

<i>Microlaena stipoides</i>	c	<i>Rytidosperma</i> sp. or spp.	lc
<i>Oplismenus imbecillis</i>	c	<i>Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani</i>	lc
<i>Poa pusilla</i>	lc	<i>Spirodela punctata</i> *	lc
<i>Potamogeton cheesemanii</i>	l	<i>Typha orientalis</i>	lc
<i>Ripogonum scandens</i>	lc	<i>Uncinia uncinata</i>	c

Unuwhao Realised 12 April 1998

Maureen Young, Steve Benham, and Graeme Hambly

Still smarting from having to abort the field trip to Unuwhao Bush, Spirits Bay, during the November 1997 ABS camp (see ABS Journal Vol.53 No.1), three original members determined on another attempt during Easter weekend.

This time the approach was from the south, rather than from Spirits Bay. A 4WD track through pines was lined with *Pomaderris kumeraho* and *P. polifolia*, then this narrowed to a track through manuka scrub. A tiny green blob on the ground here, proved on close examination to be an unfurling sterile frond of the parsley fern, *Botrychium australe*. The canopy became taller, but the ground looked as though it had been subjected to the Northern Ploughing Championships, so thoroughly had the feral pigs turned over the soil. An attractive sight, nevertheless, was the sub-canopy of *Hebe ligustrifolia*, with the filtered sun highlighting the yellowish-green of the decussate leaves.

Unuwhao trig was eventually located, and from there the Pinnacle could be seen. As the area between these two high points was reported to contain a population of *Metrosideros bartlettii*, we traversed the gully, but search as we might we could not see any. The Pinnacle beckoned, so had to be climbed. The view was well worth the effort, with the high peaks of Unuwhao in one direction, and the sweep of Spirits Bay in the other.

On the return journey, to the east of Unuwhao trig, we studied more closely a trunk which had a long-neglected bait station attached to it. On the outward leg we had assumed that the pale bark signified a puriri, but it was in fact the sought after Bartlett's rata.

The Tane article by Gardner and Bartlett (1980) contains references to Unuwhao Bush, and a species list. As several people have visited the bush in the intervening years, we hope that the publication of the additional species which we saw might encourage others to pool their records so that a more complete list might be assembled.

A list of the vascular species seen at Unuwhao Bush, which are additional to the species published in Tane 26: 225-231.

Ferns and fern allies

Arthropteris tenella
Botrychium australe
Ctenopteris heterophylla
Paesia scaberula
Tmesipteris sigmatifolia

Dicot trees & shrubs

Carmichaelia australis
Coprosma lucida
Dracophyllum sinclairii ?
Hebe macrocarpa
H. perbella

Macropiper excelsum
Pomaderris edgerleyi
P. kumeraho
P. polifolia
Pseudopanax arboreus

Dicot herbs

Centella uniflora
Gonocarpus incanus
Lobelia anceps
Nertera dichondrifolia

Orchids

Winika cunninghamii

Monocot trees, shrubs & herbs

Cordyline australis
Libertia grandiflora

Sedges

Eleocharis gracilis
Gahnia setifolia
Lepidosperma australe
L. laterale
Morelotia affinis

Acknowledgements

We thank Graeme Noho of the Ngati Kuri Trust, for permission to enter Unuwhao Bush.

References

Gardner, R. O., & Bartlett, J. K. 1980: Forest Flora of the North Cape Region. *Tane* 26: 225 - 231.