

## Whakamarama big swamp, Ngamuwahine tributary

*Combined Waikato and Rotorua Botanical Societies trip*

Gael Donaghy

In 2017, in the Kaimai-Mamaku Forest Park, we botanised the upper reaches of the Ngamuwahine River from the end of Whakamarama Road on the Ngamarama Loop Track. This time, on 11 March 2018, we went downstream on the Leyland O'Brien Tramway, and branched off to travel up a tributary of the Ngamuwahine River. There was a No Botanising rule in force until we reached the target clearing – an open, boggy area of 3.8 hectares in which there were signs of an old logging camp. The clearing is now covered in *Gleichenia dicarpa* but it appears to have also been burnt, with large, old burnt logs scattered around. The rush, *Machaerina teretifolia*, emerged from the fern in the boggy areas, and there were large clumps of *Gahnia xanthocarpa* to be avoided. The forest around the clearing was dominated by *Phyllocladus trichomanoides*, with scattered large *Nestegis montana* on the higher ground and some remnant large rimu. Many of the trees were draped with *Metrosideros fulgens*, in full flower. Although there appeared many animal tracks through the clearing, there were *Griselinia littoralis* seedlings under many of the trees. The small *Podocarpus laetus* scattered through the clearing were stunted through heavy browsing.

A notable find was *Botrychium australe*; it looked odd with two very large sterile fronds (up to 25 cm) on each plant, instead of the usual one sterile and one fertile frond. A result of the very wet summer? Less welcome was a single plant of royal fern, *Osmunda regalis*, which was quickly despatched. Crossing one of the streams on the way back, we saw a lovely fresh growth of *Hymenophyllum australe*, formerly *H. atrovirens*, complete with sori – this fern is usually very tattered as it only grows within the flood-line of streams. We also admired attractive clumps of the bristle fern, *Trichomanes elongatum*.

One of the interesting things about this area along the Leyland O'Brien Tramway is the mixture of higher altitude plants with lowland species - plants like tawari, *Quintinia serrata*, *Libertia micrantha* were all common among the more lowland species. There was much speculation about the role of cold air drainage as the tramway follows the lowest part of the valley for much of the way. Along the banks cut to form the tramway there were many bristle ferns - *Trichomanes elongatum*, complete with the bristles elongating out of the sori. Again, it was a big thanks to the local care group for their work in pest control and track maintenance, making it an enjoyable day.



*Botrychium australe* at Whakamarama Big Swamp. Photo: Kerry Jones



*Hymenophyllum australe* at Whakamarama Big Swamp. Photo: Kerry Jones

# Whakamarama big swamp, Ngamuwahine tributary species list

Gael Donaghy  
with Waikato & Rotorua Botanical Societies

Visit Date: 11-01-2018

Map: BD36 Grid Ref: 1859098 5814964

\*= adventive species

## **Psilopsids, Lycopods & Quillworts**

<i>Lycopodium deuterodensum</i>	puakarimu
<i>Lycopodium volubile</i>	waewae-koukou; climbing clubmoss
<i>Phlegmariurus varius</i>	hanging clubmoss; iwituna

## **Ferns**

<i>Asplenium flaccidum</i>	hanging spleenwort; makawe
<i>Asplenium polyodon</i>	sickle spleenwort; petako
<i>Blechnum discolor</i>	crown fern; piupiu; petipeti
<i>Blechnum fraseri</i>	
<i>Blechnum minus</i>	swamp kiokio
<i>Blechnum novae-zelandiae</i>	kiokio
<i>Blechnum penna-marina</i>	alpine blechnum
<i>Botrychium australe</i>	coarse parsley fern
<i>Cyathea dealbata</i>	ponga; silver fern
<i>Cyathea smithii</i>	soft-leaved tree fern; katote
<i>Dicksonia fibrosa</i>	wheki-ponga; kuripaka
<i>Dicksonia squarrosa</i>	wheki; harsh tree fern
<i>Gleichenia dicarpa</i>	waewaekaka; tangle fern
<i>Gleichenia microphylla</i>	waewaekaha; tangle fern
<i>Histiopteris incisa</i>	water fern
<i>Hymenophyllum australe</i>	
<i>Hymenophyllum dilatatum</i>	lop-sided filmy fern
<i>Hymenophyllum flabellatum</i>	fan fern
<i>Hymenophyllum frankliniae</i>	
<i>Hymenophyllum multifidum</i>	
<i>Hymenophyllum nephrophyllum</i>	kidney fern; raurenga
<i>Hymenophyllum revolutum</i>	
<i>Hymenophyllum sanguinolentum</i>	blood-scented filmy fern
<i>Hypolepis distans</i>	
<i>Lastreopsis hispida</i>	hairy fern, hairy legs
<i>Leptopteris hymenophylloides</i>	single crepe fern; heruheru
<i>Lindsaea trichomanoides</i>	
<i>Lygodium articulatum</i>	mangemange; bushmans mattress

<i>Notogrammitis heterophylla</i>	
* <i>Osmunda regalis</i>	royal fern
<i>Paesia scaberula</i>	scented fern; matata; ring fern
<i>Pneumatopteris pennigera</i>	gully fern; pakau; pakauharoha
<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	bracken; rauaruhe
<i>Sticherus cunninghamii</i>	umbrella fern; kotuku; tapuwae
<i>Tmesipteris elongata</i>	
<i>Trichomanes elongatum</i>	bristle fern
<i>Trichomanes venosum</i>	veined bristle fern

