



Habitat Restorations Aotearoa Ltd.

glen@habitatrestorations.nz

027 424 0224

www.habitatrestorations.nz

Waiora Manuherekia

Planting proposal for Hills Creek (NZ Pastures - Sandy)

It is understood that the existing willows within the planting site will be aerial sprayed, followed by groundwork but will not be removed. The site has a high-water table due to a spring and, as such, it is quite wet under the willows. Existing rushes are present within the planting area (Figure 9).

Originally it was discussed that planting would be carried out underneath the dead willows and the rest of the area would be allowed to naturally regenerate through stock exclusion (Figure 10 and Figure 11). However, due to the density of the willows and the high-water levels underneath the willows the feasibility of planting in this area is limited. Therefore, it is suggested that planting occurs on the edges of the willow stand to provide a seed source for the area and to soften the appearance of the dead willows. It is recommended that planting is at 2m spacings.

Budget: \$17,000

Total plant numbers: approximately 770 plants.

Recommended planting list:

- *Austroderia richardii* (toetoe)
- *Coprosma cheesemanii* (coprosma)
- *Coprosma dumosa* (coprosma)
- *Coprosma intertexta* (coprosma)
- *Coprosma rhamnoides* (twiggy coprosma)
- *Coprosma rugosa* (needle-leaved mountain coprosma)
- *Coprosma propinqua* (mingimingi)
- *Cordyline australis* (tī kōuka/cabbage tree)
- *Corokia cotoneaster* (korokio)
- *Griselinia littoralis* (pāpāuma/broadleaf)
- *Olearia avicenniifolia* (mountain akeake)
- *Olearia lineata* (small-leaved tree daisy)
- *Olearia nummulariifolia* (tree daisy)
- *Olearia odorata* (scented tree daisy)
- *Phormium tenax* (harakeke/flax)
- *Plagianthus regius* (ribbonwood)
- *Podocarpus laetus* (Hall's tōtara)
- *Podocarpus totara* (tōtara)
- *Sophora microphylla* (kōwhai)

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- *Veronica salicifolia* (koromiko/hebe)

Site preparation and planting:

Minimal site preparation will be required, with no need to spot spray prior to planting within the wetland area. It is recommended that the best plant positions are chosen on the day of planting. Plant guards and bamboo sticks are recommended, as is weed releasing at the time of planting for efficiency of maintenance.

Ideally willow removal would occur before planting. If this is not feasible, a decent sized buffer would be required between the willows and planting.



Figure 9 Plan view of planting area.



Figure 10 Photograph looking towards willows.



Figure 11 Photograph looking over wider planting area.