Honour the Maunga's submission on Tūpuna Maunga Authority's draft Operational Plan and budget 2022/23



10 March 2022

Submission prepared by:

Anna Radford [Address, email, phone number redacted]

Yo Heta-Lensen (Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Hine) [Address, email, phone number redacted]

Anna Radford and Yo Heta-Lensen wish to make an oral submission on behalf of Honour the Maunga and request that our written and oral submissions are minuted

About Honour the Maunga

Honour the Maunga is a grassroots community group that has for more than two years been advocating to prevent Tūpuna Maunga Authority from felling 345 healthy, mature exotic trees at Ōwairaka / Mt Albert – nearly half the maunga's tree cover. Our members are drawn from a wide range of ethnicities, walks of life, and age groups.

As you will be aware, a recent judicial decision found the Authority acted unlawfully by failing to consult with the public over its decision to fell Ōwairaka's exotic trees. It also concluded Auckland Council acted unlawfully by not publicly notifying the tree felling resource consent. However, the decision also leaves the door open for the TMA to fell the trees in future, provided the consultation obligations are met. Furthermore, the TMA's Chairperson Paul Majurey is publicly signalling an intention to explore challenging the decision in the Supreme Court and/or working to effect law change to undermine it. This means the trees' long-term safety is not guaranteed and nor are ratepayers' rights to be consulted about expensive, significantly impactful developments such as felling the maunga trees.

Although our submission largely focuses on Ōwairaka examples, what we say applies to the draft Operational Plan's proposed actions and budgets for all maunga.

This submission's key areas of focus

This submission will focus on the following aspects of the proposed Tūpuna Maunga Authority 2022/23 Operational Plan and budget, and we request that Auckland Council votes in a manner that...

- 1. Supports <u>constructiv</u>e community conversations and education around te ao Māori by...
 - Funding a community engagement and communication programme that provides all the
 people of Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland with good faith opportunities to have (two-way)
 conversations with Auckland Council and Tūpuna Maunga Authority so to co-actualise the
 Tūpuna Maunga values and the co-governance partnership. This will help to facilitiate a greater
 sense of whanaungatanga and community relationship with the maunga for all the people of
 Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland.

2. SUPPORTS THE COUNCIL'S CLIMATE MANAGEMENT GOALS BY...

- Rejecting any Auckland Council or Tūpuna Maunga Authority budget for felling the maunga exotic trees (or native trees for that matter)
- Assigning budget for a maunga tree ecosystem services study that includes analysis of the
 consequences to the maunga and surrounding land of removing all exotic trees from each
 maunga over a short period of time. Most especially the consequences to the storm water and
 carbon sequestration and climate management and mitigation services these trees are currently
 providing both locally and across Tāmaki Makaurau.

3. EXERCISES FISCAL PRUDENCY, AND PROMOTES INCREASED TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY BY...

- Not approving further expenditure on legal action pertaining to the judicial decision
- **Not approving** any ratepayer-funded expenditure on activities pertaining to legislative change that in any way relates to the recent judicial decision about the maunga tree issue
- Rejecting any budget for the UNESCO World Heritage bid
- **Reducing** the Authority's 2022/23 budget to at most no more than last year's figure of \$10,449,000
- Requiring the Authority to be fully transparent regarding its operational and fiscal intentions, including <u>unambiguously</u> worded budget line items and associated reporting on those items
- Withholding the Tūpuna Maunga Authority 2022/23 budget vote until you are fully satisfied
 that the Authority is being fully transparent regarding its operational intentions and fiscal
 requirements, and until measures are in place to ensure full annual reporting on how the
 previous year's budget was actually spent

This submission will now discuss those matters in more detail.

1. Please vote in a way that supports <u>constructive</u> community conversations and education around te ao Māori

We are concerned at the extent to which Tūpuna Maunga Authority's environmental decisions are proving to be racially divisive. This is undermining – not supporting – constructive community education around te ao Māori. Such actions also undermine the Authority's own values stated in the Operational Plan, particularly the following:

- Wairuatanga / Spiritual value: Restoring customary practices and associated knowledge
- Mana Aotūroa / Culture and Heritage value: Protecting the integrity of the Tūpuna Maunga / Active restoration and enhancement of the natural features of the maunga
- Mauri Pūnaha Hauropi / Ecology and Biodiversity: Maunga tū ora, Maunga tu Mākaurau ora / If the Maunga are well, Auckland is well
- Mana Honanga Tangata / Living Connection: Actively nurture positive relationships / Rekindle the sense of living connection between the Maunga and the people / Alignment with the Tūpuna Maunga values

The Authority claims it will be "healing" the maunga by destroying around 2500 healthy mature nonnative trees. Such actions and beliefs completely disregard the inter-connected relationships that have been built up in te taiao (the natural world), which is a central feature of whanaungatanga (a pattern of right relationships) within te ao Māori (the Māori world view). Felling the trees threatens to *disrupt* rather than heal the maunga in the same way it is disrupting by dividing the people who live around the maunga.

