



Significant Natural Area Assessment			
Project No: 11001/045	Property Name: <i>Henderson Property</i> Site Name: <i>Henderson SNA A</i>	Ecologist: <i>Neill Simpson & Rebecca Lawrence.</i> Date: <i>18 February 2015</i>	
Survey Undertaken By: <i>Neill Simpson & Rebecca Lawrence.</i>		Waypoint No (midpoint of survey area): <i>See attached plan for location.</i>	
LENZ Unit: <i>N5.1c</i> Ecological District: <i>Lindis Ecological District</i>		Photo No.(s): <i>See attached.</i>	
Topography: <i>River terrace embankment</i>	Slope: <i>Steep</i>	Altitude: <i>320 m asl.</i>	Aspect: <i>South-east.</i>
Threatened Environment Status: <i>Acutely Threatened</i>		Area Size (ha): <i>0.66</i>	
Representativeness: Pre-European settlement vegetation within the potential area of interest is understood to have consisted of kanuka, kowhai and Hall's totara woodlands (Walker <i>et al.</i> , 2003). The vegetation on the site lacks the diversity of the original woodlands, but does provide a representation of pre-settlement vegetation.			
Are there threatened species expected/identified in the survey area? If so, list species and threat status.			
Threatened Species		Threat Status	
None observed			
Provide onsite description of vegetation: Vegetation type: Kanuka stands (<i>Kunzea ericoides</i>), with other native species interspersed including <i>Coprosma propinqua</i> , <i>Ozothamnus leptophyllus</i> , <i>Discaria toumatou</i> (matagouri), <i>Rubus schmidelioides</i> var. <i>schmidelioides</i> and stands of <i>Pteridium esculentum</i> (bracken fern). Some exotic species are present and include: <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> (hawthorn) <i>Rosa rubiginosa</i> (briar) and <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i> subsp. <i>Aucuparia</i> (rowan).			
Degree of Modification: The area has experienced historical disturbances, with the lack of species diversity with the kanuka stands and patches of bracken fern, a clear indication species have been lost through multiple disturbance events.			
Overall Health: Despite current and historical disturbance, the vegetation on the river terrace scarp remains a representative example of the kanuka woodland communities that would have once dominated this area.			
Provide onsite description of fauna habitat: The kanuka stands will likely provide habitat for indigenous invertebrates, lizards and bird species.			

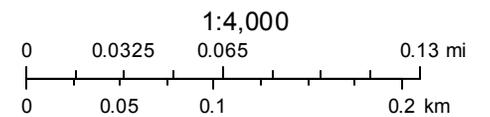
<p>Threats to vegetation and flora/fauna species? (Weeds, predators, current management practices): Key threats include housing developments and wilding pines.</p>
<p>Rarity: The threatened environment classification identifies the N5.1c environment to have 2.7 % indigenous vegetation cover remaining, with 0.8 % formally protected.</p>
<p>Area Size and Shape (degree to which the area may be or is becoming self-sustaining): The kanuka stands are small in size, but have good ground cover and areas of bracken fern that could promote further native regeneration.</p>
<p>Diversity and Pattern (is there a notable range of species and habitats, aspects, sequences?): The continued disturbance is shown in the lack of diversity of plant species, but the dominance of the kanuka stand in terms of ground cover shows that the area has the potential to sustain an ecologically important community.</p>
<p>Distinctiveness/special ecological characteristics (unusual veg. & landform features, distribution limits?): The kanuka stands are one of the few remnants along the true right of the Hawea River.</p>
<p>Connectivity (how is the site connected to surrounding communities/areas?): The kanuka stands are connected to the surrounding kanuka woodland on the opposite side of the Hawea River along the river terraces.</p>
<p>Sustainability (does the site possess the resilience to maintain its ecological integrity and processes?): The kanuka stands have maintained a moderate degree of ecological integrity even with the emergence of exotic species. The areas of bracken fern within the kanuka stands should promote further native regeneration.</p>
<p>Recommendation (Accept/Decline): While the kanuka stands lack the diversity of the original woodland vegetation cover along the Hawea River, given the high native vegetation cover and potential for natural regeneration through the bracken fern on site, the area provides a sustainable area of indigenous vegetation that is acutely threatened. Based on the above considerations we recommend the area should be taken forward for further consideration as Significant Indigenous Vegetation and Fauna Habitat.</p>

Figure 1: The area of potential significance - 'Henderson SNA A' - E45A_1-2.



June 22, 2015

- Proposed Significant Natural Area
- Parcels
- Proposed Significant Natural Area



Please note the area shown is indicative and only for discussion purposes.



Figure 2: A representative photograph of the kanuka stands and bracken fern on the *Henderson SNA A*.