

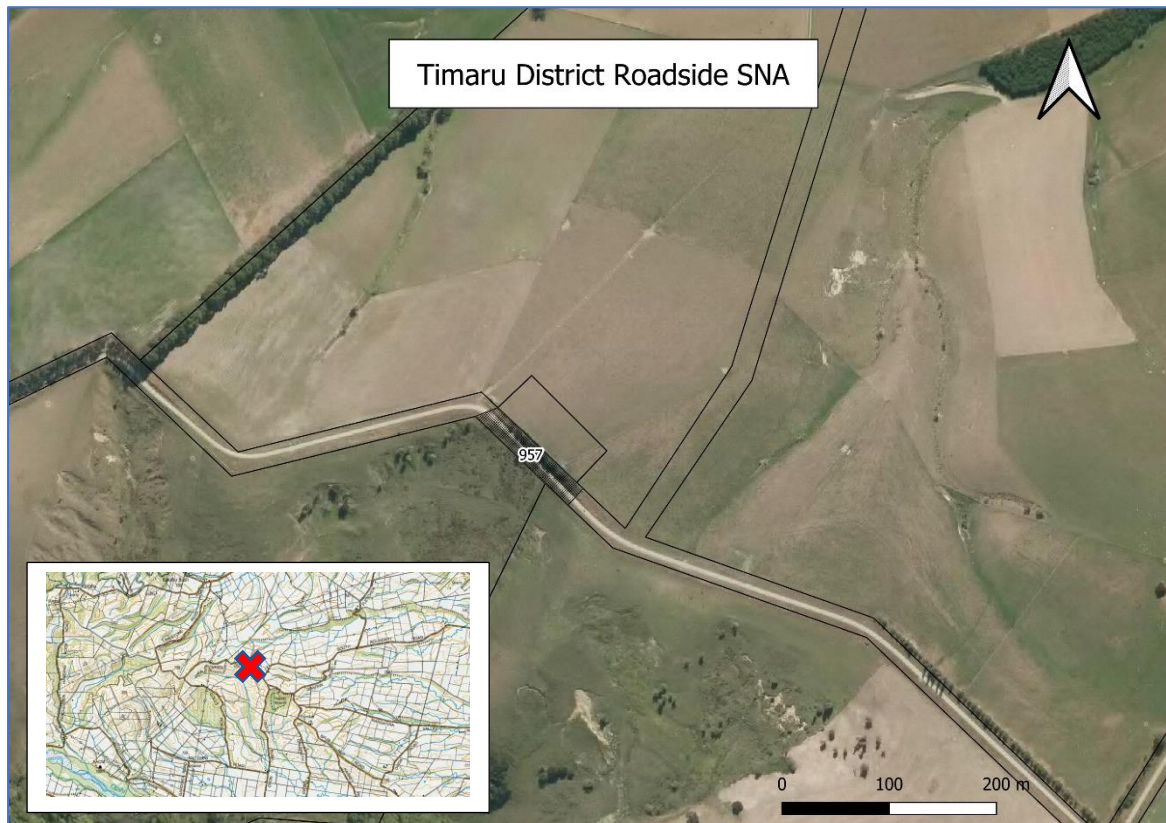
# TIMARU DISTRICT SIGNIFICANT NATURAL AREAS

ROADSIDE SNA SURVEY 2022

SNA 957

**Road:** Saddle Road  
**Side of Road:** north  
**Map Reference (NZTM):** 1448811E-5107152N  
**Ecological District:** Geraldine

**Nearest Locality:** Kakahu Bush  
**Adjacent Property:** 24670-11600  
**Size:** 0.32ha  
**Level IV Land Environment:** N3.1e



## Description:

A narrow strip of low-forest on the uphill (north) side on the road, on and above a steep road-cutting. The forest is dominated by mahoe (*Melicytus ramiflorus*). Other canopy species are lemonwood (*Pittosporum eugenioides*), *Coprosma areolata*, scrub pohuehue (*Muehlenbeckia complexa*) and pohuehue (*Muehlenbeckia australis*).

Additional indigenous species present at the forest margin or understorey are mingimingi (*Coprosma propinqua*), ti/cabbage tree (*Cordyline australis*), mapou (*Myrsine australis*), *Coprosma rotundifolia*, kohuhu (*Pittosporum tenuifolium*), prickly shield fern (*Polystichum vestitum*), *Hypolepis ambigua*, bracken (*Pteridium esculentum*), necklace fern (*Asplenium flabellifolium*), blue tussock (*Poa colensoi*) and *Hypnum cupressiforme*.

