

Dune and estuary restoration by weed control in Murihiku and Fiordland – Department of Conservation



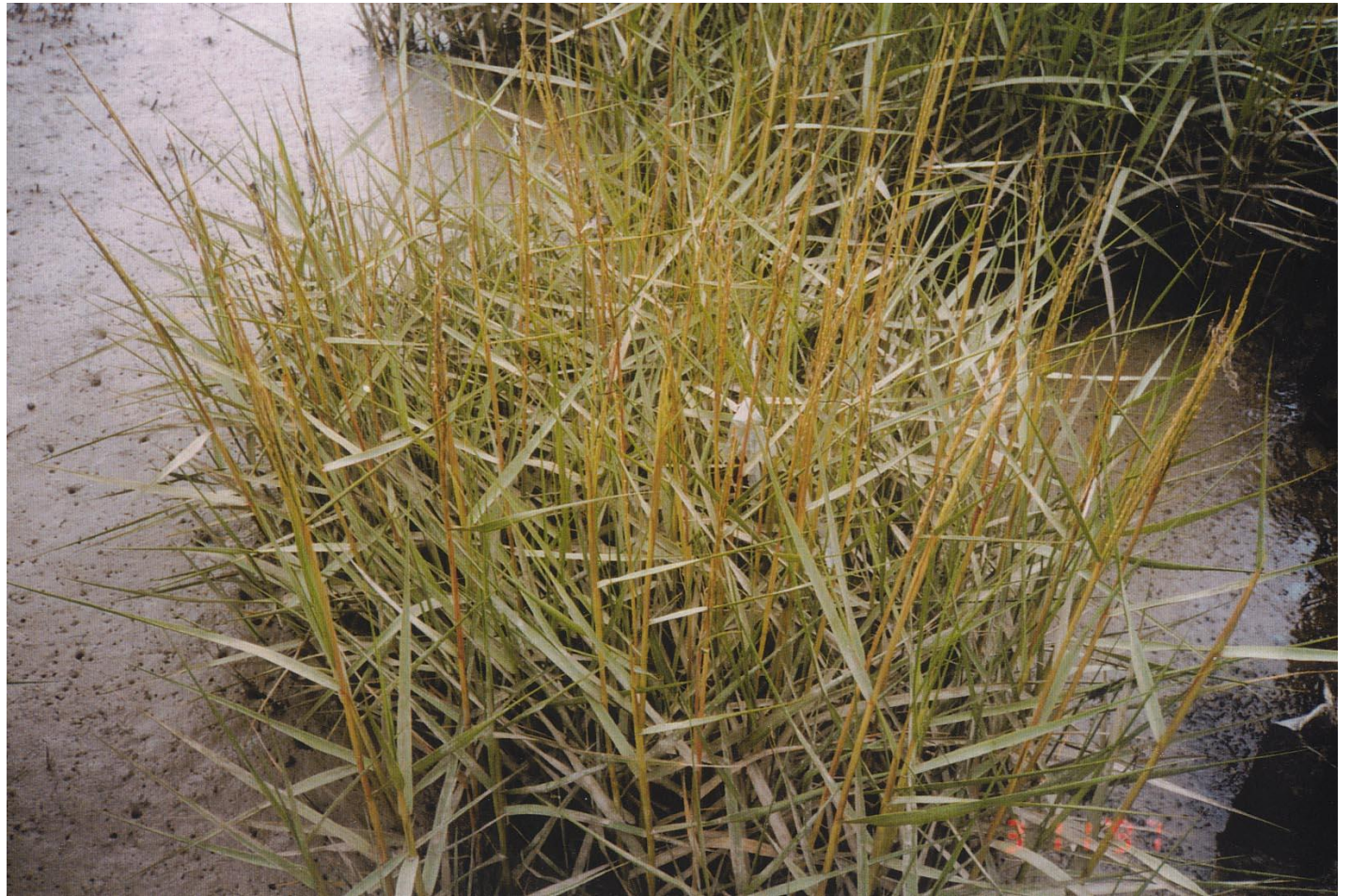
Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