When it comes to the environment, mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) places care for Papatūānuku at the front and centre of decision-making and relationships. It does not differentiate between native and exotic and instead treats the environment – including trees, birds and insects - as a whole. It therefore pains us deeply that the Authority is promulgating a divisive and environmentally harmful narrative that trees need to felled purely on the basis that they are non-native and therefore seemingly have no mauri (life force) or serve no purpose to the environment.

We ask that the budget be established to give the community good faith opportunities to have (two-way) conversations with Tūpuna Maunga Authority so to co-actualise the Tūpuna Maunga values. This will help to facilitiate a greater sense of whanaungatanga and community relationship with the maunga for all the people of Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland.

2. Please vote in a way that supports the Council's climate management goals

The maunga represent a significant proportion of Auckland's urban green space and, as such, provide invaluable climate management, ecological and amenity value. Yet approving the Operational Plan's budget as it currently stands is tantamount to approving Tūpuna Maunga Authority's plans to rid Auckland's maunga of all exotic trees – some 2500 in all. Such an action comes against the backdrop of the following within a 5 km radius of Ōwairaka / Mt Albert alone:

- Many thousands of (mostly native) plants and trees destroyed during the recent Western Springs Forest clearance
- Hundreds of mature native and exotic trees already / about to be felled as part of the intensified housing development on United lands
- Hundreds of mature native and exotic trees felled in housing developments throughout the area
- The Authority's plans to fell 160 exotic trees on Puketāpapa / Mt Roskill

Supporting the Authority to rid the volcanic cones of all non-native trees and "replace" them with mostly grasses, flaxes and shrubs contradicts Auckland Council's Climate Plan and raises questions about the Council's Environment and Climate levies – something that is not lost on ratepayers.

We stress that the true impact of the Authority's plans on the habitat and biodiversity of the maunga has not been made clear by the way in which the Authority has presented those plans. For example, the Operational Plan's references to "restoring indigenous native ecosystems" could imply the Authority intends to cloak the maunga in trees, yet the reality is very different.

2.1 To date the Tūpuna Maunga Authority plantings have a high attrition rate and represent poor use of ratepayer funds

Since 2019, Tūpuna Maunga Authority has variously claimed it will be putting in 9,000 - 13,000 native trees / native plantings at Ōwairaka / Mt Albert. Honour the Maunga conducted research by way of official information requests and on-the-ground counting at Ōwairaka to see what progress has been made. It is clear there is no intention to "cloak" the maunga in trees, as can be seen in the following Authority-supplied information about plantings at Ōwairaka:

2019: 2700 plants **2020**: 2245 plants **2021**: 235 plants

This is a total of 5180 native plants apparently put in at Ōwairaka so far. Our late 2021 count of all the new native plantings totaled around 1500. That's 3680 short of what was apparently planted. We know

many have died, and we know in some cases there appears to be a gap between what the Authority says was planted, and what was actually planted.

Either way, this represents poor use of ratepayers' money and will not come close to replacing the carbon and stormwater sequestration, amenity value and habitats that would be lost if they fell the mature non-native trees.

Furthermore, we have received expert advice that denuding the maunga lands of large tracts of trees will result in those trees being replaced by the invasive kikuyu grass and other weed species.



The Authority's 2021 total plantings by the Ōwairaka archery field, many of which have since died. This, and some infill planting in a garden by the domain entry gate, represents the sum total of that year's plantings. Note the use of herbicide, which runs off into the aquifer that feeds into nearby Meola Creek.



Self-sown native species growing happily and healthily under the protective cover of a (ribboned) exotic tree. 99.9% of self-sown species on Ōwairaka are natives.

Note that <u>natural native regeneration is in keeping</u> <u>with the Authority's long-term vegetation</u> succession goals costs ratepayers nothing!

