | D | C | B | A |
|---|---|---|---|---|

#### FOREST - PEST ANIMALS

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | D | C | B | A |
|---|---|---|---|---|

#### FOREST - WEEDS

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | D | C | B | A |
|---|---|---|---|---|

#### WETLANDS - CONDITION

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | D | C | B | A |
|---|---|---|---|---|

#### WETLANDS - NATIVE PLANTS

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | D | C | B | A |
|---|---|---|---|---|

#### WETLANDS - NATIVE BIRDS

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | D | C | B | A |
|---|---|---|---|---|

#### WETLANDS - PEST ANIMALS

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | D | C | B | A |
|---|---|---|---|---|

#### WETLANDS - WEEDS

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | D | C | B | A |
|---|---|---|---|---|

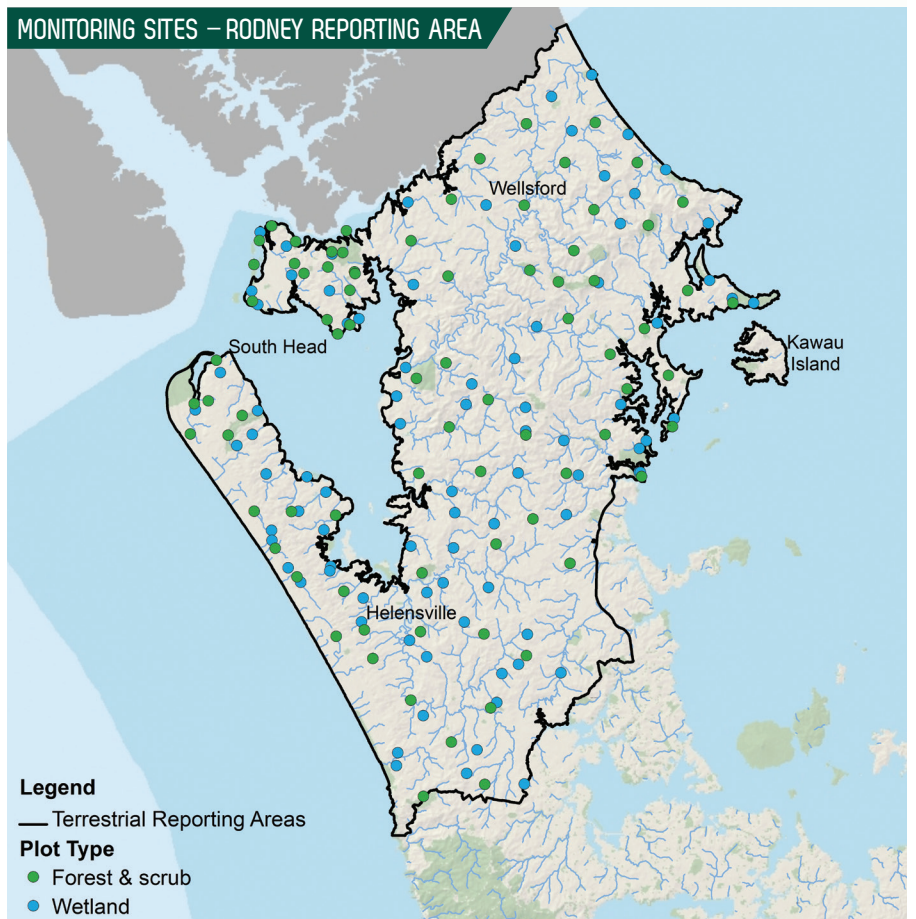
### WHAT MAKES UP THIS GRADE?

Indicator grades were calculated using data collected from forest and wetland terrestrial biodiversity monitoring plots. As the full set of remeasures were only available for the wetland indicators, only the wetland grades have been updated and thus the forest grades are the same as the last 2016 report card.

### THE ECOLOGY BUSH TRAIL IN TĀWHARANUI OPEN SANCTUARY

IS ONE OF THE BEST PLACES IN AUCKLAND  
TO SEE AND HEAR NATIVE FOREST AND WETLAND BIRDS.

#### MONITORING SITES – RODNEY REPORTING AREA



## CURRENT ECOLOGICAL CONTEXT

The Rodney reporting area includes the entire area north of Auckland city centre and the Waitākere Ranges. It has a long coastline, including the Kaipara Harbour, but also includes large areas of inland hill country. The area is predominantly rural (approx 60 per cent), and contains the greatest amount of plantation forestry in Auckland, covering around 38,500 hectares.

While there is little urban development, most of the native forest has been lost. The remaining native vegetation is fragmented, although there are sizeable areas of logged native forest at Moirs Hill, Dome Valley, Omaha, Mount Auckland, Pourore and Makarau, and extensive areas of native scrub on the South Head of Kaipara Harbour. There is very little original mature native forest, particularly

in more lowland and fertile sites. Freshwater wetlands, in particular, have been seriously depleted with only small and scattered wetlands comprising of less than one per cent of their original extent. The most notable wetlands are the dune lakes and associated vegetation near Tomarata.

Duneland vegetation is an ecosystem of national importance for biodiversity conservation, and important areas of duneland vegetation are present at Mangawhai, Pakiri and Kaipara South Head Peninsula. Rodney also contains a large amount (approx 46 per cent) of Auckland's estuarine habitat. Most of these estuarine habitats occur in the Kaipara Harbour and are relatively undisturbed compared with the terrestrial wetlands.

### HIGHLIGHTS

Ātiu Creek Farm was gifted to Auckland Regional Council by Jackie and Pierre Chatelanat who wanted to ensure that all New Zealanders could enjoy access to the Kaipara Harbour, and that the cultural and heritage values of the area would be protected. Today, Ātiu Creek Regional Park protects 850 hectares of rolling to steep hill-country which sits behind more than 10 km of highly indented and varied coastline along the Ōruawharo arm of the Kaipara Harbour. This diversity of landforms supports a high diversity of pasture, plantation forestry, and indigenous scrub, forest, wetland and coastal ecosystems.

At least ten different regional terrestrial ecosystem types lie within the park, or just adjacent to it along the Kaipara Harbour coastline. These include kānuka forest, mānuka-kānuka scrub, broadleaf scrub and forest, kauri-podocarp forest, pōhutukawa-puriri forest, pōhutukawa cliff forest, mānuka-tangle fern fernland, raupō reedland, mangrove scrub and sea rush rushland. At least half of these indigenous ecosystem types – the tall forest and freshwater wetland ecosystems – are endangered, as they are lowland ecosystem types that have been mostly cleared and drained to provide farmland.

Auckland Council, together with partners such as Conservation Volunteers New Zealand, Foundation North and the local community, have undertaken extensive tree planting and pest control aimed at protecting and enhancing the biodiversity and landscape values of the park. Restoration planting over an additional 200 hectares of farmland is planned or underway, along with pest trapping to protect native birds, reptiles and invertebrates.



### FIND OUT MORE

This report card is part of a series prepared by the Auckland Council's Research and Evaluation Unit, which undertakes monitoring and research to provide information and evidence to inform the council's activities and reporting. More report cards can be found at: [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/environment](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/environment). The report card series includes reporting on freshwater, terrestrial, marine, air, soil, capacity for growth, demographics and quality of life.

For more information: e-mail [rimu@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:rimu@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) or call us on 09 301 0101.

### GET INVOLVED

Auckland Council provides more than 20 environmental programmes across the region that you can get involved in. To find out more on how you can help visit: [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)