



# Robert Findlay Wildlife Reserve

Pūkorokoro Miranda  
Naturalist's Trust

Pūkorokoro, Firth of  
Thames

# Increasing biodiversity in a highly modified but unique landscape

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- Shell Chenier ridges with wet silty hollows
- Wetland used for food gathering and flax harvest 1800's
- Chenier ridges mined for shell - burnt and crushed to make lime 1930-1950's
- Area drained, native vegetation burnt and pasture grasses sown for grazing stock until ~2015-7





Land purchased by PMNT 2016  
Once grazing completely ceased  
exotic plants (Divided Sedge and  
Fennel) dominated



Between 2019-2023, areas were sprayed to remove weeds before planting natives

Excessive weed growth in cleared areas. Native plants struggle to compete.

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To weed or not to weed?



Does  
mulching  
help?





# How to tackle the most invasive weeds?









# Measuring increased biodiversity

## Species diversity

- Variety of native plants
- Moth monitoring - relationships
- Lizard monitoring