2.2 Contrary to the impression often given by the Authority, a substantial majority of these planned native plants are not 'trees'

As can be seen in the planting plans in Appendix A, only three of the planned native species at Ōwairaka will grow to 10 m or more at maturity. The vast majority of intended plantings are grasses, flaxes and shrubs akin to motorway plantings. The same approach applies at all maunga.

As such the proposed plantings have zero potential to replace the carbon and stormwater sequestration, climate management and amenity value abilities of the mature exotics the Authority intends to fell. They also have zero potential to replace the food, nesting sites, homes and shelter for native birds that prefer tall trees (e.g., kereru / wood pigeon, ruru / morepork, kākā / native parrot, etc.).

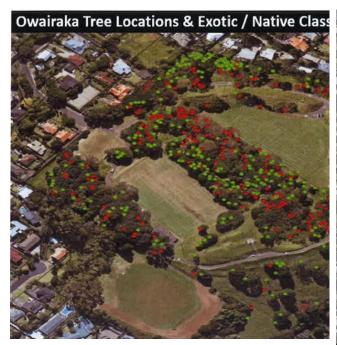
Please understand that plantings are NOT planned for the areas where the exotics currently are, as can be seen in the diagrams on the next page. Therefore, retaining the exotic trees does not in any way impede the Authority's native planting programme.

Furthermore, removing nearly half of Ōwairaka's entire tree cover (and up to 75% on some maunga) and replacing it with mostly low-growing vegetation runs counter to the Operational Plan's stated intention to restoring indigenous biodiversity and attracting indigenous species. A question to ask yourself is what is likely to be the effect on the native birds, insect and microfauna that use the exotic trees as food, homes, nesting sites and shelter during the 50-100 years it takes the small number of native tree plantings to reach maturity – if indeed they survive at all.

We submit that the replacement of large, mature trees with much smaller species will represent a near total loss of habitat and therefore a disaster for local biodiversity on this Special Ecological Area. Further, the removal of bird habitat with no intention of replacement, destroys Ōwairaka as an important stepping-stone habitat and significant part of Auckland's habitat corridor for birds and other biodiversity, which are constantly migrating across the isthmus.

2.3 It's not just about what will be planted but where it will be planted

Other Tūpuna Maunga Authority documentation reveals the intention to only plant in restricted areas with the net result being largely bare looking maunga. Although we provide an Ōwairaka example below, this intent is evident across other maunga too.



The green dots are native trees, which will not be felled. All of the exotics (red dots) are to be felled.



No plantings at all are planned for the pink or light green areas. Only low-growing Muehlenbeckia / Pohuehue will be planted in the brown areas. All other plantings will be in the dark green areas. In essence, this means the plantings will be confined to the inner rim of the archery field, and around the entry gate.

2.4 Comparisons with Tiritirimatangi reveal the true picture

Some of Tūpuna Maunga Authority's supporters have compared the Authority's maunga revegetation project to the Tiritirimatangi Island one. A comparison of the two is illuminating. In the 10 years to 1994, volunteers planted between 250,000 and 300,000 natives on Tiritirimatangi, resulting in a 60% forest cover today. The remaining 40% was left as grasslands for birds like takahē, which prefer an open environment.

By comparison, the Authority claims it intends to plant up to 13,000 natives (mostly NOT trees) on Ōwairaka / Mt Albert. At the same time, it plans to destroy all of the current non-native vegetation - up to 75% of the entire tree cover on ome maunga, and nearly half of the entire tree cover on Ōwairaka.

Tiri is 22 hectares, and Ōwairaka is 9.547 ha - 43% the size of Tiritirmatangi. This means between 108,500 and 130,200 natives would need to be planted at Ōwairaka for its native restoration to come even close to Tiritirimatangi's.

Please reject any Auckland Council or Tūpuna Maunga Authority budget for felling the maunga exotic trees (or native trees for that matter).

Please assign budget for a maunga tree ecosystem services study that includes analysis of the consequences to the maunga and surrounding land of removing all exotic trees from each maunga over a short period of time. Most especially the consequences to the storm water and carbon sequestration and climate management and mitigation services these trees are currently providing both locally and across Tāmaki Makaurau.

3. Please vote in a way that exercises fiscal prudency, and promotes increased transparency and accountability

The Authority's request for an additional \$2 million in its draft Operational Plan budget comes against a backdrop of Auckland Council's debt increasing by \$106 million, to \$10.5 billion. A projected \$85 million operating shortfall meant the Council's capital investment in infrastructure and community assets was also down by 24 per cent, coming to \$917 million. Interest rate rises will further add to Council debt.

