



www.dunestrust.org.nz

WAY OUT WEST

Dune Restoration of NZ Annual Conference 2014

11 – 13th March 2014

Fitzroy Surf and Lifesaving Club, New Plymouth



Presentation: Arawhata Herb Field

Leigh Honnor, Taranaki Tree Trust

leigh.honor@trc.govt.nz

The Dunes Trust has been given permission to make this document publically available from our website. However the information and images contained in the document belong to the presenter and presenter's organisation.

To obtain permission to use the information and/or imagery used in this document for any purpose please contact **the presenter**.

Conference sponsors





Arawhata Road
end

Coastal
Herbfield in
Egmont
Ecological
District,
Taranaki

Arawhata Road, Opunake, South Taranaki



Arawhata Road Beach Key Native Ecosystem

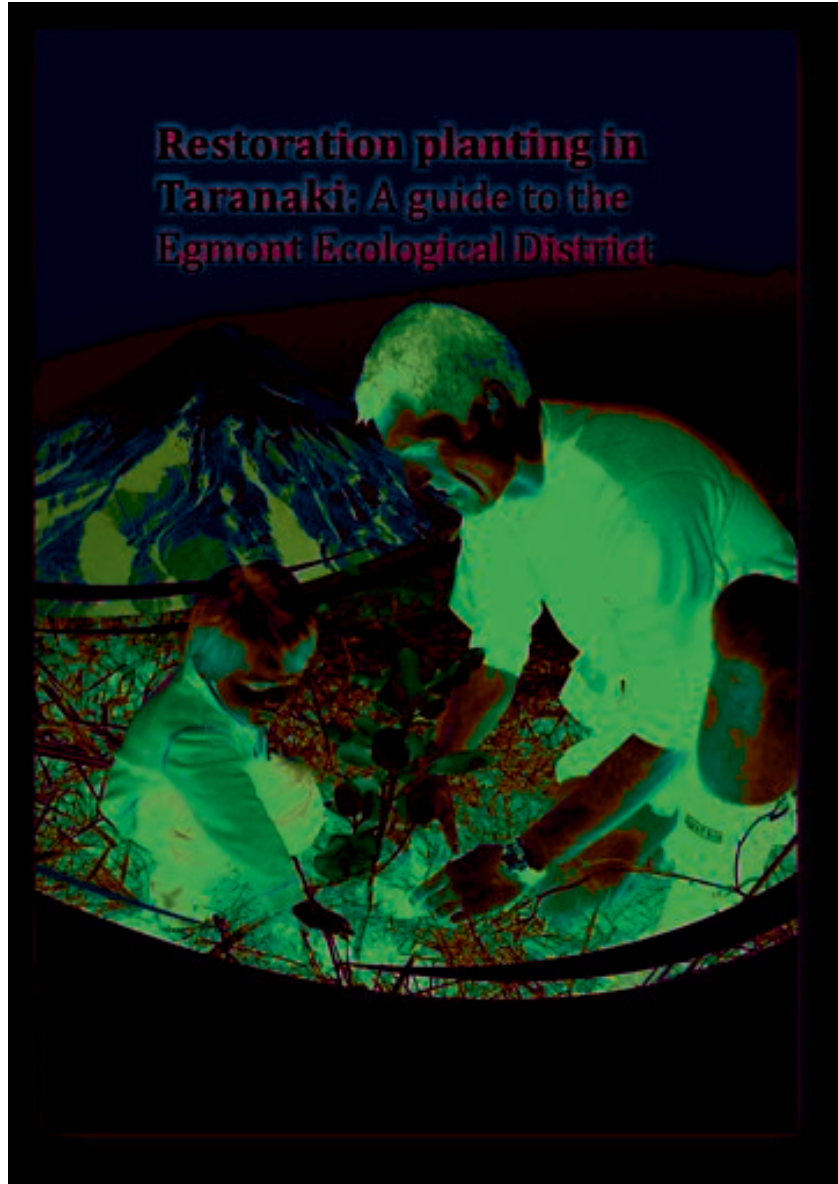
- The Arawhata Road Beach KNE is 3.2ha of low lying coast and herbfield.
- Designated as *Acutely Threatened* under LENZ criteria.
- The foreshore is Crown owned and administered by DoC.
- Extending from the foreshore is Arawhata Local Purpose Reserve administered by the South Taranaki District Council.
- Surrounding landowner is Stanley Brothers Farms Ltd.



Arawhata Road Beach threatened plants

- One of only four sites in New Zealand known to contain the regionally endemic moth *Notoreas* 'Taranaki'.
- This moth is only found in south Taranaki and north-west Nelson in association with the plant *Pimelea carnosa*.
- The area provides important habitat for the At risk – Declining and regionally rare Pygmy forget-me-not (*Myosotis pygmaea*) and the Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable regionally endemic *Crassula manaia*.





In November 2012 the Taranaki Tree Trust published a guide to enable landowners, community groups and practitioners to restore ecosystems by planting native species.

Egmont Ecological District was divided into bioclimatic zones. The target ecosystems within each zone were defined, and recommendations made for restoration planting.

Copies are on the back table for you to take away

Coastal and Semi-coastal Zone Coastal herbfield

- Arawhata Road KNE is located within the Coastal zone of Egmont Ecological District.
- The target ecosystem for the site is Coastal Herbfield.
- This ecosystem is found immediately adjacent to the coast in very exposed situations that are unable to support shrubs.
- Common species include Remuremu, *Leptinella squalida*, sea primrose, slender clubrush, *Crassula manaia*, glossy plantain, pygmy forget-me-knot, shore spurge and coastal cress.
- A number of other herbs, including some threatened nationally and with restricted distributions are also present. e.g. *Craspedia* 'coast'.



Photo: Bill Clarkson

Opunake Boardriders Club planting project

- Opunake Boardriders Club applied to the Taranaki Tree Trust for funding for a planting project. The surf break at the end of Arahwata Road is very popular. The landowners and STDC have worked together to extend the road and create a car park in front of the main surf break. Competitions are regularly held there.
- The project has multiple benefits; restoration of the herbfield, providing shelter and shade, giving stability to the soil, and beautifying the car park area.
- Consultation with the Department of Conservation to ensure the project was compatible with preservation of the Coastal herbfield.
- Grant approved by the Taranaki Tree Trust to cover the cost of the plants. Honda NZ TreeFund \$\$ were utilised.

Planting day – Arawhata Rd end

- Five species planted; *Pimelea*, Haraekeke, Toetoe, Taupata, Ti Kouka.
- Labour provided by Opunake Boardriders Club, Opunake High School students, TRC, DoC, Taranaki Tree Trust.
- Monitoring done by DoC.
- Maintenance done by Opunake Boardriders Club and landowners.

