Otorohanga District SNA: Kawhia coastline dunes

SITE_NUMBER OT0712

SITE_NAME Kawhia coastline dunes

SITE_DESCRIPTION This privately owned site comprises a relatively large coastal dune system that

extends c.7km along the Kawhia Coastline from (and including) Pukeatua hill in the north to c.800m from Tauratahi Point in the South and to c.2km from the sea. The dune system provides habitat for Threatened and At Risk indigenous flora and fauna as well as international migratory birds. Hot water (Te Puia) springs are present above the low-tide mark in the south of the site and multiple archaeological sites are present in the northern portion of the site. The site is contiguous with two other SNA sites: OT0868-Kahua Point Marginal Strip and OT0005, and is contiguous with 2003 SNA-001 Lake Parangi. Dune systems are a regionally and nationally uncommon habitat type and these dunelands are a representative example even though habitat quality has been considerably reduced by modification and surrounding land use. Dune care programmes and protection from threats (including development) are probably

required to ensure ecological sustainability over time.

AREA HA 315.51

ECOSYSTEM_TYPE Sand Dune

SIGNIFICANT_FLORA Pimelea arenaria (Sand daphne) (Declining) (DOC 2010a), and Ficinia spiralis

(pingao) (Relict) (Wildland Consultants 2003).

LIKELY_FLORA Poa billardierei (sand tussock) (Declining) is present at the adjacent SNA OT0007 -

Raukumura Beach Dunelands (DOC 2010a) and may also be present within this site.

SIGNIFICANT_FAUNA Egretta sacra (reef heron) (Nationally Vulnerable), Charadrius obscurus

aquilonius (Northern New Zealand dotterel) (Nationally Vulnerable), Charadrius bicinctus bicinctus (banded dotterel) (Nationally Vulnerable), Hydroprogne caspia (Caspian tern) (Nationally Vulnerable), and Limosa lapponica baueri (eastern bar-

tailed godwit) (Migrant) (Wildland Consultants 2003).

LIKELY_FAUNA

OTHER_FEATURES Twenty-five "Maori period" archaeological sites are present within the site boundary.

Twenty-three of these are middens, one contains a midden and an intact earth oven,

and one is a pit/mound/terrace (EW Archaeological Sites 2009).

CRITERION_1 no

CRITERION_2 no

CRITERION_3 yes

CRITERION_4 yes

CRITERION_5 no

CRITERION_6 no

CRITERION_7 yes

CRITERION_8 no

CRITERION_9 yes

CRITERION_10 yes

CRITERION_11 yes

CRITERIA_YES 3,4,7,9,10,11,

CRITERIA_LIKELY

CRITERIA_INDETERMINATE

SIGNIFICANCE Regional

GIGNIEIGANGE HIGHEIGATION MI

SIGNIFICANCE_JUSTIFICATION This unprotected site comprises a large area of duneland system that provides habitat for threatened and at risk indigenous flora and fauna. Although heavily modified with extensive populations of exotic species and encroached on by commercial plantation forest, this area is a notable example of duneland. However, larger and better quality examples of duneland exist elsewhere in the Waikato Region but outside of the

Otorohanga District (e.g. Aotea Heads Scientific Reserve).

CONFIDENCE_LEVEL Medium

PEST_ANIMAL_ISSUE Likely
PEST_PLANT_ISSUE Yes
STOCK_ISSUE Likely
DEVELOPMENT_ISSUE No
OTHER_ISSUE Likely

ISSUE_JUSTIFICATION Feral cats, mustelids, rabbits, mice, and hedgehogs are common threats in dune

systems.;Marram grass and lupin are present within the dune system (DOC 2010a). Coastal wattle and pampas grass may be present.;Farmland is present <500m from the north-eastern boundary of this site so stock incursions may be an issue.;;This site may

be under threat from recreational use such as quad biking and horse riding.

REFERENCES EW SNA 2010, EW WRAPS 2007

BOUNDARY_CHANGE

VEG_CHANGE

ASSESSMENT_NOTES Duneland. Recommend that the boundaries of this site be reviewed as they do not

follow vegetation boundaries. Consider including the remaining area of 2003 SNA-196 that is not included this time.; This site comprises approximately 55% of 2003 SNA-196 which was ranked as regionally significant. Dune care programmes and protection from threats (including development) are probably required to ensure

ecological sustainability over time.