News media reports highlight Councillors agreeing the budget needs to achieve faster and further action on climate change, and resilient and flexible response to "immediate budget pressures". At the same time, Council intends to implement a targeted rate for climate action as well as boost total rates bills for an average value home by around 6 per cent.

Intensification and rampant tree felling as described above means that well treed green spaces are going to be needed more than ever. We question how the Council can ethically vote budget for even more of what has happened at Mangere, Pigeon Mountain and Mt Wellington – where the Authority has already felled several hundred trees at huge cost to ratepayers and "replaced" them with poorly maintained largely low-growing species, many of which have died. Refer to the photos over the page for examples.

An example of the true costs of the tree felling

Based on information obtained via LGOIMA requests, we know that proposed tree felling on Ōwairaka / Mt Albert will cost at least \$1.1 million for tree felling and removal, reports, admin, etc.) based on 2019 figures. Today's costs would be even higher.

Those 2019 figures included at least \$30,000 quoted for felling and helicopter removal of a single large tree. At that time, the cost of felling that single tree was the equivalent of 8.5 years worth of rates for one average Mt Albert residential property.

Such actions do not benefit ratepayers, do not support climate or stormwater management and will not help create a world-class international city.

It has been suggested by various Authority members that the best cost efficiencies are to be gained by removing all exotic trees at once. We refute that suggestion given that these trees don't need to be removed in the first place. Decades-long succession would enable any <u>necessary</u> removals to be absorbed into ongoing general maintenance budgets, with no special budget being required.

Please reduce the Authority's 2022/23 budget to – at most – no more than last year's figure of \$10,449,000



Pigeon Mountain





We note the Operational Plan budget includes activities for reducing fire risk – a prudent measure in our view. However, as can be seen in the photos above, extensive removal of mature tree coverage will open the way for more extensive growth of invasive grasses such as kikuyu, which during dry summers will quickly brown off in open, barren environments thus further increasing the fire hazard on maunga whose trees have been felled.

As an Authority, the TMA can to an extent require Auckland Council to follow its directions. However, Auckland Council is obliged on behalf of ratepayers to ensure fiscal (and consultative) prudence in the budgets assigned to the Authority's operational plans. This is evidenced in a 2019 opinion piece about the maunga tree situation, by Chris Finlayson (the Minister who oversaw the Collective Redress Act). The bold underlined text is our emphasis.

- a) Section 60 [of the Collective Redress Act] provides that each financial year, the Authority and the Council must agree an annual operational plan. Note subsection (4) which sets out the kinds of matters that need to be addressed, including restoration work and strategic projects;
- (b) The Auckland Council is responsible for routine management and costs (sections 61 and 62);
- (c) Each year, the Council must meet with Tamaki iwi to discuss matters related to the maunga, including:
- (i) The performance of the Maunga Authority during the year; and
- (ii) The proposed activities of the Maunga Authority in the following year (section 64).

As can be seen, the Council is not some nodding automaton. It needs to engage with the Authority on both current and future activities. It must have its say bearing in mind that the maunga are held for the common benefit of Manawhenua and the other people of Auckland. That is why I would expect the Council to have a view about, for example, removing crosses from Mount Roskill, removal of trees from Mount Albert and arrangements for the Pakuranga Tennis Club at Ohuiarangi/Pigeon Mountain. I would also have thought that the Council would be keen to consult with the Auckland community about their hopes for the maunga.

3.1 The Authority's Operational Plan budgets don't reveal the full picture

Consideration of the Authority's Operational Plan and budget also needs to take account of Auckland Council's own expenditure relating to the maunga themselves and the Authority, thus providing a true and transparent picture of true costs to ratepayers. Expenditure includes staffing, legal costs, use of office and administrative facilities, parks-related services, etc.

Furthermore, as experience shows, the Authority's Operational Plans (and its Integrated Management Plan) contain ambiguous wording (e.g. "inappropriate" exotics) that do not make clear the Authority's specific intention to rid all maunga of all non-native trees. In early 2020, Cr Fletcher raised this very issue in a Governing Body meeting when she noted the Authority's Operational Plan 2019/20 plan had not made it clear so many trees would be felled. She asked how, in approving a similarly worded plan and budget for this year, could the Council be sure it didn't contain any other fishhooks.

