

RAPID ASSESSMENT FORM FOR ECOLOGICAL CONDITION AND TREND

Location (name, details): BALLS CLEARING SCENIC RESERVE	Grid reference: V20/122090 Area (ha): 135 Ecological District: Maungaharuru																																																																																																																			
Protective status/designation: Scenic Reserve	Managing agency: DOC																																																																																																																			
Observer(s): Geoff Walls and Finn Scheele Route taken: Loop track Photos taken: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Date: 12/12/98 Time spent: 1 hour																																																																																																																			
Significant fauna site: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Significant flora site: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Landform: Gentle natural basin Altitude, Aspect: 600-700m asl; SE aspect Soil/rock type: Deep sediments and pumice overlying limestone and greywacke gravels Drainage: Incised streams Erosion: Very little Other notes:																																																																																																																				
ECOSYSTEM/HABITAT <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 60%;"></th> <th style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">Primary</th> <th style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">Secondary</th> <th style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">% area</th> <th style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">Notes</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Beech forest</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td style="text-align: center;">10</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Broadleaved forest</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td style="text-align: center;">20</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Podocarp forest</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td style="text-align: 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VEGETATION					
Canopy cover (%): <input type="checkbox"/> 0-5 <input type="checkbox"/> 5-25 <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 75-100					
Canopy composition (underline dominant species): Kahikatea, Matai , Rimu, Miro, Fivefinger, Mahoe, Red beech					
Vegetation condition (health):	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Canopy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Damaged by wind
Subcanopy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Understorey/Undergrowth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ground cover	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<u>Notes:</u>					
Vegetation trend:	<u>Improving</u>	<u>Stable</u>	<u>Deteriorating</u>	<u>Don't know</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Canopy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trees falling thru wind/age
Subcanopy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Understorey/Undergrowth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ground cover	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<u>Notes:</u> Excellent possum, ungulate and stock control for years					
Regeneration:	<u>None</u>	<u>A little</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Much</u>	<u>Main species/Comments</u>
Canopy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Subcanopy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Understorey/Undergrowth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Ground cover	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Many ferns and seedlings
Epicormic shoots	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<u>Notes:</u> Broadleaved trees apparently shaping to gain ascendancy over podocarps					
Special plants (rare, threatened, local, distribution limits/anomalies, etc.):					
<u>Species</u>	<u>No. (estimate)</u>	<u>Condition (as above)</u>	<u>Trend (as above)</u>	<u>Main threats/Comments</u>	
<i>Tupeia antarctica</i>	30	Fair	Improving	Possums (now in low numbers)	
<i>Dactylanthus taylorii</i>	?	?	?	Possums (now in low numbers)	
<u>Notes:</u>					
Threats, Impacts and Management urgency:					
	<u>Minor</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>Urgent</u>	<u>Not urgent</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Deer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Goat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pig	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Possum	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Need to keep on top of
Rabbit, Hare	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sheep	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Need fence maintenance
Cattle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Need fence maintenance
Rat, Mouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Keep bait stations running
Vine weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Shrub, Tree weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Herb/Grass weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Human visitor impacts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Survey/Monitoring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dactylanthus
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<u>Notes:</u>					

