

Dune Restoration Trust of New Zealand

National Conference, 2013

Nelson – A Region of Coastal Diversity

Conference Presentation: Maketu Ongatoro Wetland Society

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www.dunestrust.org.nz



MAKETU ONGATORO
WETLAND SOCIETY



Maketu Ongatoro Wetland Society

An aerial photograph showing a wide, winding river or estuary system. The water is a light, silty color, reflecting the sky. The river meanders through a lush green landscape that appears to be a mix of natural wetlands and agricultural fields. In the background, a large body of water, likely the sea, is visible under a cloudy sky. The overall scene is a vast, flat, green expanse with a prominent waterway.

Dunes Restoration Trust
Nelson 2013



Kaituna River

Maketu Spit

Scale 1:10,000
0 100 200 400 600
metres



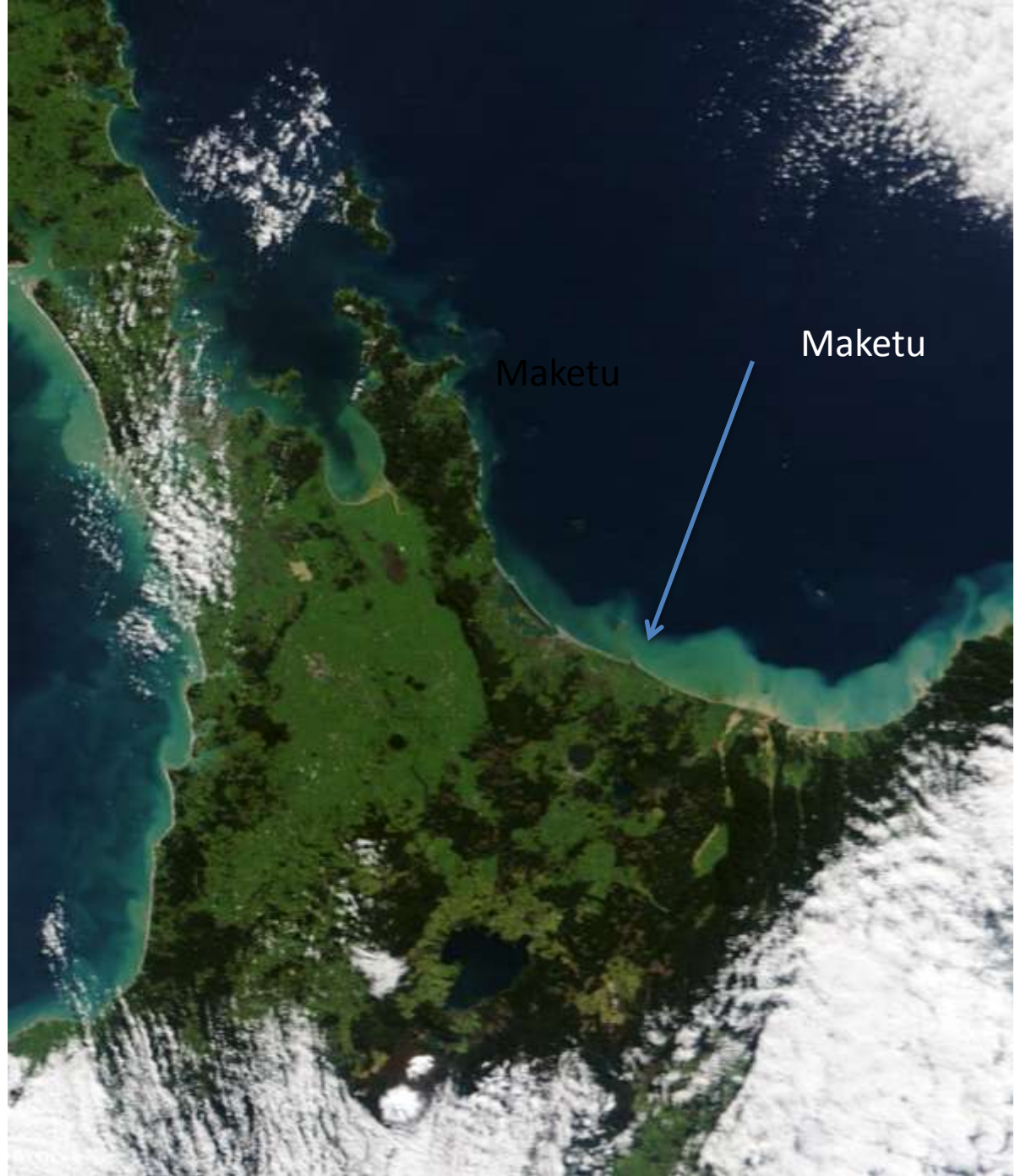
Maketu Wildlife Reserve

Papahikahawai Island

Fords Cut

Ongatoro - Maketu Harbour

Maketu





Kaituna River

Papahikahawai Island



Mission Statement

To Protect, preserve and enhance the natural environment of the Lower Kaituna, Maketu and Little Waihi Wetlands Area.

