

# Dune restoration in New Zealand.

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## INTRODUCTION

- Sand dunes are critically endangered ecosystems
- Home to many rare and specialised species
- Little is known about ecology of fauna in restored systems

## BIODIVERSITY ASSESSMENT

- Compare biodiversity of restored dunes and marram dominated dunes in the Wellington region.

### METHOD

- 6 paired Wellington sites
- Pitfall trapping of insects and lizards
- Tracking tunnels for animal pests
- Vegetation surveys
- Katipo search

## RESULTS SO FAR

- Significantly higher density of mice in marram dunes
- Higher density of skinks in marram dunes (see fig 1 below)
- Marram dune vegetation higher, and denser

Total lizard catch

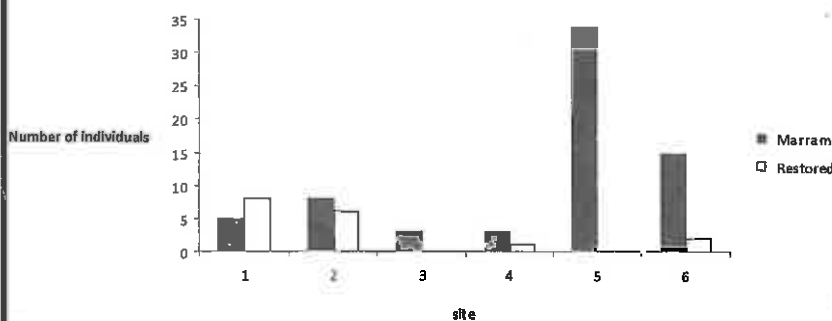


Fig. 1. Total lizard catch for each site in marram and restored areas

## THOUGHTS

- Skinks and invertebrates seem to prefer marram dunes, despite their higher density of mice
- We may be able to incorporate some marram dune characteristics when planning future dune restoration plantings, to optimise habitat for fauna

## NATIONWIDE SURVEY OF DUNE RESTORATION GROUPS

### AIMS

1. Identification of possible areas for improvement
2. Status of dune restoration in New Zealand

### Assessment of:

- methods of dune restoration
- Motivations for restoration
- Use of monitoring
- Levels of support
- Volunteer/council involvement

### METHOD

- Live survey form in google docs – link will be emailed
- One person from each restoration site to fill in
- Watch this space!



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