NZTM_EASTING 1,757,778 NZTM_NORTHING 5,788,714

TENURE_STATUS PRESUMED PRIVATELY OWNED

TENURE_DETAIL PRESUMED PRIVATELY OWNED (315.51 ha)
PROTECTION_DETAIL UNPROTECTED (315.2 ha), PROTECTED (.31 ha)

ECOLOGICAL_DISTRICT Kawhia (315.03 ha), Coastal (.48 ha)

BIOCLIMATIC_ZONE Coastal Zone (168.81 ha), Lowland Zone (146.44 ha), Part not in Bioclimate Zone

(.26 ha)

LENZ_IV G1.1d (294.63 ha), D2.1b (17.72 ha), A7.2c (3.05 ha), Part not in LENZ_IV (.11 ha)

VEGETATION_1840 Duneland (311.58 ha), Conifer-broadleaved forest (3.6 ha), Water (.33 ha)

BIOVEG_2012 Sand Dunes (308.18 ha), Part not in Bioveg 2007 (5.16 ha), Pine Forest - Closed

Canopy (1.72 ha), Manuka and or Kanuka (.45 ha)

DISTRICT_NAME_2012 Otorohanga District (310.41 ha), Area Outside Territorial Authority (5.1 ha)

MHWS Above MHWS (315.25 ha), Below MHWS (.26 ha)

LCDB4_NAME_2012 Sand or Gravel (241.97 ha), Low Producing Grassland (50 ha), High Producing

Exotic Grassland (17.86 ha), Exotic Forest (3.61 ha), Manuka and/or Kanuka (1.81

ha), Part not in LCDB4 (.26 ha)

LENZ_TEC At Risk (294.63 ha), Chronically Threatened (17.72 ha), Acutely Threatened (3.05

ha), Part not in LENZ_TEC (.11 ha)

DATA_SET_STATUS Unconfirmed for the current district/city council plan

ID 568
GEOMETRY.AREA 0.00
GEOMETRY.LEN 0.00

Otorohanga District SNA: Kahua Point Marginal Strip

SITE_NUMBER OT0868

SITE_NAME Kahua Point Marginal Strip

SITE DESCRIPTION This site comprises a small, linear area of coastal sand dunes just south of the Aotea

Harbour mouth. The site is contiguous with OT0712-Kawhia coastline dunes, a large, privately owned area of coastal and inland sand dune and may provide habitat for an At Risk indigenous plant species. Sand dune habitat is a nationally rare habitat type and, although modified with numerous exotic species present, this habitat type is uncommon in the Waikato Region. There are no records available for threatened fauna species for this site but it is likely that the species recorded for Aotea Harbour, Kawhia Harbour, and the greater Kawhia coastline dune system will utilise this site from time to time. Long term viability is probably dependent on active management

of this vulnerable ecosystem.

AREA_HA 8.30

ECOSYSTEM_TYPE Sand Dune

SIGNIFICANT_FLORA

LIKELY_FLORA Pimelea arenaria (Sand daphne) (Declining) may be present within this site as it has

been recorded <500m from the northern site boundary (DOC 2010a). Poa billardierei (sand tussock) (Declining) and Ficinia spiralis (pingao) (Relict) are present within the

adjacent SNA (OT0712) and may be present at this site.

SIGNIFICANT_FAUNA

LIKELY_FAUNA Egretta sacra (reef heron) (Nationally Vulnerable), Charadrius obscurus

aquilonius (New Zealand dotterel northern) (Nationally Vulnerable), Charadrius bicinctus bicinctus (banded dotterel) (Nationally Vulnerable), and Hydroprogne caspia (Caspian tern) (Nationally Vulnerable) have been recorded from the adjacent

SNA (OT0712) and may utilise this site.

OTHER_FEATURES

CRITERION_1 yes

CRITERION_2 no

CRITERION_3 likely

CRITERION_4 yes

CRITERION_5 no

CRITERION_6 no

CRITERION_7 no

CRITERION_8 no

CRITERION_9 no

CRITERION_10 no

CRITERION_11 yes

CRITERIA_YES 14,11,

CRITERIA_LIKELY 3,

CRITERIA_INDETERMINATE

SIGNIFICANCE Local

SIGNIFICANCE_JUSTIFICATION This protected site (DOC Fixed Marginal Strip) comprises sand dune habitat, a

nationally rare habitat type, may provide habitat for Threatened and At Risk indigenous species and, along with remainder of the coastline at Kawhia, is a representative example of its type. Although modified and with numerous exotic species present, this habitat type is uncommon in the Waikato Region, however long term viability is probably dependent on active management of this vulnerable ecosystem. Field survey is recommended to determine vegetation composition and to

validate the ecological assessment.

CONFIDENCE_LEVEL Medium

PEST_ANIMAL_ISSUE Likely
PEST_PLANT_ISSUE Yes

STOCK_ISSUE Indeterminate

DEVELOPMENT_ISSUE No
OTHER_ISSUE Likely

ISSUE_JUSTIFICATION Feral cats, mustelids, rabbits, mice, and hedgehogs are common threats in dune

systems.;Marram grass and lupin are present within the contiguous dune system (DOC 2010a) and are therefore likely to be present at this site. Coastal wattle and pampas grass may also be present.;;;This site may be under threat from recreational

use such as quad biking and horse riding.

REFERENCES EW SNA 2010, EW WRAPS 2007

BOUNDARY_CHANGE The entire marginal strip above the high tide line should be included within this site.

Use DOC parcel layer to rectify.

VEG_CHANGE

ASSESSMENT_NOTES This site approximately equates 2003 SNA-32 which was ranked as regionally

significant.

