

## Biogeographic observations of the Landhopper genus *Waematau* (Amphipoda: Talitridae)

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Currently, five species of landhopper in the endemic genus *Waematau* Duncan, 1994 are recognised, all in the northern North Island of New Zealand. Recent morphological and molecular phylogenetic studies show a further six species can be added to the genus, bringing the total to 11 species in four clades: *W. manawatahi* clade (1 species, described), *W. kaitaia* clade (2 species, both described), *W. reinga* clade (5 species, 1 described), and *W. unuwahao* clade (3 species, 2 described). The type species for the genus, *W. manawatahi*, is present on the Three Kings Islands, but it is unclear whether its distribution extends to the Northland mainland. Representatives of the *W. kaitaia* and *W. reinga* clades occur in both Te Pahi Ecological District on the northern tip of Northland and in mainland forests between Kaitaia and Auckland. *Waematau unuwahao* is present in Te Pahi ED and the undescribed species in the *W. unuwahao* clade is present on the Poor Knights Islands and Hauturu/Little Barrier Island. *Kanikania rubroannulata* is the third species in this clade on the basis of molecular and morphological data, even though *K. rubroannulata* is currently in a different genus and distinctly coastal in its distribution. Our research indicates that each clade tells a different biogeographical story. The biogeographical events that have led to the current distributions of species in the *W. unuwahao* clade appear particularly difficult to resolve, and suggest that a review of *Waematau* is required.

