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WAY OUT WEST

Dune Restoration of NZ Annual Conference 2014

11 – 13th March 2014

Fitzroy Surf and Lifesaving Club, New Plymouth



Presentation: Coastcare Northland

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CoastCare Update – March 2014

CoastCare
NORTHLAND

Laura Shaft
CoastCare Co-ordinator
March 2014



Putting Northland first
www.nrc.govt.nz/coastcare

**NORTHLAND
REGIONAL
COUNCIL** 

- ✿ Set up in 2005 to support community based CoastCare groups to protect and restore Northland's dune systems
- ✿ Involves co-operation with other agencies including Department of Conservation and district councils



CoastCare groups

NORTHLAND





Communities working to protect their coastal environment

CoastCare group activities include planting, providing beach access, fencing, signage, pest and weed control.



CoastCare
N O R T H L A N D

Dune Planting 2013



Putting Northland first

www.nrc.govt.nz/coastcare

**NORTHLAND
REGIONAL
COUNCIL** 

CoastCare planting 2013 through the NRC Environment Fund

- ✿ East coast – 6,500 spinifex
 - 2,000 pingao
- ✿ West coast – 2,500 spinifex
 - 500 pingao
- ✿ 320 backdune plants (including wiwi, pohuehue, sand coprosma, cabbage tree and flax)



CoastCare planting 2013

Rarawa



CoastCare planting 2013

Ahipara



CoastCare planting 2013



Waipu Cove



Rangiputa

CoastCare planting 2013

Baylys Beach



CoastCare planting 2013

Sandy Bay



CoastCare planting 2013

Huketere



Taipa dune restoration



March 2008



February 2011

Taipa dune restoration



2008



2014

Ahipara dune restoration



2012



2014

Ahipara dune restoration



2012



2014

Tokerau Beach dune restoration

September 2012 – prior to weeding and planting



November 2012 – following weeding and planting



Tokerau Beach dune restoration

January 2014 – following further planting



Issues facing CoastCare groups

A number of factors can threaten the success of CoastCare dune restoration projects.

These can include:

- Insufficient space for successful dune restoration
- Vehicle damage
- Invasion of exotic species
- Destruction by animals

Insufficient space for dune restoration



- Adequate space is required for successful dune restoration
- If insufficient set back is allowed for dune restoration, the ability of the dune to recover from storm events will be severely limited
- In some cases it is not viable to undertake dune restoration in the space currently available.

Vehicle damage



Serious issue for all west coast groups and a number of east coast groups

The key tools used to reduce vehicle damage are education, fencing and signage



Vehicles on beaches update

- 30kph speed limit introduced on 90M and Tokerau Beaches
- Work on extending no vehicle zone at Ruakaka continues
- Focus group set up to investigate beach bylaws on Ripiro Beach



Weed control on dunes



- Invasion of exotic species such as kikuyu can threaten dune restoration projects
- Important to stay on top of weed control
- A factsheet has been produced to assist CoastCare groups to effectively manage weed control on their dunes.

Animal pests

Rabbits are a major threat to dune plants..



Rabbit browsed pingao and spinifex at Ruakaka

Monitoring dune restoration



- ☀️ Aim to improve consistency of monitoring carried out by CoastCare groups
- ☀️ Factsheet and dune plant i.d. guide being produced
- ☀️ Currently being trialled with a small number of groups
- ☀️ Will be expanded out to all CoastCare groups once feedback from trial groups is incorporated

Safe Beach Driving Education Days



Safe Beach Driving Education Days



Dargaville Field days





CoastCare Events



Ahipara – dunes
and dotterels
education day





CoastCare Events

Long Beach, Russell –
working bee





CoastCare events

Baylys Beach – Walkway opening and beach clean





Beach clean-up kits



Russell Playcentre



Oromohoe School at Paihia

CoastCare publications



- ✿ Dune plants factsheet
- ✿ Weed control on sand dunes
- ✿ Northland CoastCare code
- ✿ Caring for Northland's dunes
- ✿ CoastCare Northland News – bi-annual newsletter

Signage

CoastCare NORTHLAND | **Ahipara Beach Community CoastCare Project**
Te Oneroa a Tōhe, Ninety Mile Beach
CARING FOR NORTHLAND'S DUNES

DUNE PLANTS

OUR STORY

DUNE FORM AND FUNCTION

THREATS TO DUNES

HOW YOU CAN HELP
Beach life starts a dune!

- Watch, don't touch the dunes
- Keep roads in the park!
- Take the easy, not the short!
- Leave your footprints where they belong!
- Set out of gear and wheels

JOIN COASTCARE | Take action - get involved

Putting Northland first
www.nz.govt.nz/coastcare | 0800 002 214



Thank you

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Stay connected



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