

## Thomsons Creek wetland

### Site Details

- **Landowner:** Jan Manson
- **Primary contact:** Jan Manson
- **Location**
  - Coordinates: Easting 1332423, Northing 5005806
  - Ecological District: Maniototo
  - Ecological Region: Central Otago
- **Wetland dimensions:** 0.6 ha.

### Site Map



### Current wetland condition photo

Photos taken November 25<sup>th</sup> 2024.



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## Site Description

### General

Primary hydrosystem: Palustrine  
Secondar hydrosystem: Riverine  
Primary wetland class: Marsh  
Secondar wetland class: N/A  
Primary wetland form: Flat  
Secondary wetland form: Basin  
Primary structural class: Grassland  
Secondary structural class: Sedgeland

### Topography

Soils: Information retrieved from S-Map Online 27/03/25.  
Soil sibling: [Swan\\_3a.1](#). Very shallow, sand, poorly drained. Proportion: 87.7%.  
Soil sibling: [Tait\\_57a.1](#). Moderately deep, silt, poorly drained. Proportion: 7.4%.  
Soil sibling: [Manuh\\_5a.2](#). Deep, loam, well drained. Proportion: 4.9%.

### Current Vegetation

Vegetation is dominated by exotic grasses and herbs, the wet channel running through the site contains blue sweet grass, soft rush, creeping bent, jointed rush and water cress. The outer edges of the marsh are dominated by pasture species and herbs including timothy grass, Yorkshire fog, red fescue, yarrow, lotus, creeping butter cup, blue sweet grass, water forget me not, cocks foot and creeping bent. Few indigenous species are present, sharp spike sedge is occasionally present and a small patch of raupo is present. Several crack willows are growing on the lower end along Thomsons creek, and one willow growing mid-way up the wetland.

### Special Features

This site is well connected to the Thomsons Catchment Project and may provide habitat for native galaxias.

### Nearby Natural Areas

Thomsons Creek catchment has benefited from restoration efforts over the last three years.

### Wildlife

Galaxias are found in Thomsons Creek so it is possible that this wetland will also provide habitat for them.

### Site History

This site was previously incorporated in the surrounding paddock until it was fenced in late 2024.



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## Description of water flow and drainage

The wetland is fed by several culverts that connect to a ditch on the opposite side of Racecourse Road. The wetland is also potentially spring fed and influenced by irrigation.

## Current condition

The biodiversity qualities of the wetland are degraded as the native vegetation component is largely absent. There are few wetland species present, including a small patch of raupo.

## Enhancement Proposal

### Vision

Fully restore the ecological values of this site by removing woody weeds and planting with native species. The wetland will contribute to habitat connectivity for mobile native species and provide habitat for native fish.

### Objectives

Remove crack willows and plant suitable native species.

### Expected outcomes

#### *Fencing & Planting*

Fencing has already been completed. Plantings will assist with the regeneration of the site. Due to the site currently being dominated by rank pasture, any native plantings will need to be managed well to ensure survival. Plantings will be concentrated along the main flow patch of water, as well as some drier areas to add species diversity.

#### *Weed control*

At the time of the site visit, the large crack willow tree had been drilled, the landowner plans to leave in situ to avoid damaging the wetland. Removing the willows will prevent their further invasion in the wetland area given grazing pressure has been removed.

#### *Sedimentation*

Cattle grazing the surrounding paddock, combined with irrigation or wet weather may lead to sedimentation. This wetland may provide some water quality improvement between the adjacent paddocks and the Thomsons Creek mainstem.

## Total Investment

Fencing: \$0

Weeds: \$331

Planting: \$22,500





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Total: \$22,831

## Funding source

Planting & weed control – Waiora Manuherekia  
Ongoing weed maintenance – Landowner.

