

A NOTE ON THE MILLAR ROAD WETLAND

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The Millar Road Wetland (NZMS 260 U16 038 325), part of Lake Okareka Scenic Reserve is situated at the north western corner of Lake Okareka. It is bounded to the north-west by Millar Road and farmland, the lake to the south-east, to the south is the Miller Rd stream and to the north-east low hills covered in native second growth vegetation. The wetland itself consists of two quite different areas: to the south there is a well drained pumice outwash from west and to the north a wetland proper.

The drier area is dominated by grey willow (*Salix cinerea*) with an under story mainly of five-finger (*Pseudopanax arboreus*), kohuhu (*Pittosporum tenuifolium* var. *tenuifolium*) with kiokio (*Blechnum novae-zelandiae*) as the dominant ground cover with blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) also common.

A flowing stream which appears to come from several springs runs through the lower part of the wetland proper. In the wetter areas around the stream the vegetation is dominated by carex (*Carex stricta* and *C. virgata*) in the understorey over a scattered grey willow canopy. Localised small areas of raupo (*Typha orientalis*) are present surrounding the small springs. There are many quite deep water channels amongst the carex. Further toward the Millar Rd end of wetland proper the vegetation is dominated by kiokio and *Baumea rubiginosa* with occasional grey willow. Carex (*Carex stricta* and *C. virgata*) and *Isachne globosa* are occasional throughout this area.

Along the roadside there are several exotic weed species e.g. ivy (*Hedera helix*), buddleia (*Buddleja davidii*) mostly arising from garden waste disposal. Other weed species have arrived by wind e.g. old man's beard (*Clematis vitalba*) and grey willow, and bird dispersal e.g. blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) and Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*).

MILLAR ROAD WETLAND VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES CHECK LIST

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* = adventive ! = roadside + = planted

Fern Allies

Tmesipteris elongata fork fern

Ferns

Asplenium flaccidum hanging spleenwort

Blechnum fluviatile kiwakiwa

Blechnum minus swamp kiokio

Blechnum novae-zelandiae kiokio

Dicksonia fibrosa wheki-ponga

Dicksonia squarrosa wheki

Hypolepis ambigua pig fern

Microsorium pustulatum hound's tongue fern

Polystichum vestitum shield fern

Pneumatopteris pennigera gully fern

Pteridium esculentum bracken

Pyrrosia eleagnifolia leather-leaf fern

Rumohra adiantiformis leathery shield fern

Gymnosperms

* *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana* ! Lawsons cypress

Dicotyledonous Trees & Shrubs

* *Acacia melanoxylon* + Australian blackwood

Alectryon excelsus titoki

<i>Aristotelia serrata</i>	wineberry
* <i>Betula pendula</i> +	silver birch
* <i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	broom
* <i>Buddleja davidii</i> !	buddleia
<i>Coprosma lucida</i>	glossy karamu
<i>Coprosma robusta</i>	karamu
<i>Coriaria arboreus</i>	tutu
* <i>Dendrobenthamia capitata</i> !	strawberry dogwood
* <i>Erica lusitanica</i>	Spanish heath
<i>Fuchsia excorticata</i>	kotukutuku
<i>Geniostoma rupestre</i> var. <i>ligustrifolium</i>	hangehange
<i>Hebe stricta</i> var. <i>stricta</i>	koromiko
<i>Kunzea ericoides</i>	kanuka
<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i>	manuka
<i>Leucopogon fasciculatus</i>	mingimingi
* <i>Lupinus arboreus</i>	tree lupin
<i>Melicytus ramiflorus</i>	mahoe
<i>Myrsine australis</i>	mapou
<i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i> var. <i>tenuifolium</i>	kohuhu
<i>Pseudopanax arboreus</i>	five-finger
* <i>Salix cinerea</i>	grey willow
* <i>Salix fragilis</i>	crack willow
* <i>Teline monspessulana</i> !	Montpelier broom
* <i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	blackberry
<i>Rubus cissoides</i>	lawyer
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	gorse
<i>Weinmannia racemosa</i>	kamahi

Dicotyledonous Lianes

* <i>Hedera helix</i> !	ivy
* <i>Lonicera japonica</i> !	Japanese honeysuckle
<i>Muehlenbeckia australis</i>	pohuehue

Dicotyledonous Herbs

* <i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	foxglove
<i>Epilobium pallidiflorum</i>	
<i>Haloragis erecta</i>	shrubby haloragis
* <i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	lotus
* <i>Ludwigia palustris</i>	water parslane
* <i>Mentha</i> x <i>piperita</i> var. <i>citrata</i>	bergamot mint
* <i>Myosotis</i> sp.	water forget-me-not
<i>Polygonum salicifolium</i>	swamp willow weed
<i>Pratia angulata</i>	pratia
<i>Ranunculus amphitrichus</i>	waoriki
* <i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	spearwort
* <i>Ranunculus repens</i>	creeping buttercup
* <i>Senecio bipinnatisectus</i>	Australian fireweed
* <i>Verbena bonariensis</i>	purple-top

Monocotyledonous Trees Shrubs & Lianes

None

Orchids

None

Grasses

<i>Cortaderia fulvida</i>	toetoe
* <i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire fog
<i>Isachne globosa</i>	swamp millet

Sedges

Baumea rubiginosa

Carex geminata

Carex maorica

Carex secta

Carex solandri

Carex virgata

Cyperus ustulatus

Lepidosperma australe

Uncinia uncinata

rautahi

cyperus sedge

niggerhead

Solander's sedge

swamp sedge

giant umbrella sedge

square-stemmed rush

kamu

Rushes

**Juncus articulatus*

**Juncus bulbosus*

**Juncus effusus*

jointed rush

bulbous rush

leafless rush

Other Monocotyledonous Herbs

Potamogeton cheesemanii

Typha orientalis

pond weed

raupo