

Kia Ora

We recently invited Wellingtonians to tell us what's important to them as we plan for growth and change over the next 30 years. One of the themes that came through strongly is how much people love our city's native bush and wildlife, and how important it is that we protect these special places.

With a big push on sustainability nationwide, taking steps to protect natural areas is part of a national requirement involving all councils. It is also something we can build into the District Plan, which is the blueprint for making sure our city grows in the right way.

We are writing because our work to identify and protect natural areas could affect you

We've been working with ecologists and landscape specialists to identify important areas of native bush and landscapes around the city. This is so we can start talking with landowners about what they might have, and ways we can help them look after it.

From what we can tell from the aerial mapping and assessment work, your property appears to fall into an area of land that has rare or endangered native species that are important to our city's biodiversity, or is part of a significant natural landscape. If there is something about the information we have though that doesn't look quite right, please give us a call. One of our ecologists will be more than happy to come and have a look and a chat about what you might have at your place.

As part of an overall District Plan review later next year, we will be asking people for their thoughts on how best to protect important native bush and landscapes. We especially want to work with landowners to find the right balance between protection and practical use - we don't want to introduce anything that gets in the way of day to day use and maintenance. We also want to know what we can do to help - that might be in the shape of pest control or native plants. It will be a case by case situation so we're keen to hear what would work best for you.

Working together

Taking extra care to protect the biodiversity of our city is good for everybody, and we're happy to help where we can. This is just the start of an engagement process with lots of opportunity to work things out.

If you'd like information or advice about what you've got, and ways to enhance it we'd love to hear from you. If you have any questions at all about the process and how to get involved, please just give us a call on 021 952 863 and we can talk it through. There is also lots of information at planningforgrowth.wellington.govt.nz

Kind regards,



David Chick
Chief City Planner

Rarangi wā
Timeline

Sept 2019
Talk and help

Late 2020
Draft District Plan
consultation

Late 2021
Proposed District Plan
consultation

Significant Natural Area Habitat with important indigenous value

WC002

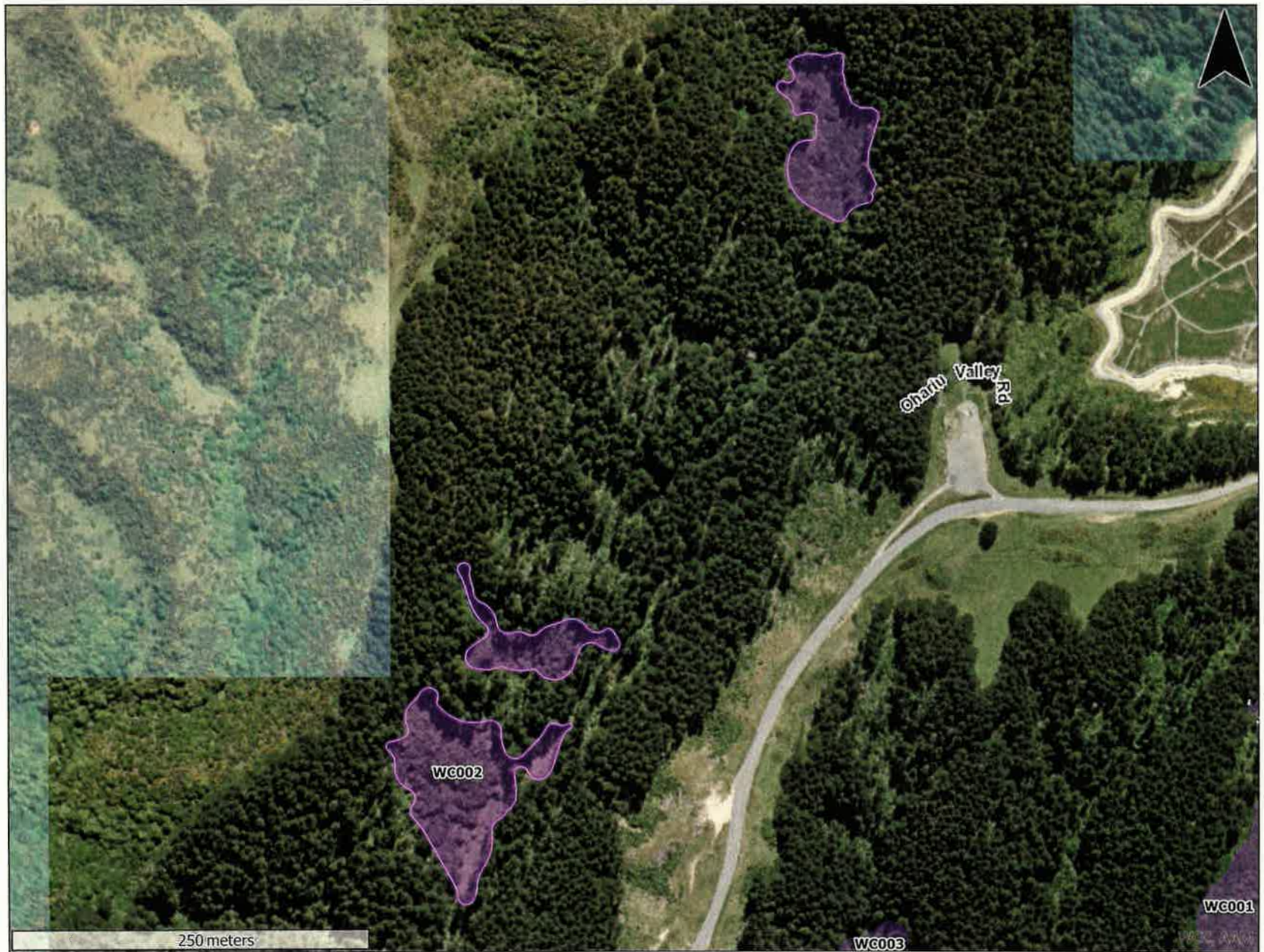
Spicer Forest mahoe forest remnants

Dominant habitat:

Lowland mahoe forest and shrubland

Description

Three small areas of indigenous mahoe forest are surrounded by pine plantations. It is home to common and native forest birds, with pockets of indigenous habitat in an exotic forest mosaic. It features young tawa and kohekohe that will develop into a forest and habitat quality will improve even more. It's a site that requires continuing, or increasing, pest control. This site provides linkages between Porirua and Wellington City Council reserves.



These maps are draft. Some boundaries may change based on feedback and further assessment. If you would like help to read them please call us on 021 952 836, Email backyardtaonga@wcc.govt.nz For more information go to planningforgrowth.wellington.govt.nz