The forest margin is dominated by rank exotic grassland dominated by cocksfoot (*Dactylis glomerata*). Other exotic species present are yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), nodding thistle (*Carduus nutans*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*) and foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*). A single ti/cabbage tree and several mingimingi shrubs are present on the south side of the road.



Low mahoe forest on left; a cabbage tree and mingimingi shrubs on right.

### Notable Species:

No listed 'at risk' or 'threatened' species were observed. *Coprosma areolata* is an uncommon species in this part of the ecological district. The area is within the existing range of long-tailed bat (*Chalinolobus tuberculatus* "South Island") in South Canterbury. Long-tailed bat are listed as a threatened (nationally critical) species<sup>1</sup>. Cabbage trees are commonly used as roost or nest sites by bats.

### Significance Assessment:

Assessment against Canterbury Regional Policy Statement Appendix 3 criteria:

Criteria	Rank	Assessment
Representativeness	<b>M</b>	1. A degraded example of indigenous vegetation, representing all that remains in this part of the ecological district.
Rarity/Distinctiveness	<b>H</b>	3. Indigenous vegetation/habitat that has been reduced to less than 20% of its former extent in the ecological district.
Diversity and Pattern	<b>L</b>	A low diversity of indigenous ecosystems, habitat types, or taxa.

<sup>1</sup> O'Donnell, C.F.J.; Christie, J.E.; Lloyd, B.; Parsons, S.; Hitchmough, R.A. 2013. Conservation status of New Zealand bats 2012. *New Zealand Threat Classification Series 6*. Department of Conservation, Wellington.

Ecological Context	<b>L/M</b>	Vegetation/habitat that does not provide or contribute to an important ecological linkage or buffering. It may provide habitat for notable indigenous species.
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Assessment against Timaru District Plan Part B criteria:

<b>Primary Criteria</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
Representativeness	<b>M</b>	A depleted example of indigenous vegetation which is typical of that remaining in the ecological district.
Rarity	<b>M</b>	The area supports an indigenous species that is now uncommon in this part of the ecological district ( <i>Coprosma areolata</i> ). It may provide habitat for a 'threatened' species (long-tailed bat).
Diversity and Pattern	<b>L/M</b>	A depleted indigenous plant community.
Distinctiveness/Special Features	<b>L</b>	The area does not support species at distributional limits, or intact sequences. It may provide important fauna habitat.
<b>Other Criteria</b>		
Size/Shape	<b>L/M</b>	The area is small though partly buffered.
Connectivity	<b>M</b>	The area lies near to other areas of indigenous vegetation/habitat and is part of a network of fauna habitat.
Sustainability	<b>M</b>	The area is modified, but the indigenous vegetation appears resilient.

The area is significant when assessed against the Canterbury Regional Policy Statement criteria, principally because it supports indigenous vegetation that has been reduced to less than 20% of its former extent in the ecological district.

**Condition and Management:**

This small area of low-forest is in relatively good condition. The canopy species are healthy and there is some regeneration of woody indigenous species. The area does not appear to be grazed; grazing by domestic stock would threaten the shrubs, especially grazing by cattle. The area should be protected from any herbicide that may be applied to control nearby weed species.

The area lies close to SNAs down-slope on the property to the south (SNAs 198a and 198b).





*Coprosma areolata*.





Mingimingi, scrub pohuehue and necklace fern.

