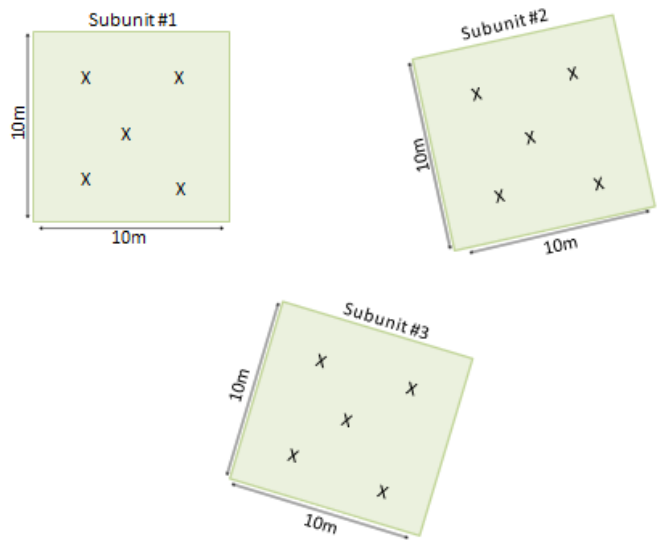


Urban Restoration Ecology Research in Hamilton March 2014

You are receiving this info because you may have an interest in Hamilton’s natural areas or help maintain them in some way.

Kiri Cutting is a PhD student at the University of Waikato, studying under the supervision of Professor Bruce Clarkson. Her research investigates how urban forests change after/during ecological restoration. She is collecting data from natural areas of Hamilton and New Plymouth to create a predictive mathematical model that will help us understand how these restored areas change environmentally as they age and help us manage them better. The data collected includes air humidity and temperature, soil temperature and moisture, light transmittance, soil chemistry, leaf litter accrual, and plant community composition in restored areas from young to old.

Each of her research sites has three subunit areas designated with bamboo poles at the corners and small metal pegs stuck into the ground indicating sampling points (the Xs in the figure below). Poles and pegs have brightly colored flagging tape marking them. There is a white device called a “radiation shield” that houses a small datalogger (for humidity and temperature recording) hanging at each site. It is made of a series of plastic plates.



There are 23 research sites throughout Hamilton:

Site Category	Site Name
Unrestored Urban Forest	Totara Park
	Sandford Park - unrestored
	Swampy Creek
	Waiwhakareke - younger
	Hukunui School
	Avalon Drive
	Waiwhakareke - older
	Featherstone Park
	Hamilton Lake Domain - younger
	Sandford Park
Mooney Park	
Brymer Park	
Restored Urban Forest Age Gradient	Minogue Park/Forest Lake (Rotokaeo)
	Tauhara Park
	Munro's Walkway
	Tills Lookout
	Hamilton Lake Domain - older
	Morris Gully
	Edgar Gully
	Seeley's Gully Reserve
Hammond Park	
Mature Urban Forest	Claudlands/Jubilee Park
	Berkley gully

Please do not disturb these areas if at all possible, leaving vegetation and soil intact and all marking aids in place. If you see a site has been destroyed or appears compromised, please contact Kiri at kjc39@students.waikato.ac.nz or call (027) 939-9440. The experiment runs Feb 2014 – March 2015.