RAPID ASSESSMENT FORM FOR ECOLOGICAL CONDITION AND TREND

FAUNA					
Overall fauna:					
	<u>Rel. abundance</u> ¹	<u>Condition</u> ²	<u>Trend</u> ³	<u>Main threats/Comments</u>	
Native birds	Many	Good	Stable	Predators, competitors	
Exotic birds	Many	Good	Stable		
Bats	Moderate	?	?		
Native reptiles	?	?	?		
Native frogs					
Exotic frogs					
Native fish	?	?	?		
Exotic fish					
Native land inverts	Mod	?	?	Rodents	
Exotic land inverts					
Native aquatic inverts	?	?	?		
Exotic aquatic inverts					
Other (specify)					
<u>Notes:</u>					
Special fauna (rare, threatened, local, distribution limits/anomalies, etc.):					
<u>Species</u>	<u>No. (estimate)</u>	<u>Condition (as above)</u>	<u>Trend (as above)</u>	<u>Main threats/Comments</u>	
Long-tailed bat	100+	?	?		
Kereru	20	Good	Stable		
Tui, Bellbird	50+	Good	Stable		
NI Robin	2	Poor	?	Rodents, mustelids	
<u>Notes:</u>					
Management needs:					
	<u>Minor</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>Urgent</u>	<u>Not urgent</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Deer control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Goat control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pig control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Possum control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Major competitors/predators
Rabbit, Hare control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Mustelid, Cat control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Needs addressing
Rat, Mouse control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bait stations may be controlling
Weed control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Fencing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Needs checking/maintenance
Human visitor management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Survey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bats, reptiles, stream life
Monitoring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bats, Bird counts
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<u>Notes:</u>					

¹ None; Few; Moderate; Many

² Good (healthy, thriving); Fair (okay); Poor (depleted, struggling); Don't know

³ Improving; Stable; Declining; Don't know (?)

RAPID ASSESSMENT FORM FOR ECOLOGICAL CONDITION AND TREND

SPECIFIC CONDITION AND TREND INDICATORS FOR SITE/AREA
 [Examples: highly palatable plants, good food plants for birds, rare species, seedlings, epicormic shoots, possum sign, tracking, bark stripping, sensitive fauna, rampant weeds, visitor numbers, water quality, erosion, vegetation structure, bird population.....]

<u>Indicator</u>	<u>Condition</u> ¹	<u>Trend</u> ²	<u>Monitoring technique</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Tree fuchsia	Good	Improving	Observation	
Fivefinger	Good	Improving	Observation	
Seedlings (pate, mahoe, kanono)	Good	Improving	Observation	
Hen-&-chickens fern	Good	Improving	Observation	
<i>Tupeia antarctica</i>	Fair	Improving	Observation	
Big podocarps	Fair	Deteriorating	Observation	Could use veg. plots
Tui, Bellbird & Kereru populations	Good	Stable	Bird counts	Need to continue counts
NI Robin	Poor	?	Bird counts, tracking	Need for specific focus
Long-tailed bat	?	?	Tracking/Detectors	Every 5 years or so

MANAGEMENT HISTORY, CURRENT REGIME AND FUTURE NEEDS

<u>Control Programme</u>	<u>>10 yrs ago Effectiveness</u>	<u>3-10 yrs ago Effectiveness</u>	<u>Last 3 years Effectiveness</u>	<u>Current Effectiveness</u>	<u>Future Needs</u>		
	(o * ** ***)	(o * ** ***)	(o * ** ***)	(o * ** ***)	Scale up	Status quo	Scale down
Ungulate	**	***	***	***		✓	
Pig							
Possum	*	***	***	***		✓	
Mustelid/Cat	o	o	o	o	✓		
Rodent	o	o	o	o	✓		
Weed	***	***	***	***			✓
Fencing	***	***	***	***			✓
Visitor impact	***	***	***	***			✓
Other (specify)							

Notes:

PRIORITY FOR MANAGEMENT

<u>Management Need</u>	<u>Priority</u>			<u>Urgency</u>			<u>When/Frequency</u> ³
	<u>Low</u>	<u>Mod</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Mod</u>	<u>High</u>	
Baseline survey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Asap
Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Seasonally, Annually, 5y
Animal pest control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ongoing
Weed control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As required
Visitor management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

¹ Good (healthy, thriving); Fair (okay); Poor (depleted, struggling); Don't know (?)

² Improving; Stable; Declining/Deteriorating; Don't know (?)

³ Monthly, Seasonally, Annually, 2-yearly, 5-yearly, 10-yearly, Ongoing, etc.