

<i>Crocsmia ×crocsmiiflora</i>	montbretia
<i>Cyperus congestus</i> [†]	purple umbrella sedge
<i>Cyperus eragrostis</i> [†]	umbrella sedge
<i>Cyperus involucratus</i> [†]	
<i>Cyperus rotundus</i> [†]	nut grass
<i>Ehrharta erecta</i> [†]	veld grass
<i>Gladiolus undulatus</i> [†]	wild gladiolus
<i>Hedychium gardnerianum</i>	kahili ginger
<i>Juncus effusus</i> [†]	soft rush
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> [†]	Virginia creeper
<i>Pennisetum clandestinum</i>	kikuyu grass
<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	phoenix palm
<i>Pseudosasa japonica</i>	bamboo
<i>Setaria palmifolia</i>	palm grass
<i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i>	wandering Jew
<i>Zantedeschia aethiopica</i>	arum lily
<i>Watsonia bulbillifera</i> [†]	bulbil watsonia

Vegetation of Tank sites (from North Shore Forest and Bird)

Tank site 1: pampas, elaeagnus

Tank site 2: raupo, elaeagnus, willow, gums

Tank site 3: willow, raupo

Tank site 4: pampas, elaeagnus, phoenix, climbing asparagus

Tank site 5: eucalyptus, pampas, phoenix, raupo, grass

Tank site 6: mamaku, cabbage trees

Tank site 7: pampas, gorse, wattle, pohutukawa, kanuka, dead pine

Tank site 8: privet

Tank site 9: pampas, mamaku

Goldie Bush Scenic Reserve, Waitakere Ranges, 21 February 2009

Sandra Jones

Participants: Steve Benham (leader), Jan Butcher, Lisa Clapperton, Colleen Crampton, Donna D'Costa, Simon Grant, Peter Hutton, Sandra Jones (recorder), Elaine Marshall, Gretta McLeay, Barrie McLeay, Juliet Richmond, Shirley Tomlinson, Alison Wesley, Mike Wilcox, Maureen Young.

Although it is obvious enough when you get there, trying to describe the track system through Goldie Bush can be a bit of a challenge. There is a loop track which follows three tracks with different names: Goldie Bush Walkway, Mokoroa Stream Track, and Mokoroa Falls Track. To complicate things further, only a section of the Goldie Bush Walkway forms part of the loop track. The other section of the Walkway passes through Motutara Scenic Reserve before it exits at Muriwai on Constable Road. For the record, Goldie Bush is often incorrectly called "Goldie's Bush" and maps, signs and brochures describing the Reserve are confused about the spelling of

"Horsman/Horseman Rd". However, it should be Horsman - so named after the Horsman family who farmed at the end of the road from around the 1890s until the 1930s (Graeme Murdoch pers. comm. to Ewen Cameron).

Steve's plan had been to walk the Goldie Bush loop track from Horsman Rd, along the first section of Goldie Bush Walkway, then upstream on the Mokoroa Stream Track to the falls and back up the hill on the Mokoroa Falls Track to Horsman Rd. But he was concerned that heavy rain the previous day may have put paid to this, because the Mokoroa Stream Track involves a number of stream crossings.

The sixteen-strong party spent a happy couple of hours botanising along the upper track, reaching the Mokoroa Stream in time for lunch. We found the stream in minor flood with fast flowing brown water. A reconnoitre a short way upstream convinced Steve

that the route to the falls was potentially unsafe. So, following lunch, part of the group chose to amble slowly back to Horsman Road, while the rest carefully crossed the stream and headed up the track into the Motutara Scenic Reserve, though they turned back before reaching the Constable Rd exit. A few short-lived showers during the day were sufficient to dampen our heads and shoulders but not our spirits.

The understory was sparse in the young regenerating forest, particularly at the top end of the Goldie Bush Walkway, but a few species were relatively abundant, including *Coprosma arborea*, *Geniostoma ligustrifolium* and *Cyathea dealbata*. *Gahnia xanthocarpa* formed dense colonies in places along the track where the canopy opened out. There were many *Rhopalostylis sapida* but the majority were sub-adult. Podocarps were scattered along the track with a couple of kauri (*Agathis australis*) bleeding gum around their bases, which worryingly is one of the symptoms of PTA - *Phytophthora* taxon *Agathis* - aka kauri dieback disease. (We had been asked to scrub our footwear clean and in the carpark before we

entered the Reserve we all dipped our boots in a tray of *TriGene*TM – a “high level disinfectant and cleaner which destroys bacteria, fungi, protozoa, spores and viruses”.)

