



Ecology	Name of item: Poukaraka Wetlands	Map reference: 16-6
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Island: Waiheke	SES 12 (Site of Ecological Significance)	
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Description of Item

A large and broad wetland with mangroves and saltmarsh growing in salty conditions near the coast, and increasingly freshwater conditions further inland and upstream. The main body of the wetland is of raupo and freshwater club rush (*Bolboschoenus fluviatilis*). A wide variety of other species grow in response to the pattern of saltiness and hydrological conditions across the site. The wetland is home to four threatened wetland bird species: the banded rail (which is classed as sparse nationally), the North Island fernbird (which is also classed as sparse), the spotless crane (also sparse) and the Australasian bittern (which is nationally endangered). A relatively unusual shrub species, *Pomaderris rugosa*, grows on a rocky island out in the wetland.



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