### Gymnosperm trees and shrubs

<i>Dacrycarpus dacrydioides</i>	kahikatea, white pine
<i>Dacrydium cupressinum</i>	rimu, red pine
<i>Phyllocladus toatoa</i>	toatoa
<i>Phyllocladus trichomanoides</i>	tanekaha; celery pine
* <i>Pinus pinaster</i> subsp. <i>pinaster</i>	maritime pine
<i>Podocarpus laetus</i>	Hall's totara; thin bark totara
<i>Podocarpus totara</i> var. <i>totara</i>	totara
<i>Prumnopitys ferruginea</i>	miro; brown pine

### Dicotyledonous trees and shrubs

<i>Alseuosmia macrophylla</i>	toropapa; shrubby honeysuckle
<i>Beilschmiedia tawa</i>	tawa
<i>Brachyglottis repanda</i>	rangiora; bushmans friend
<i>Coprosma grandifolia</i>	raurekau; kanono; mamono
<i>Coprosma lucida</i>	karamu; shining karamu
<i>Coprosma robusta</i>	karamu
<i>Coprosma tenuicaulis</i>	
* <i>Erica lusitanica</i>	Spanish heath
<i>Geniostoma ligustrifolium</i> var. <i>ligustrifolium</i>	hangehange; privet
<i>Griselinia littoralis</i>	broadleaf; kapuka
<i>Hebe stricta</i> var. <i>stricta</i>	koromiko
<i>Hedycarya arborea</i>	pigeonwood; porokaiwhiri
<i>Hoheria sexstylosa</i>	houhere
<i>Ixerba brexioides</i>	tawari
<i>Leucopogon fasciculatus</i>	mingimingi; kaikaitau
* <i>Malus x domestica</i>	apple
<i>Meliclytus ramiflorus</i>	mahoe
<i>Myrsine australis</i>	red matipo; mapou
<i>Nestegis montana</i>	orooro; narrow-leaved maire
<i>Pomaderris amoena</i>	tauhinu
<i>Pseudopanax crassifolius</i>	lancewood; horoeka

<i>Pseudowintera axillaris</i>	horopito
<i>Quintinia serrata</i>	Westland quintinia; tawheowheo
* <i>Salix cinerea</i>	grey willow
* <i>Ulex europaeus</i>	gorse
<i>Weinmannia racemosa</i>	kamahī; towai; tawhero

### Dicotyledonous lianes and related trailing plants

<i>Clematis paniculata</i>	clematis; puawhananga
<i>Metrosideros diffusa</i>	white climbing rata; akatea
<i>Metrosideros fulgens</i>	scarlet rata; winter rata
<i>Metrosideros perforata</i>	aka; small white rata; torotoro
<i>Rubus cissoides</i>	bush lawyer; tataramoa
* <i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	blackberry

### Daisy-like herbs

<i>Anaphalioides trinervis</i>	puatea
* <i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Scotch thistle
* <i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	catsear
<i>Lagenophora pumila</i>	

### Dicotyledonous herbs other than daisies

* <i>Centaurium erythraea</i>	centary
<i>Drosera binata</i>	scented sundew
<i>Gonocarpus micranthus</i>	
<i>Hydrocotyle moschata</i> var. <i>moschata</i>	
<i>Lobelia angulata</i>	panakenake
* <i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	lotus major
<i>Nertera depressa</i>	common nertera
<i>Nertera scapanioides</i>	
* <i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	selfheal
<i>Viola filicaulis</i>	forest violet

### Monocotyledonous trees and shrubs

<i>Cordyline australis</i>	cabbage tree; ti-kouka
<i>Cordyline banksii</i>	forest cabbage tree; ti ngahere
<i>Cordyline pumilio</i>	ti rauriki; dwarf cabbage tree

### Monocotyledonous lianes

<i>Freycinetia banksii</i>	kiekie
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### Sedges

<i>Carex uncinata</i>	watu
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<i>Eleocharis gracilis</i>	
<i>Gahnia pauciflora</i>	
<i>Gahnia xanthocarpa</i>	giant sedge
<i>Machaerina teretifolia</i>	
* <i>Rhynchospora capitillata</i>	
<i>Schoenus maschalinus</i>	

### Rushes and allied plants

<i>Juncus edgariae</i>	wiwi
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### Grasses

* <i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	browntop
* <i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	sweet vernal
<i>Austroderia fulvida</i>	kakaho; toetoe
<i>Deyeuxia quadriseta</i>	
* <i>Eragrostis brownii</i>	bay grass
<i>Microlaena stipoides</i>	forest rice grass
* <i>Miscanthus nepalensis</i>	Himalayan fairy grass
* <i>Paspalum dilatatum</i>	paspalum

### Remaining Monocotyledonous herbs

<i>Astelia fragrans</i>	bushflax; kakaha
<i>Astelia grandis</i>	
<i>Astelia solandri</i>	kowharawhara
<i>Astelia trinervia</i>	
<i>Dianella nigra</i>	blueberry; turutu
<i>Libertia micrantha</i>	star herb

### Orchids

<i>Earina autumnalis</i>	Easter orchid; raupeka
<i>Earina mucronata</i>	spring orchid; peka-a-waka
<i>Pterostylis banksii</i>	tutukiwi

