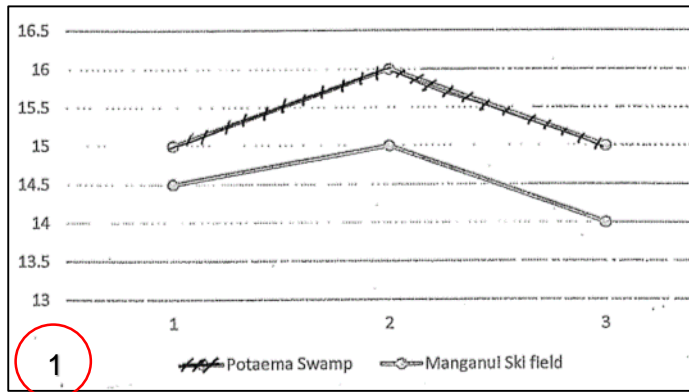


## Geography 91244 - Student 6 -High Not Achieved

Aim: How altitude affects, climate, soil and vegetation at different altitudes on Mount Taranaki.

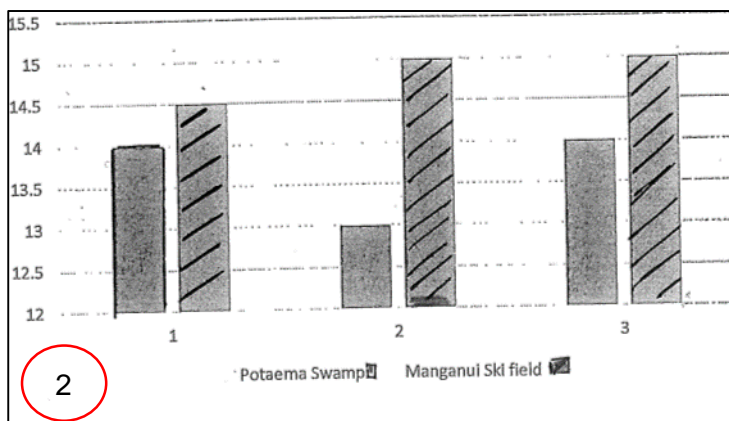
Findings:

### Graph of Air temperature:



There wasn't much of a difference between the air temperatures of the two locations. In both locations there was the same pattern with the second site being the warmer. Potaema Swamp is warmer overall than on the ski field with temperatures between 15°C and 16°C. The graph shows that the higher the altitude the lower the temperature, this could be caused by the fact that it is more exposed and windier higher up.

### Graph showing soil temperature:



The soil temperature was higher at the ski field than lower down the mountain. This is really noticeable on the graph for the second site at both locations. I was surprised the soil temperature was a lot warmer up at the higher altitude. I think the soil was warmer at the second location because it had the sun on it for longer as we took the temperature at the end of the day and it had longer to heat up than the first location.

### Conclusion:

The aim of the research was to find out how altitude affects, climate, soil and vegetation on Mount Taranaki (3). Two locations were studied, one at a lower altitude, Potaema Swamp and the second up the mountain at the Manganui Ski field. I found that as the altitude increased the climate became cooler and windier. The vegetation was tall trees at the lower altitude but only shrubs and moss up at the ski field (4). As well as the size of plants changing, the leaves and types of plant are also different. The loss of trees at the higher altitude meant there was no protection from the wind and this made it colder...

### Evaluation:

A strength of collecting the data was that each person collected all the samples for one set of data. I collected all the air temperatures and because it was done the same way at each site for both locations this made sure that it was tested the same each time making the results accurate. Another way we checked that our results were accurate was by comparing them with other groups and they were similar. This means that the findings are quite valid because they are based on accurate data (5).