

*appendix f:  
outstanding and  
significant fauna habitat*



## OUTSTANDING FAUNA HABITAT

	AREA MAP	NAME	SSWI RANKING*	FEATURES
1	Bethells-Te Henga	Waitakere Ranges	Outstanding	Large area of continuous forest covering the ranges and extending down into the foothills. Hochstetter's frog, paryphanta snails, grey faced petrel colonies, kaka frequently reported, pied tit widespread, NZ pigeon and good numbers of other common forest birds, NZ falcon reported. Diverse insect and snail fauna and many endemic species.
2	Green Bay	Cliffs between Green Bay and Oatoru Bay (part Karaka Park)	High	Area of good quality coastal forest along the coastal fringe. Range of native forest bird species including kaka. Pied shag and white-faced heron roost on coastal edge of bush.
3	Bethells-Te Henga	Waitakere Wetland	High	Largest freshwater swamp in Auckland Ecological Region. High diversity of vegetation types and wildlife species. Extensive areas of <i>Baumea</i> sedgeland, raupo reedland, swamp millet and cabbage tree forest. Bittern, fernbird, spotless crane are all present in good numbers. Banded rail and marsh crane reported. Large numbers of waterfowl at all times. Good range of native fish and aquatic invertebrates. Includes the rare giant kokopu.
4	Whatipu	Whatipu dune system	High	Large area consisting of unvegetated foredunes leading into spinifex and pingao covered dunes and extensive vegetated backdunes up to pohutakawa-puriri forest on coastal cliffs. Low areas are seasonal wetlands. High diversity of coastal birds, including breeding NZ dotterel, variable oystercatcher, banded dotterel, Caspian tern and white fronted tern. Swamp birds including bittern, fernbird and pukeko. Little blue penguin nesting reported.
5	Coastal Marine Area	Upper Manukau Harbour from Paratutae Island to Green Bay extending out into the Harbour	High	The interface between land and water along the southern coast of Waitakere City. Most of the area is open sea but includes two large estuaries (Big Muddy and Little Muddy Creek). Range of wading birds present, feeding on the inter-tidal flats, and roosting around the beaches and rocky shore at high tide. Includes such species as variable oystercatcher, pied stilt, grey-faced heron, gulls, tern, South Island pied oyster catcher, godwits, knots and turnstones.
6	Swanson Waitakere Township	Sunnyvale Road and Crows Road	Moderate	Medium sized area containing the headwaters of the Pakinui, Marokua and Billy Joe Stream. Ridges dominated by kanuka forest with kauri regenerating in the understorey. Gullies are dominated by broadleaf forest with regenerating kahikatea. More common native bird species present include tui, grey warbler, fantail.
7	Sturges	Corner of Sturges Road and Candia Road	Moderate	Medium sized area on the side of the hill that slopes down to the Opanuku Stream. Contiguous with Ranges. Broadleaf-treefern forest with alluvial kahikatea and rimu on the valley bottom. More common native bird species present, with good number of tui feeding on seasonal kahikatea fruit.
8	Te Atatu Peninsula	Harbourview	Moderate to High	Long strip of mangroves and coastal saltmarsh that is immediately adjacent to reclaimed land. Habitat for estuarine swamp birds such as pukeko. Fernbird reported, probably coming from nearby Pollen Island.
9	Coastal Marine Area	Northern and eastern area off the Te Atatu Peninsula extending out into the Waitemata Harbour	Moderate to High	Large area of open harbour with mangrove forests, salt marshes shell banks and inter-tidal mudflats. Habitat for a range of estuary birds including pukeko, shags, ducks, herons, terns, stilts and gulls as well as migratory waders (South Island pied oyster catcher, godwits, knots and turnstones).

