

Waiwhakareke Natural Heritage Park project is aimed at reconstructing native lowland and wetland ecosystems as once widespread in the Waikato Region. The park is approx 60 hectares

Project Areas
Release existing plants from weeds i.e. stomp down grasses etc around planted native plants in these areas outlined in **RED**



Remnant Kahikatea trees in gully floors 150+ years old. Kahikatea is NZ tallest native tree species growing up to 60m. Largest on recorded is at Kaniwhaniwha Stream Pirongia Forest Park



Gate 2 — Road Crossing
Have controlled crossing



Research Plots planted 2007 (drought in December, Mulched areas kept growing!)



Lake/Aquatic habitat — the lake has been assessed for fish species by the University of Waikato team using an electrofishing boat in May 2005! Fish are stunned with electric charge and then identified/counted. Introduced species removed at this time i.e. Catfish, Rudd.



Restiad Peat Bog restoration New discovery “Fred the Thread” (*Houdinia flexilissima*)—Worlds smallest caterpillar!



Hamilton City has less than 20 hectares of high quality, indigenous species dominated ecosystems. The Hamilton Ecological District is one of the most modified areas in New Zealand, only as much as 1.6% of the original vegetation remains. (Leathwick et al. 1995)

Mooney Park Remnant Kahikatea/Pukatea semi swamp forest species. You can see the tips of the trees from Waiwhakareke hilltop, tallest trees on ridge to east



View from top of ridge at Waiwhakareke looking east to Mooney Park remnant Kahikateas trees dominant. This type of vegetation covered the area as far as the eye can see!

Native Cutty Grass (Carex sp) in gully floor areas



WAIWHAKAREKE NATURAL HERITAGE PARK — SITE PLAN (see www.waiwhakareke.co.nz for further information)

PROJECT — Planting of 30,000 native plants in Stage 3 **RED AREA**. Plants will be placed in position ready to plant. **Arrival 10.00am**, planting to begin 10.30am
METHOD — Dig hole 2 x size of planting pot/bag, carefully remove plant from bag and place it in the hole to the same depth as the plant was in the bag. Push soil back into cover all the roots of plant and firm soil into hole with your front foot or hand. **Take care not to bury the plant too deep (burying is for dead things these are living plants!) or damage plant roots, stem etc.** Native cutty grasses/*Carex sp* have sharp edges to leaves, **gloves wear gloves when handling these.** CONTACT parksandgardens@hcc.govt.nz to register your group.