During the ensuing debate several councillors shut the discussion down by implying it was racist to ask questions. As can be seen from Chris Finlayson's opinion piece above, it is not racist to ask questions about significant ratepayer funded expenditure; it is good (co)governance.

With this in mind, we encourage Auckland Council to fully understand exactly what the following Operational Plan action items mean and to also question the extent to which some of them lie within the Authority's scope. Note that all underlining is our emphasis.

- **Page 17:** Establishment of a <u>compliance programme</u> including a review of current and <u>establishment of</u> appropriate bylaws.
- Page 21: On-site staff to protect and enhance the Tūpuna Maunga and the visitor experience.
- **Page 21:** Develop, in <u>partnership</u> with mana whenua <u>and stakeholders</u>, programmes that help share the values of the Tūpuna Maunga and increasing support for the protection and restoration of these values.
- **Page 18:** Exploration of facilities and activities on, <u>around and between</u> the Tūpuna Maunga which provide for passive and active recreational opportunities. [Our comment is this out of scope?]

Page 21: Potential <u>transfer of administration of Crown and Council land contiguous to</u> other Tūpuna Maunga pursuant to s110 of Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau Collective Redress Act 2014.

Page 22: Neighbours and local communities - Communicate and collaborate with neighbours, local communities and key decision makers to enhance the values of the Tūpuna Maunga. The initial focus for this will be on informing them of key developments, engagement in the biosecurity programme and the development of the individual Tūpuna Maunga plans. [Our comment – communities don't want simply to be "informed" and we don't want only one-way "consultation" where the Authority and Council "listens". We would like two-way conversations.]

Page 22: <u>Influence developments</u> in Auckland to ensure that the Tūpuna Maunga remain markers in the landscape and their cultural and natural features <u>remain visually apparent</u>. [Our comment – does this go beyond the well-established planning practice of protecting maunga sightlines from being built out and, if so, how?]

Page 22: Advocate for the acquisition/transfer land to enable the Maunga Authority to manage <u>adjoining land</u> that comprise <u>the true extent of the Tūpuna Maunga</u> to enable integrated management and development. [Our comment – does or could "adjoining land" include private property? Exactly what is considered "the true extent" of the Tūpuna Maunga?]

Page 23: Establish pest proof areas through working with neighbours and partners and the <u>installation</u> of pest proof fencing. [Our comment – we question the value to ratepayers of installing (expensive) pest proof fencing given that the Authority's intention is for the maunga to be largely bare and for most new plantings to be low-growing species. Exactly which native species will the pest proof fencing be designed to protect? And could this fencing in future be used as a mechanism to restrict public access to the maunga in future?]

Given our personal experiences with Tūpuna Maunga Authority over the past two+ years, and the ongoing ambiguities in the way the plans are worded, we encourage councilors not to take any statements at face value and fully to understand the actual intent before approving any budgets.

Please require the Authority to be fully transparent regarding its operational and fiscal intentions, including <u>unambiguously</u> worded budget line items and associated reporting on those items.

3.2 The ratepayer funded cost of ongoing legal and/or legislative change action around this issue

As of 1 October 2021, legal fees alone associated with the Ōwairaka tree judicial action had cost ratepayers:

Auckland Council's defense: \$254,017 + GST

Tūpuna Maunga Authority's defense: \$614,067 + GST

Total (all borne from Auckland Council's budget): \$868,084 + GST

The total costs may well be even higher by now.

Following the recent judicial decision, the Authority's Chairman Paul Majurey has publicly announced he is considering an appeal. He has also suggested the Authority may take action to effect changes to the Reserves Act. Ratepayers will bear the cost of any further legal action – legal action that is designed to give "the other people of Auckland" no voice in Authority's environmentally destructive decisions even though it is a co-governance body.

We submit that it would be morally and fiscally irresponsible for Auckland Council to assign budget to legal action that is designed to prevent public consultation and support planned actions fell thousands of trees...while at the same time increasing rates and charging ratepayers an unpopular Climate Levy.

Please vote against any further money being spent on legal or legislative change action pertaining to the maunga tree issue.