# TIMARU DISTRICT SIGNIFICANT NATURAL AREAS

ROADSIDE SNA SURVEY 2022

SNA 958

**Road:** Saddle Road

**Side of Road:** both sides  
24670-20000

**Map Reference (NZTM):** 1447013E-5106966N

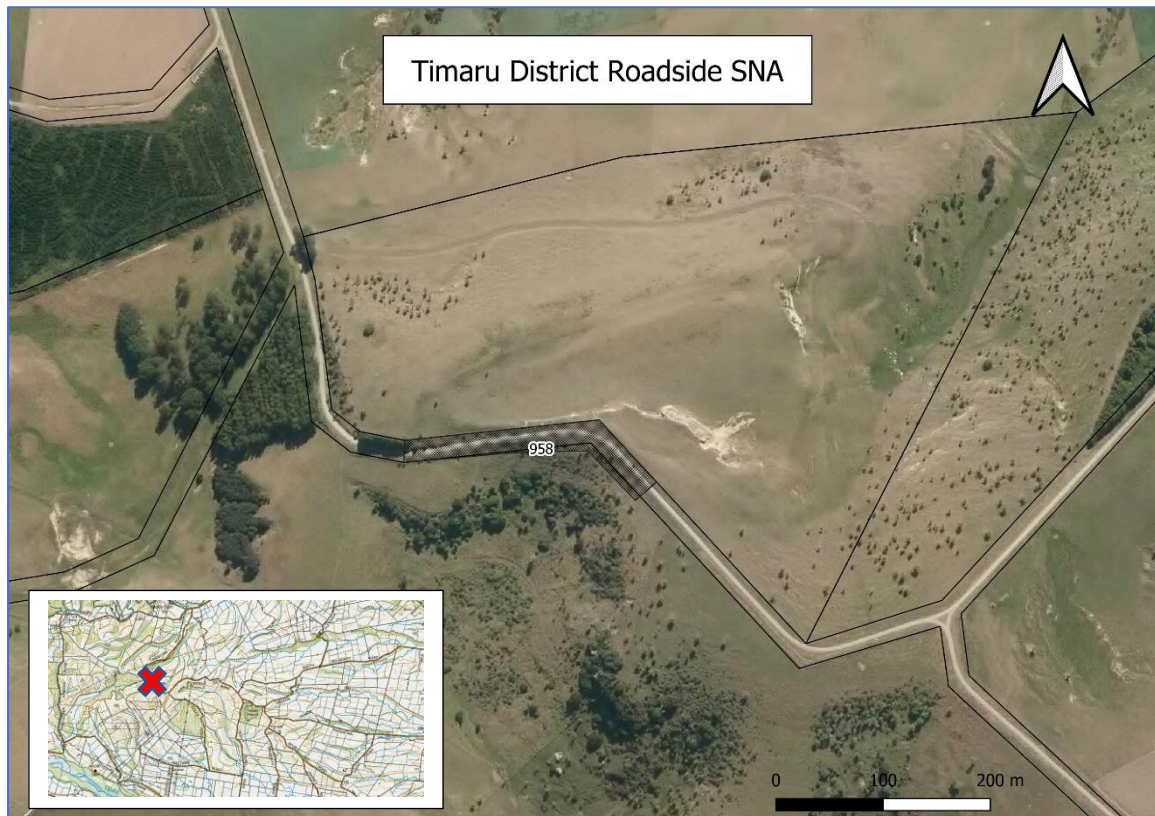
**Ecological District:** Geraldine

**Nearest Locality:** Kakahu Bush

**Adjacent Property:** 24670-21400 and  
24670-20000

**Size:** 0.81ha

**Level IV Land Environment:** N3.1a



## Description:

Narrow strips of shrubland and scattered ti/cabbage trees (*Cordyline australis*) on both sides of the road. The shrubland is dominated by mingimingi (*Coprosma propinqua*). Other canopy species are scrub pohuehue (*Muehlenbeckia complexa*), pohuehue (*Muehlenbeckia australis*) and mistletoe (*Ileostylis micranthus*).

Other indigenous species associated with the shrubland are mahoe (*Melicactus ramiflorus*), matagouri (*Discaria toumatou*), flax (*Phormium tenax*), native broom (*Carmichaelia australis*), bracken (*Pteridium esculentum*) and blue tussock (*Poa colensoi*).

The shrubland margins are dominated by rank exotic grassland dominated by cocksfoot (*Dactylis glomerata*), Chewings fescue (*Festuca rubra*) and yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*). Other exotic species present are bittersweet (*Solanum dulcamara*), blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), Californian thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), red clover (*Trifolium pratense*), browntop (*Agrostis capillaris*) and timothy (*Phleum pratense*).





Mingimingi shrubland on left; with scattered cabbage trees.

Also present are occasional shrubs of gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and a single *Cotoneaster franchetii* shrub.

**Notable Species:**

One species listed<sup>1</sup> as ‘at risk’ (declining) is present at the site: matagouri. The area is within the existing range of long-tailed bat (*Chalinolobus tuberculatus* “South Island”) in South Canterbury. Long-tailed bat are listed as a threatened (nationally critical) species<sup>2</sup>. Cabbage trees are commonly used as roost or nest sites by bats.

**Significance Assessment:**

Assessment against Canterbury Regional Policy Statement Appendix 3 criteria:

Criteria	Rank	Assessment
Representativeness	<b>M</b>	1. A degraded example of indigenous vegetation, representing all that remains in this part of the ecological district.
Rarity/Distinctiveness	<b>H</b>	3. Indigenous vegetation/habitat that has been reduced to less than 20% of its former extent in the ecological district.

<sup>1</sup> de Lange, P.J; Rolfe, J.R; Barkla, J.W; Courtney, S.P; Champion, P.D; Perrie, L.R.; Beadel, S.M.; Ford, K.A.; Breitweiser, I.; Schönberger, I.; Hindmarsh-Walls, R.; Heenan, P.B; Ladley, K. 2018. *Conservation status of New Zealand indigenous vascular plants, 2017*. Department of Conservation, Wellington, New Zealand.