Objectives

Protect and enhance native biodiversity, especially the New Zealand Dotterel, overwintering waders from South Island and Summer visitors from the Arctic

Conduct comprehensive survey of biodiversity of the area.

Develop and manage Biodiversity Management Plan.

Work to have the area declared a Ramsar Site.



Biodiversity Management Plan Maketu Spit



M1898

Plan Date: July 10
Aerial Photo: gis_raster.BOP.WesternBayOfPlentyDistrict2007

Legend

- SandDunes_VegetationTransects
 - o Archaeological Sites
 - CoastalProfileD5
- Duneland Vegetation**
- 03.01.01, Pohuehue-Ficinia nodosa vine-land
 - 03.01.03, Pohuehue-maram vine-land
 - 06.01.01, Sea rush tussock-land
 - 06.01.01, Spinifex-pingoo/Calystegia soldanella grassland
 - 06.01.02, Spinifex/Calystegia soldanella grassland
 - 06.07.01, Tall fescue dominated grassland
 - 09.03.01, Ficinia nodosa-pohuehue sedgeland
 - 19.01.01, Spinifex dominated sandfield
 - 22.02.02, Impounded open water



Maketu Ongatoro Wetland Society Inc.

2008 - first small steps

2009 - Started Pest control programme

2010 - Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP)

2011 - Dunes Trust of New Zealand Award for
'Best Coastal Restoration Project'

2011 - TrustPower Community Awards - Western Bay of
Plenty Supreme Winner

2012 - First Review of BMP.

Additional funding from

WWF New Zealand,

BayTrust

BOPRC Environmental Enhancement Fund

MfE Rena Recovery Programme.

2013 - BMP Extension.



New Zealand Dotterel

Charadrius Obscurus

Found only in NZ

Population 1700.

Maketu Spit has 25

1.5% of the world population





Dotterel Breeding Area

No. 1 Fence

No. 2 fence









Signage

Part 1: 1200 x 650mm

Maketu Spit A VERY SPECIAL PLACE *Kainga Motuhake*

Maketu Spit is one 3.5 km long sand dune; it is 45 hectares in size, and one of the best preserved dune systems in the Bay of Plenty. The environment is very young and dynamic with the sea constantly building it up and then washing it away. Despite constant changes it is richly populated with many fascinating native plants and animals.



Koutaka-ngutupapa / Royal Spoonbill

Tuturūwhatu / NZ Dotterel
Live and breed here. Their open nests are vulnerable to pests.

Kuaka / Bar-tailed Godwit
Migrates south from Alaska (11,500km non-stop in 9 days) to spend the summer here.

Spinifex
The most important plant here on the foredune. It sends out long runners that hold the sand in place.

Tara / White-fronted Tern

Kotare / Kingfisher

Pingao
Maori use the leaves for weaving baskets, belts and cloaks.

There are more than 150 types of small invertebrate here, some only ever found on this spit.

Pohuehue / Muehlenbeckia

Shore Skink
Common here but quite shy. Sit still and you may be lucky and see one.

Te Kouka / Cabbage Tree
These distinctive spiky-leaved Dr. Scous trees are characteristic of wetland areas and a good source of food and nest sites for native species.

Harakeke / Flax

Taupata

White-faced Heron

Pepe Aouiri / Small blue butterfly

Wīwi

Pepe Patahi / Common Copper Butterfly

Katerengu / Black Cockroach

Common Skink

Sand dunes are important coastal defence systems. Even in large storms or tsunamis they absorb the power of the sea and will rebuild naturally. Without sand dunes much of the Bay of Plenty would be flooded by the sea, so looking after dunes is very important for our future.

FORE DUNE:
A windy, salty zone with limited numbers of plants and animals.

BACK DUNE:
Dominated by Pohuehue which scrambles over everything.

ESTUARINE MARGIN:
More sheltered with larger plants.











Maketu Spit and Harbour is, like the rest of Aotearoa New Zealand, unique, lets work to keep it that way.