



### Harker Reserve Fencing Project



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This is a Queen Elizabeth National Trust project to protect Harker Reserve by rebuilding fences and enhancing the area which protects a small tributary of the Waikato River.

Harker Reserve is a 21ha lowland hardwood forest registered as a QEII covenant in 1985 by the present owners.

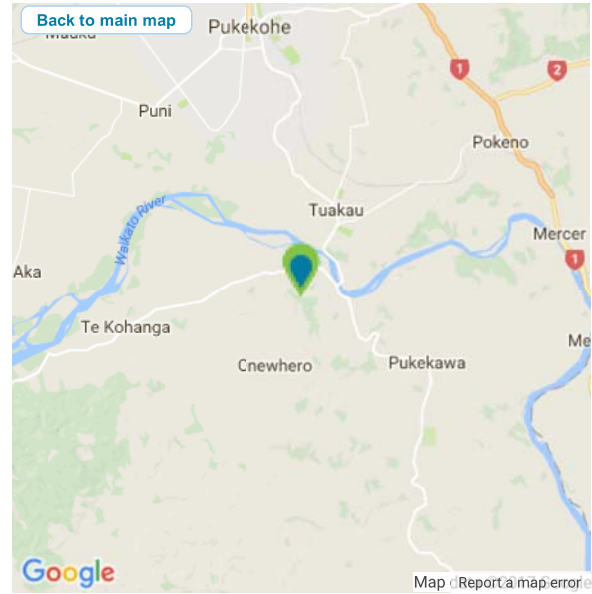
It is a steep eastern facing gorge which protects a small tributary of the Waikato River and is designated a Key Ecological Area by Waikato Regional Council with a high diversity of native species. The Harker reserve track follows the line of the old Half-way Gully Road (once the access road to the Te Wai Heke O Maoa falls – protected in an adjoining QEII covenant to the west.

Management of the covenants and track is assisted by a group of community volunteers. Although Harker Reserve is in private ownership, it has a high local profile and is used extensively by the public. The fence along the northern side of the covenant is nearly 30 years old and approximately 1200m is beyond the scope of normal repair work. It is possible to utilise most of the existing posts, although some strainer and angle posts are undersized, and most battens need to be renewed.

There are some sections which need to be rebuilt completely or repositioned to firmer ground, away from minor slumps and guts.

This project received funding from the Waikato River Authority (WRA 12-038)

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