

# State forest dedicated areas

STATE FOREST dedicated areas throughout the country are not generally well known, and some members may wish to have this information when they are travelling or on holiday. An up-to-date listing of all State forest dedicated areas appeared in *Forest Management Information*, No. 25, issued by the Forest Service in November last year. This listing is published below and should be a useful reference to those interested.

## Forest sanctuaries

The original Forests Act 1874 recognised the problem of resource depletion in our forests and the need for the institution of conservation measures. Succeeding this, the 1921-22 Forests Act contained limited provisions for the setting aside of areas for ecological conservation, these being further supported by the Forests Act 1949. The latter greatly enhanced the ability of the Forest Service to dedicate areas for scientific purposes to be known as State forest sanctuaries.

Since 1951, 14 such areas have been gazetted by proclamation of the Governor-General and the Minister of Forests, their primary purpose being to preserve indigenous flora and fauna in their natural state. The areas are shown below.

Declaration of a forest sanctuary precludes any form of exploitation such as timber felling, mining, and the granting of lease or privileges over the land or the forest produce. Public

entry is by permit only, and any use by the public is restricted whenever activities are likely to affect the values for which the sanctuary is dedicated.

## Ecological and allied dedicated areas

The combination of the Forests Amendment Act 1973 and 1976 enabled State forest areas to be dedicated for specific purposes where some special natural value or management objective needs to be protected. Such areas may have ecological, historical, cultural, educational, or other special values.

New Zealand is at present being partitioned into a mosaic of ecological regions and districts principally based on the unifying of features of vegetation pattern, climate, geomorphology, and soils. Within each district a series of ecological areas is being established. Most commonly these areas are representative of the district's forest pattern and sequence.

### Forest sanctuaries

Name	State forest (park)	Conservancy	Area (ha)	Gazette (year)
Omahuta	SF 5	Auckland	6	1951
Waipoua	SF 13	Auckland	9 105	1952
Erua	SF 97	Wellington	7	1954
Oapui	SF 125	Wellington	1	1956
Esk	SF 115	Wellington	157	1963
Rocky Hills	SF 49	Wellington	404	1970
Te Arai	SF 187	Auckland	5	1970
Whirinaki	SF 58	Rotorua	163	1971
Manaia	CSFP	Auckland	481	1972
Hikutau	NWNSFP	Nelson	850	1973
Hihitahi	SF 69	Wellington	2 170	1973
Wairahi	SF 165	Auckland	470	1973
Ngatukituki	K-MSFP	Auckland	1 600	1973
Wararawa	SF 6	Auckland	869	1979
Total			16 288	

### Abbreviations

CSFP: Coromandel State Forest Park.  
K-MSFP: Kaimai-Mamaku State Forest Park.  
Pir SFP: Pirongia State Forest Park.  
Pur SFP: Pureora State Forest Park.  
NWNSFP: North-West Nelson State Forest Park.  
VSFP: Victoria State Forest Park.  
HSFP: Hanmer State Forest Park.  
AA: Archaeological area.

Am A: Amenity area.  
BA: Biological area.  
EA: Ecological area.  
GA: Geological area.  
HA: Historical area.  
KMA: Kauri management area.  
WA: Wetlands area.