

Backdune Restoration

Partners Newsletter Year Three No. 1, 2013



Community Environment Fund



New backdune restoration planting using plant protectors (Combi-guards) on the last planting day of the year at Maketu Spit, Bay of Plenty. September 2013. Photo M. Bergin

Sand Coprosma Planting Trials, Te Henga Beach, Auckland

At Te Henga Beach (Bethels) on the west coast of Auckland a new planting trial was established in August 2013 using the native sand dune ground cover plant sand coprosma (*Coprosma acerosa*).

The aim of the trial is to determine optimum sites for survival and growth of this species including effect of shelter from existing vegetation.

120 plots comprising one exposed plot and one with cover were selected before planters arrived the following day. Five seedlings were planted around each plot peg and the trial area mapped to allow relocation for monitoring early performance.

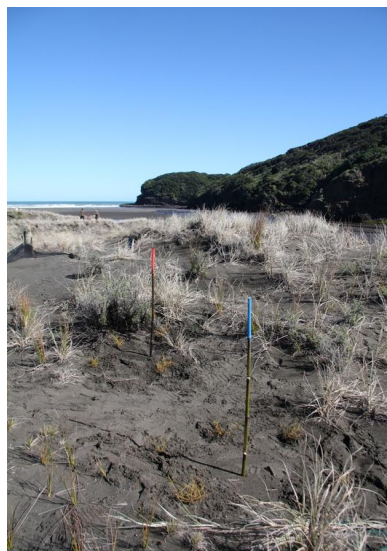
There was a great turn out on planting day thanks to Mark Bellingham of the Te Henga Coast Care group and Chris Ferkins and Huw Hill-Male of Auckland Council. Within a morning, over 650 seedlings were planted by members from the local coast care group, Forest and Bird, staff of Auckland Council and Biosecurity NZ, and the Dunes Trust.

Following the planting every seedling was measured including height, crown spread and plant vigour. A survival assessment will be carried out approx 3 months following planting and a full reassessment in 1 years time.

Many thanks to all who helped!



Left, Chris Ferkins of the Auckland Council discusses the trial layout to the volunteers before planting of the sand coprosma. Right, Two planted plots with 5 seedlings around each peg. Photos: M. Bergin



Dunes Trust Conference 2014

The popular Dunes Trust conference is scheduled for the 11-13th March 2014 at the Fitzroy Surf Club in New Plymouth.

Go to www.dunestrust.org.nz for conference updates and registration forms. Registrations are due to open in November.



Popular bridge near the Taranaki Living Legends coastal planting at Te Rewarewa Reserve, New Plymouth.

If your organisation can help by sponsoring a morning tea, lunch or other contribution, please contact info@dunestrust.org.nz.

You will have sponsorship naming rights and be supporting the only community based coastal conference in New Zealand.

Community based monitoring in action!

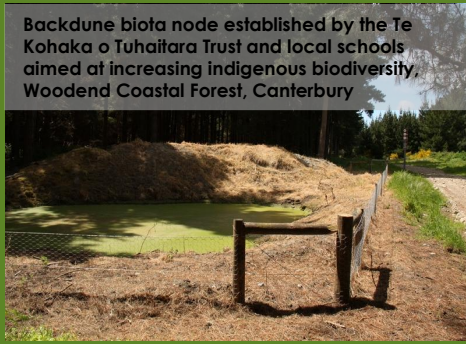
A survival count of planted natives underway by the Waitohu Care Group, Kapihi Coast.



Children from Te Kao School helping with the measurement of planted natives on backdunes at Rarawa Beach, Far North, Northland.



Graeme Lyon from the Friends of Petone Coast Care group assessing the backdune trial at Petone, Lower Hutt.



Backdune biota node established by the Te Kohaka o Tuhaitara Trust and local schools aimed at increasing indigenous biodiversity, Woodend Coastal Forest, Canterbury

Dunes Trust visits the Gisborne beaches

In mid July 2013 Jim Dahm a coastal scientist and trustee on the NZ Dunes Trust visited the Gisborne region to meet those involved in coast care in the area and view several beaches with projects underway.

The visit included a meeting at the Wainui Surf Club where Jim talked about reasons for the increased focus on working with nature as opposed to hard engineering in coastal areas.

He talked about the form and function of our coastlines and dune systems as buffers to the sea as well as the basic guidelines for dune restoration and working with nature.

"It's great to see what Wainui Coast Care is doing. They are a good bunch of people with a great plan — just the sort of nucleus we need in the way beaches are managed,"



The Gisborne Herald – Friday July 19th 2013
'Working with nature, not fighting it'

To view full article visit the website link below:
<http://www.gisborneherald.co.nz/article/Default.aspx?id=33276>

Dunes Trust Backdune Project Contacts

For information about reporting, newsletters, invoicing:

Hillary Campbell
info@dunestrust.co.nz : 04 899 2337
www.dunestrust.org.nz

For technical information and field work:

David and Michael Bergin
Davidbergin.ert@gmail.com : 027600 3017
Jim Dahm
jdahm@xtra.co.nz : 0274718219

July-October site visits in brief...

Northland

Rarawa Beach – review weed control work and follow up assessment of new planting by local group and school.
Uririti Reserve – assess and photograph the latest work

Auckland

Omaha Spit – completion of plots and transect assessments.
Te Henga Beach – planting and follow up assessment of sand coprosma planting trial.

Waikato

Kawhia and Aotea Harbour – visit and assessments of planting trials.
Coromandel beaches including Whangapoua, Cooks, Whangamata and Whiritoa beaches.

Bay of Plenty

Papamoa Beach
Maketu Spit – Full reassessment of all plots and transect trials

East Coast

Inspection of restoration initiatives underway at several beaches from Gisborne to Hicks Bay.

Nelson and Canterbury

Site inspections and field-based workshops in Nelson and Pegasus Bay. Review of restoration plans in Canterbury including Ashworth, Amberley and Woodend beaches.

The Dunes Trust is keen to hear about project updates and any new work being done by coast care groups in NZ.

Send any articles, photos, etc to:
info@dunestrust.org.nz

The Dunes Trust thanks the following partner organisations for their funding and ongoing involvement in the Backdune Project