\* = Sites of Special Wildlife Interest

## SIGNIFICANT FAUNA HABITAT

	AREA MAP	NAME	SSWI RANKING*	FEATURES
10	Bethells-Te Henga	Lake Wainamu	Moderate to High	Deep dune lake, 95% open water, narrow vegetated margin of raupo and <i>Eleocharis</i> . Most forest catchment with pasture and mobile dune in front of the lake. Good diversity of wildlife, including waterfowl, little back shag, with bittern, spotless crane and fernbird reported. Banded kokupu reported present.
11	Whatipu	Ohaka Head Swamp	Moderate to High	Permanent dune lake with greatly enlarges during the wetter periods. 30-50% open water with large rush and sedge areas around margin. The threatened bittern and fernbird are present as well as the commoner water fowl, black shag, Caspian tern and various duck species.
12	Opanuku	Opanuku Stream from Palomino Drive to Great North Road	Moderate to High	Lowland broadleaf-podocarp forest on floodplain alluvium. Patches of forest kahikatea and regenerating kauri common, however heavily modified in most places due to abundant weeds in the groundstorey. More common native bird species present with good numbers of tui feeding on seasonal kahikatea fruit and kowhai flowers. The threatened NZ pigeon also uses this area.
13	Glendene	Waikumete Cemetery	Moderate	Medium-sized areas of gumland scrub which is dominated by manuka, and contains several native orchids and ferns. Low diversity of native birds, but reported to contain a range of good sized populations of lizards.
14	Royal Heights	Moire Park	Moderate	Medium-sized area of coastal broadleaf/treefern forest on the north bank of the Manutewhau Stream/Lawsons Creek. Tall kanuka/manuka gumland on south side of the stream surrounds a small patch of good quality saltmarsh which is likely to have been habitat for banded rail in the past. Common native bird species present such as greywarbler, fantail, silvereye and kingfisher. Also, coastal birds - white-faced heron, pied shag and little shag roost in the taller trees on the coastal edge. Likely to be good lizard (geckos and skinks) habitat.
15	West Harbour	Lucken Point	Moderate to High	Coastal scrub (mostly kanuka/manuka with regenerating coastal broadleaf species and occasional more mature pohutakawa) on cliffs and scarps bordering the upper Waitemata Harbour. More common native birds, present, shags and herons use taller trees as roosts.
16	Royal Heights	Colwill Esplanade and Lowerhurst Reserve	Moderate	Diverse regenerating coastal forest with kowhai, karaka, towai and tawa along the edge of Henderson Creek. On relatively steep slopes where slope slumping can occur there is a high presence of weeds particularly wandering jew and kahili ginger. More common native bird species present, shags and herons use taller trees as roosts. Tui sometimes present as is NZ pigeon when there is a seasonal food source of karaka fruit and kowhai flowers.
17	Coastal Marine Area	Upper Waitemata Harbour from Herald Island to Lawsons Creek	Moderate to High	Open harbour with fringing areas of mangrove forest. Smaller areas of salt marsh on the landward edge and extensive inter-tidal flats. Used by a variety of wading birds - herons, gulls, terns, stilts, oystercatchers, migratory waders (godwits, knots, terns) and by ducks and shags.
18	Bethells-Te Henga	Lake Kawaupaka	Moderate	Deep lake, 95% open water, forest catchment completely enclosing lake. Narrow margin of raupo, flax, rushes and sedges. Little shag colony and waterfowl present, with spotless crane and black shag reported.
19	Piha	Piha Stream Swamp	Moderate	Diverse vegetation dominated by raupo, cabbage tree, flax, rushes and sedges. Backs onto completely forest catchment. Narrow stream channel is the only open water. Pukeko and likely spotless crane and fernbird present.

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## SIGNIFICANT FAUNA HABITAT

	AREA MAP	NAME	SSWI RANKING*	FEATURES
20	Whatipu	Pararaha Swamp	Moderate	Relatively large area of raupo, flax, rush and sedge mixture including 5% deep open water with dense <i>Elocharis sphacelata</i> margin behind high mobile dune. Located in a stream valley between coastal cliffs and also running along base of cliffs. Large forest catchment. Bittern, fernbird, pukeko and likely spotless crane present.
21	Whatipu	Taranaki Bay Swamp	Moderate	Small area of raupo, flax, rushes and cabbage tree backing onto dense manuka. Park of back-dune lake system at the foot bush clad coastal cliffs. 5% open water. Permanent swamp in large area of seasonal swampland. Fernbird, pukeko, likely spotless crane.
22	Glendene	Waikumete Cemetery	Potential	Pine and wattle forest over native species on infertile clay soils. Areas of gumland scrub with a low manuka canopy. One of the more extensive gumland vegetation remaining in the Auckland Region. A number of weeds common such as gorse and prickly hakea. A number of native birds common including greywarbler and silvereye. Range of lizard fauna likely to be present.
23	Massey North	Kemp Reserve	Potential	Regenerating native shrubland, particularly manuka and tangle fern with pine common in the canopy. Heavily modified by humans with large open tracks and many exotic plants. More common native birds present.
24	Massey	Zita Maria Park to Sunline Park	Potential	Coastal lowland broadleaf/treefern forest on undulating lowland hills. Several small deeply incised streams. Pine and wattle common in the canopy. More common native birds - fantail, greywarbler, silvereye and tui present.
25	Massey, Ranui	Helena Park and Woodside Reserve	Potential	Small area bordering the mouth of the Huruwhiri Creek. Mixed streamside vegetation, mostly kanuka with pine, wattle, gorse and willow-leaf hakea. Slopes are steep, slumping probably occurs. More common native bird species present, herons and shags roost in taller trees.
26	Coastal Marine Area	Waipareira Bay	Potential	Small area with a few patches of mangroves, the remaining area is in open tidal flats. Degraded as a result of the West Harbour Marina development. Wetland developed from a bund burst with spilled mud into the harbour. Brackish wetland is habitat for pukeko, ducks, white gulls. Shags and white-faced herons use the tidal flats. Capacity for habitat improvement with the Waipareira Bay wetland restoration program underway.
27	Coastal Marine Area	Upper Waitemata Harbour from Brighams Creek to Herald Island	Moderate	Large estuary with small areas of mangrove forest fringing the land as sandbars. Beside Herald Island, mangrove forest cover a much larger area. Used by more common coastal birds such as gulls, terns white-faced herons, shags and mallard duck. Reports of banded rail in the past inhabiting small patches of saltmarsh on the landward side of mangroves.
28	Coastal Marine Area	Henderson Creek and associated inlets	Moderate	Large estuary with extensive areas of mangrove forest and small patches of saltmarshes. Coastal birds - gulls, shags, herons, terns, ducks present along with pukeko and kingfisher using the vegetated margins.
29	Coastal Marine Area	Whau River and western isolated inlets and creeks	Moderate	Large open estuary with many areas of mangrove forest. Degraded water and sediment quality, probably reason for low diversity and low numbers of coastal birds - gulls, shags, white-faced herons and the introduced mallard duck use the area.

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