Please withhold the Tūpuna Maunga Authority 2022/23 budget vote until you are fully satisfied that the Authority is being fully transparent regarding its operational intentions and fiscal requirements, and until measures are in place to ensure full annual reporting on how the previous year's budget was actually spent

3.3 We question using ratepayer funds for a UNESCO World Heritage application given the current circumstances

We note the 2022/23 draft Operational Plan and budget provides for \$125,000 expenditure on progressing the UNESCO World Heritage bid. We believe this bid is almost certainly doomed to failure because the Authority's behaviour towards local communities (as confirmed by the recent judicial decision) directly contravenes the World Heritage Convention's strategic objectives, which are:

- The involvement of local communities should be based on constructive dialogue and should enable a collaborative decision-making opportunity between all stakeholders
- Community-involvement should lead to a mutual understanding and collaboration among all stakeholders involved in the protection and development of World Heritage sites
- Through the communication with donors, local stakeholders and with investors the co-ordination of
 activities and strategies should be improved as well as the dialogue between (national and local)
 authorities with the civil society concerning the management and the future of the World Heritage
 property should be enabled or even improved
- An important aspect represents the awareness raising of the local communities and the wider public

Judicial action aside:

- The Māori-led Respect Mt Richmond community group has publicly stated its intention to occupy that maunga should the Authority move to fell its 443 exotic trees (75% of the entire tree cover)
- Other communities are considering action to protect the trees on their local maunga if and when the chainsaws come out
- Many thousands have signed our online and hard-copy tree-saving petition
- People from all walks of life including Mana Whenua have personally told us they support our tree-saving actions.
- In Auckland Council and Tūpuna Maunga Authority's 2020/21 budget consultations:
 - Auckland Council received 154 budget submissions of which 120 did not support single-stage tree felling on the maunga and 5 did support it.
 - Tūpuna Maunga Authority receiving 176 budget submissions of which 139 did not support the tree felling and 4 did.

The Application is unlikely to succeed unless steps are taken to improve community involvement based on mutual understanding and collaboration.

We request that Auckland Council votes against supporting the TMA's budget for the UNESCO World Heritage accreditation process.

Appendix A - The Authority's planting plans for Ōwairaka / Mt Albert

When reading the planting plan tables below, consider the average height of these doomed exotic trees at the maunga:

Oak = 20 m (there are 17 oaks on Ōwairaka)

Olive = 8-15 m (the are 17 olives on the maunga)

Flame tree = 15-20 m (there is 1 flame tree on the maunga)

Japanese cherry: 6-12 m (there are 130 cherry trees on the maunga)

Eucalyptus: 20-30 m (there are 100 eucalyptus on the maunga)

Poplar = 30 m (there are 8 poplars on the maunga)

Jacaranda = 20 m (there is 1 jacaranda on the maunga)



2019 species	Max height
Austroderia fulvida (toe toe)	3-5 m when in flower
Carex lambertiana (sedge)	0.8 m
Carex testacea (sedge)	0.8 m
Coprosma lucida	6 m

Coprosma rhamnoides (twiggy coprosma)	2 m
Coprosma robusta (karamu)	6 m
Doodia australis (syn. Blechnum parrisiae) (fern)	1 m
Geniostoma ligustrifolium var. ligustrifolium (hangehange)	4 m
Leptospermum scoparium var. scoparium (manuka)	2-5 m
Melicytus ramiflorus (mahoe)	2-5 m
Muehlenbeckia complexa (pohuehue)	scrambling
Myrsine australis (mapau)	6 m
Phormium cookianum (mountain flax)	1 m

2020 species	Max height
Asplenium oblongifolium (spleenwort / huruhuruwhenua)	1.5 m
Astelia banksia (Wharawhara) (spleenwort / huruhuruwhenua)	1-2 m
Blechnum novae-zelandiae (kiokio)	2 m
Carex lambertiana (sedge)	1 m
Coprosma rhamnoides (twiggy coprosma)	2 m
Coprosma robusta (karamu)	6 m

Corynocarpus laevigatus (karaka)	15 m
Dodonaea viscosa (akeake)	10 m
Doodia australis (fern)	1 m
Entelea arborescens (whau)	8 m
Muehlenbeckia complexa (pohuehue)	scrambling
Phormium cookianum (mountain flax)	1 m
Phormium tenax (flax / harakeke)	1-3 m incl flower
Pseudopanax lessonii (houpara)	6 m
Rhopalostylis sapida (nikau)	15 m
Veronica stricta (hebe)	2 m

2021 species	Max height
Dodonaea viscosa (Akeake)	10 m
Muehlenbeckia complexa (Pohuehue)	scrambling
Phormium cookianum (mountain flax)	1 m
Veronica stricta (hebe / koromiko)	2 m