Maureen spotted a *Griselinia lucida* juvenile which sparked interest as something of a rarity, perhaps because this species generally starts life out of sight high up in the forest canopy. A number of seedling and juvenile *Pennantia corymbosa* (kaikomako) were found along the track sides near the Horsman Road entrance. It is an uncommon species in the Waitakere Ranges and this general area is one of its strongholds, though even here it does not appear to be commonplace. The willowherb (*Epilobium* sp.) that was common on rocks beside the stream crossing was identified by Mike as *Epilobium nerteroides*.

We began the day with high hopes of relocating the rarely seen *Lindsaea viridis*, recorded in the 1980s on the Mokoroa Stream, but this was not to be – on this day at least.

Native vascular plants species list

A species list, covering the planned round trip, was provided by the leader, Steve Benham, at the beginning of the field trip. Additional records for the Goldie Bush Walkway section of the route have been added to his initial list. The full list follows.

Ferns & Fern Allies

Adiantum cunninghamii
Adiantum hispidulum
Asplenium bulbiferum
Asplenium flaccidum
Asplenium oblongifolium
Asplenium polyodon
Blechnum chambersii
Blechnum discolor
Blechnum filiforme
Blechnum fraseri
Blechnum novae-zelandiae
Cyathea dealbata
Cyathea medullaris
Dicksonia squarrosa
Doodia australis
Huperzia varia
Hymenophyllum flabellatum
Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum
Lastreopsis hispida
Lindsaea trichomanoides
Loxogramme dictyopteris
Lygodium articulatum
Microsorium pustulatum
Microsorium scandens
Paesia scaberula

Pneumatopteris pennigera
Pteridium esculentum
Pteris macilentata
Tmesipteris elongata
Tmesipteris lanceolata
Tmesipteris tannensis

Gymnosperms

Agathis australis
Dacrycarpus dacrydioides
Dacrydium cupressinum
Libocedrus plumosa
Phyllocladus trichomanoides
Podocarpus hallii
Podocarpus totara
Prumnopitys ferruginea

Dicotyledons

Acaena novae-zelandiae
Alectryon excelsus
Alseuosmia macrophylla
Beilschmiedia tawa
Brachyglottis repanda
Carmichaelia australis
Carpodetus serratus
Centella uniflora

Clematis paniculata
Coprosma arborea
Coprosma areolata
Coprosma grandifolia
Coprosma lucida
Coprosma rhamnoides
Coprosma robusta
Coprosma spathulata
Coriaria arborea
Corynocarpus laevigatus
Dichondra repens
Dracophyllum latifolium
Dysoxylum spectabile
Elaeocarpus dentatus
Elatostema rugosum
Epilobium nerteroides
Epilobium nummulariifolium
Epilobium pubens
Euchiton sphaericus
Geniostoma ligustrifolium
Griselinia lucida
Haloragis erecta
Hebe macrocarpa
Hebe stricta
Hedycarya arborea
Hoheria populnea
Hydrocotyle dissecta
Knightia excelsa
Kunzea ericoides
Leptecophylla juniperina
Leptospermum scoparium
Leucopogon fasciculatus
Litsea calicaris
Lobelia anceps
Macropiper excelsum
Melicytus macrophyllum
Melicytus micranthus
Melicytus ramiflorus
Metrosideros diffusa
Metrosideros fulgens
Metrosideros perforata
Mida salicifolia
Myrsine australis
Myrsine salicina
Nertera dichondrifolia
Nestegis lanceolata
Nestegis montana
Olearia furfuracea
Olearia rani
Parsonsia heterophylla
Passiflora tetrandra

Pennantia corymbosa
Pittosporum eugenioides
Pittosporum tenuifolium
Pseudopanax arboreus
Pseudopanax crassifolius
Pseudopanax crassifolius xP. lessonii
Rhabdothamnus solandri
Rubus australis
Rubus cissoides
Schefflera digitata
Sophora chathamica
Streblus heterophyllus
Veronica plebeia
Vitex lucens
Wahlenbergia violacea

Monocotyledons

Astelia banksii
Astelia solandri
Astelia trinervia
Baumea tenax
Carex dissita
Carex lambertiana
Carex lessoniana
Carex virgata
Collospermum hastatum
Cordyline australis
Cordyline banksii
Cortaderia fulvida
Cyperus ustulatus
Dianella nigra
Earina mucronata
Freycinetia banksii
Gahnia lacera
Gahnia pauciflora
Gahnia setifolia
Gahnia xanthocarpa
Juncus usitatus
Lepidosperma laterale
Microlaena avenacea
Microlaena stipoides
Oplismenus hirtellus
Phormium tenax
Rhopalostylis sapida
Ripogonum scandens
Schoenus maschalinus
Schoenus tendo
Typha orientalis
Uncinia banksii
Uncinia uncinata