<sup>2</sup> O’Donnell, C.F.J.; Christie, J.E.; Lloyd, B.; Parsons, S.; Hitchmough, R.A. 2013. Conservation status of New Zealand bats 2012. *New Zealand Threat Classification Series 6*. Department of Conservation, Wellington.

	<b>H</b>	4. The area supports an ‘at risk’ (declining) species (matagouri). It may provide habitat for a ‘threatened’ species (long-tailed bat).
Diversity and Pattern	<b>L</b>	A low diversity of indigenous ecosystems, habitat types, or taxa.
Ecological Context	<b>L/M</b>	Vegetation/habitat that does not provide or contribute to an important ecological linkage or buffering. It may provide habitat for notable indigenous species.

Assessment against Timaru District Plan Part B criteria:

<b>Primary Criteria</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
Representativeness	<b>M</b>	A depleted example of indigenous vegetation which is typical of that remaining in the ecological district.
Rarity	<b>M</b>	The area supports an ‘at risk’ (declining) species (matagouri). It may provide habitat for a ‘threatened’ species (long-tailed bat).
Diversity and Pattern	<b>L/M</b>	A depleted indigenous plant community.
Distinctiveness/Special Features	<b>L</b>	The area does not support species at distributional limits, or intact sequences. It may provide important fauna habitat.
<b>Other Criteria</b>		
Size/Shape	<b>L/M</b>	The area is small though partly buffered.
Connectivity	<b>M</b>	The area adjoins another area of indigenous vegetation/habitat and is part of a network of fauna habitat.
Sustainability	<b>M</b>	The area is modified, but the indigenous vegetation appears resilient.

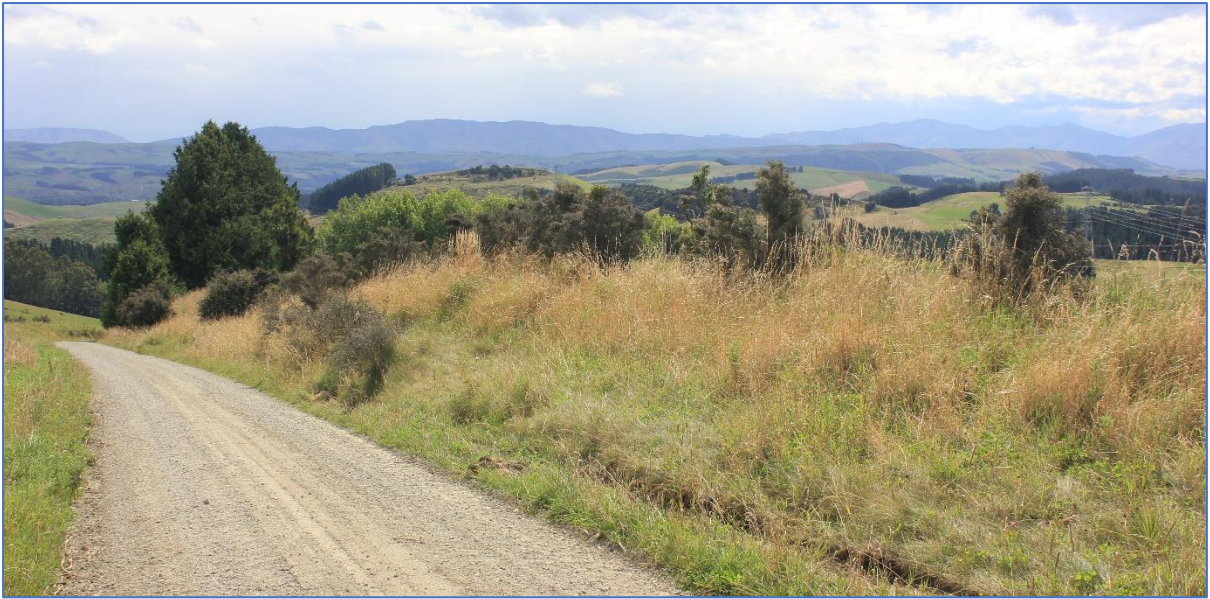
The area is significant when assessed against the Canterbury Regional Policy Statement criteria, principally because it supports indigenous vegetation that has been reduced to less than 20% of its former extent in the ecological district.

**Condition and Management:**

These areas of shrubland are in relatively good condition. The canopy species are healthy and there is some regeneration of woody indigenous species. The area does not appear to be grazed; grazing by domestic stock would threaten the shrubs, especially grazing by cattle. The cotoneaster shrub should be removed. Shrubland should be protected from any herbicide that is applied to control weed species.

The area adjoins SNA 191a, and lies close to SNAs 189a and 190.





Shrubland on the north side of the road.



Mistletoe on mingimingi (*Coprosma propinqua*).