New Zealand Government

Spartina spp

Invading Southlands
estuaries since the
1930s

Now a very
threatened plant



The spread of *Spartina spp* within New River Estuary

1930s - 14 ha planted

By 1990s – 800ha affected



Control programme



Dragging hoses through the mud



Aerial control



Argo control – still used today



Hovercraft

Comparison

Before and after
control



1988



2019



1990



2019

Comparison of the Waihopai arm



1997



2019



1983



2019

Eradication

Searching tools



Size of some of the plants



Searching



Our new helpers

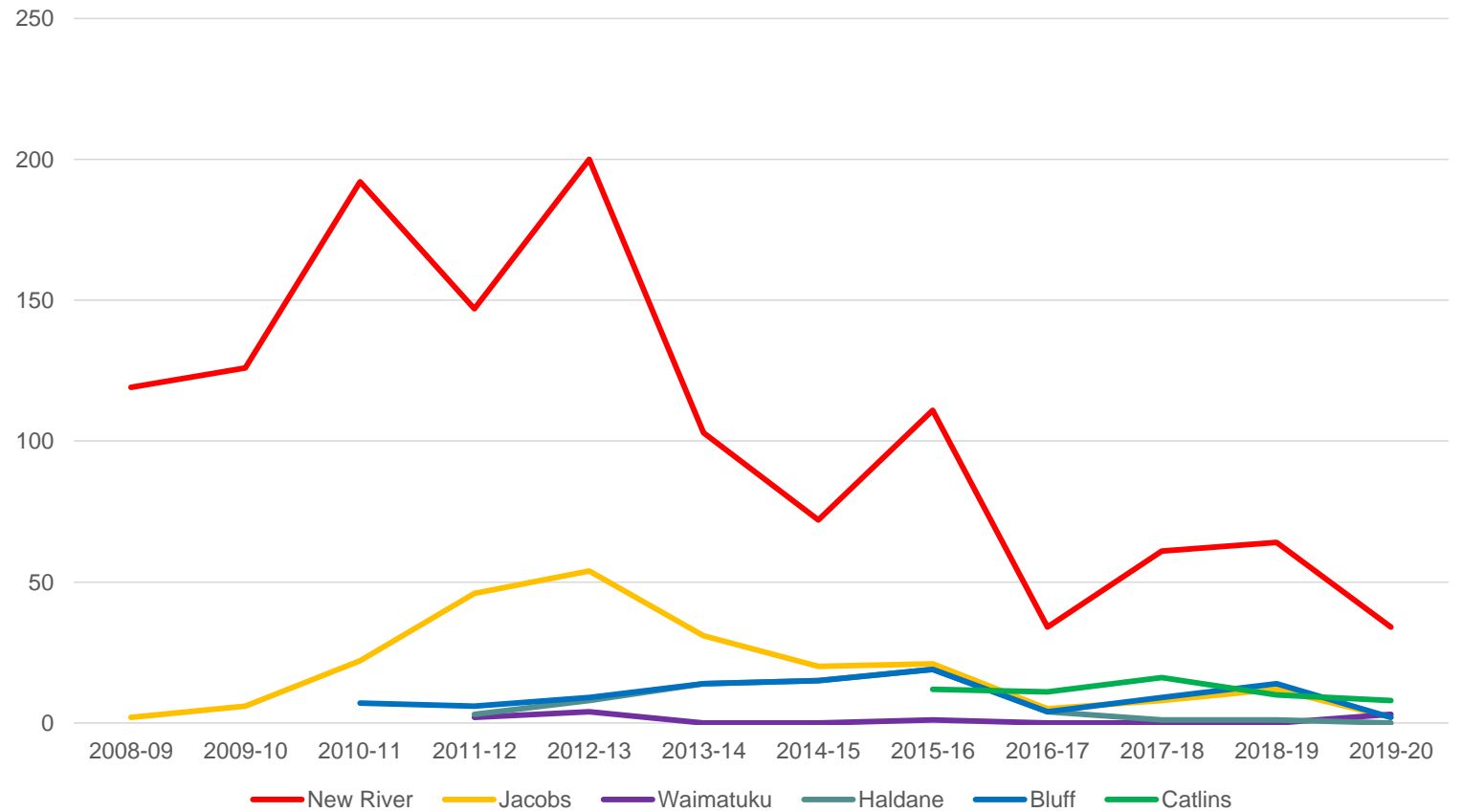


Wink and Bailey

Results

Number of *Spartina* sites found each season

Spartina sites found each season



Fiordland coastline searching

- Skilled staff aerially searching
- Or ground based from boats
- Gorse and marram are the main threats
- Control as you go

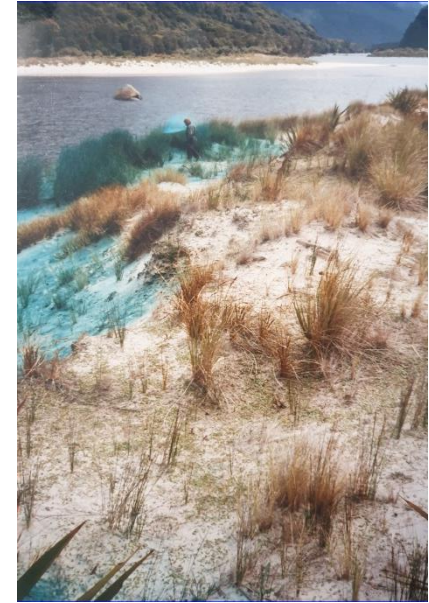


Big River and South coast

- Ongoing marram control for 30 years



Big River



Spraying in the early days.



Pingao at Grace or Angus burn



Euphorbia glauca along the coast line

Coal River

- 30 years of marram control work
- Full team working for a week, now a couple of hours searching



Martins bay

- Searching for marram
- Extensive gorse ground control out the back of the dunes using Argos



Vast areas of scattered pingao



Struggling to find a marram plant



February's floods have changed the landscape



This is NOT Martins bay but shows Argo spraying occurring

Fortrose spit



Caption



Caption



Caption



Caption

Whenua hou – Codfish Island

- Kakapo sanctuary
- Culturally significant
- Restoration plan being completed at moment