 NZTM_EASTING
 1,756,798

 NZTM_NORTHING
 5,789,208

TENURE_STATUS PRESUMED PRIVATELY OWNED

TENURE_DETAIL PRESUMED PRIVATELY OWNED (8.3 ha)

PROTECTION_DETAIL PROTECTED (6.55 ha), UNPROTECTED (1.75 ha)

ECOLOGICAL_DISTRICT Kawhia (8.3 ha)

BIOCLIMATIC ZONE Coastal Zone (5.13 ha), Part not in Bioclimate Zone (3.18 ha)

LENZ_IV G1.1d (8.3 ha)
VEGETATION_1840 Duneland (8.3 ha)

BIOVEG_2012 Part not in Bioveg 2007 (5.56 ha), Sand Dunes (2.74 ha)

DISTRICT_NAME_2012 Otorohanga District (6.55 ha), Area Outside Territorial Authority (1.75 ha)

MHWS Above MHWS (5.13 ha), Below MHWS (3.18 ha)

LCDB4_NAME_2012 Low Producing Grassland (4.2 ha), Part not in LCDB4 (3.18 ha), Sand or Gravel (.92

ha)

LENZ_TEC At Risk (8.3 ha)

DATA_SET_STATUS Unconfirmed for the current district/city council plan

ID 803
GEOMETRY.AREA 0.00
GEOMETRY.LEN 0.00

Otorohanga District SNA: Te Ariaotewiwini Inlet wetland

SITE_NUMBER OT0001

SITE_NAME Te Ariaotewiwini Inlet wetland

SITE_DESCRIPTION A small, privately owned, coastal saline wetland fed by the Te Ariaotewiwini Inlet,

near the entrance of Kawhia Harbour. BIOVEG (2007) indicates that this site is likely to support herbaceous saline wetland vegetation dominated by indigenous sedges and rushes (Graeme 2005a). The wetland is buffered by young pine plantation and is protected from stock, though future harvesting may threaten its integrity. No

threatened species are known for this site.

1.73 AREA_HA

Wetland - Estuarine ECOSYSTEM_TYPE

SIGNIFICANT_FLORA

LIKELY_FLORA

SIGNIFICANT_FAUNA

LIKELY_FAUNA

OTHER_FEATURES

CRITERION_1 no CRITERION 2 no

CRITERION 3 indeterminate

CRITERION_4 yes CRITERION_5 no CRITERION_6 yes CRITERION_7 no CRITERION_8 no CRITERION_9 no

CRITERION_10 no CRITERION_11 no CRITERIA_YES 4,6,

CRITERIA_LIKELY

CRITERIA_INDETERMINATE 3. **SIGNIFICANCE**

SIGNIFICANCE_JUSTIFICATION This unprotected site contains wetland habitat which is dominated by indigenous saline species. Wetlands which are similar in vegetation and size to this site exist elsewhere in the Waikato Region. A field survey is required to validate the site's level

of significance.

CONFIDENCE_LEVEL Medium PEST_ANIMAL_ISSUE Likely PEST_PLANT_ISSUE Yes STOCK_ISSUE No DEVELOPMENT_ISSUE Yes

OTHER_ISSUE Indeterminate

ISSUE_JUSTIFICATION Mustelids, feral cats and Norway rats are likely to be present at the site.; Pampas is

known to be present (Graeme 2005a).; Aerial photography indicates that the site is surrounded by pine plantation, thus stock are unlikely to be present.; Future harvesting

of surrounding pine plantation.;

REFERENCES EW SNA 2010, Google Earth 2010, DOC 2010a

BOUNDARY_CHANGE

VEG_CHANGE

ASSESSMENT_NOTES Cloud cover made visual assessment difficult.

NZTM_EASTING 1,757,047 NZTM_NORTHING 5,783,789

TENURE_STATUS PRESUMED PRIVATELY OWNED

TENURE_DETAIL PRESUMED PRIVATELY OWNED (1.73 ha)
PROTECTION_DETAIL UNPROTECTED (1.72 ha), PROTECTED (.01 ha)

ECOLOGICAL_DISTRICT Kawhia (1.72 ha), Coastal (.01 ha)

BIOCLIMATIC_ZONE Coastal Zone (1.44 ha), Part not in Bioclimate Zone (.28 ha)

LENZ_IV G1.1d (1.73 ha)
VEGETATION_1840 Duneland (1.73 ha)

BIOVEG_2012 Herbaceous Saline Vegetation (1.38 ha), Part not in Bioveg 2007 (.35 ha)

DISTRICT_NAME_2012 Otorohanga District (1.73 ha)

MHWS Above MHWS (1.44 ha), Below MHWS (.28 ha)

LCDB4_NAME_2012 Exotic Forest (.98 ha), Sand or Gravel (.46 ha), Part not in LCDB4 (.28 ha)

LENZ_TEC At Risk (1.73 ha)

DATA_SET_STATUS Unconfirmed for the current district/city council plan

ID 1

GEOMETRY.AREA 0.00 GEOMETRY.LEN 0.00



Blue: OT0712, Yellow top: OT0868, Yellow bottom: OT0001.