



# Waituna Wetlands Vegetation and Plant List



## Vegetation Summary

Waituna Lagoon and Wetland is an internationally important RAMSAR wetland. It is botanically unique being at sea level and containing plants that would normally grow at higher altitudes. The lagoon is an important site for wading birds.

The extensive peat bog includes manuka shrubland, dracophyllum tanglefern and wirerush communities. The lagoon fringe includes oioi, red tussock and flax and ponds within the peatbog are surrounded by sphagnum moss and have a wide range of wetland plants and impressive displays of sun orchids and sundews in January.

## Tracks and Interpretation

A wheelchair standard boardwalk track leads to a shelter containing good interpretation of the history and ecology of the area. A further gravelled track gives a 2 hour circular walk through the wetland.

## Plant List

Note this list was compiled from various visits by Brian Rance

\* exotic species

### Podocarps

Halocarpus bidwillii bog pine

### Trees & shrubs

Coprosma elatirioides	swamp coprosma
Coprosma foetidissima	stinkwood
Coprosma propinqua	mingimingi
Coprosma tayloriae	a coprosma
Cyathodes empetrifolia	a sub-shrub
Cyathodes juniperina	prickly mingiming
Dracophyllum oliverii	swamp inaka
Gaultheria antipoda	false beech
Gaultheria macrostigma	a sub shrub
Griselinia littoralis	broadleaf

Leptospermum scoparium  
Ozothamnus vauvilliersii  
Pentachondra pumila  
\*Sambucus nigra  
\*Ulex europaeus

manuka  
cottonwood  
a sub shrub  
elderberry  
gorse

### **Ferns**

Blechnum minus  
Blechnum novae-zelandiae  
Blechnum penna-marina  
Blechnum procerum  
Gleichenia dicarpa  
Histeopteris incisa  
Ophioglossum coriaceum  
Phymatosorus diversifolius  
Pteridium esculentum

swamp kiokio  
kiokio  
little hard fern  
hard fern  
tangle fern  
water fern  
Adder's tongue fern  
hounds tongue fern  
bracken

### **Herbs**

Acaena novae-zelandiae  
Actinotus novae-zelandiae  
\*Calatriche stagnalis  
Celmisia gracilentia  
Centella uniflora  
Donatia novae-zelandiae  
Drosera binata  
Drosera spathulata  
Gonocarpus micranthus  
\*Hypochaeris radicata  
\*Leycesteria formosa  
\*Lotus pedunculata  
Nertera depressa  
Nertera scapanoides  
\*Ranunculus flammula  
\*Rubus laciniatus  
Senecio minimus

a biddibid  
a herb  
starwort  
a daisy  
a herb  
a cushion  
a sundew  
a sundew  
a creeping herb  
catsear  
Himalayan honeysuckle  
birdsfoot trefoil  
a creeping herb  
a creeping herb  
spearwort  
cut leaved blackberry  
fireweed

### **Grasses**

\*Agrostis capillaris  
\*Anthoxanthum odoratum  
Chionochloa rubra  
Cortaderia richardii  
\*Dactylis glomerata  
Hierochloa redolens  
\*Holcus lanatus  
\*Poa annua

browntop  
sweet vernal  
red tussock  
toetoe  
cocksfoot  
holy grass  
Yorkshire fog  
annual poa

### **Sedges**

Baumea huttonii  
Baumea tenax  
Carex appressa  
Carex geminata  
Carex secta  
Carex sinclairii?  
Isolepis aucklandicus  
Isolepis salcatus var. distigmatusus

a sedge  
a sedge  
a sedge  
cutty grass  
pedicelled sedge  
a sedge  
a dwarf sedge  
a sedge

### **Orchids**

Aporostylis bifolia  
Caladenia chlorostylis

an orchid  
an orchid

Chiloglottis cornutta  
Pterostylis sp.  
Microtis uniflora  
Thelymitra venosa

an orchid  
a green hooded orchid  
onion orchid  
veined blue sun orchid

**Rushes**

\*Juncus bufonius  
Juncus edgariae  
\*Juncus effusus  
Juncus pallidus  
Juncus planifolius  
\*Juncus procerus  
Leptocarpus similis  
\*Luzula congesta

toad rush  
a rush  
soft rush  
a giant rush  
leafy rush  
a giant rush  
jointed rush  
a wood rush

**Other monocots**

Astelia fragrans  
Cordyline australis  
Empodisma minus  
Herpolirion novae-zelandiae  
Phormium tenax

bush lily/flax  
cabbage tree  
wirerush  
sky lily  
lowland flax

**Find Out More** about any of these plants by looking them up on the New Zealand Plant Conservation Website – [www.nzpcn.org.nz](http://www.nzpcn.org.nz)