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Way Out West

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Fitzroy Surf and Lifesaving Club, New Plymouth







Presentation: Biosecurity in NZ - Sea spurge as a coastal example

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Biosecurity in New Zealand Sea spurge as a coastal example

Frances Velvin and Susanne Krejcek

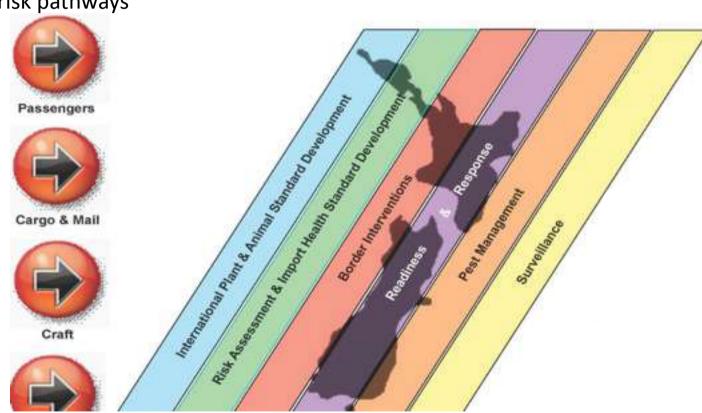
11 March 2014 Dunes Trust Conference New Plymouth



Biosecurity in New Zealand

THE MULTIPLE LAYERS OF NEW ZEALAND'S BIOSECURITY SYSTEM

risk pathways



Biosecurity in New Zealand









- - School of the same of
 - PRICHEROR





Preborder

Border

Post border

Entry pathways of pests and diseases

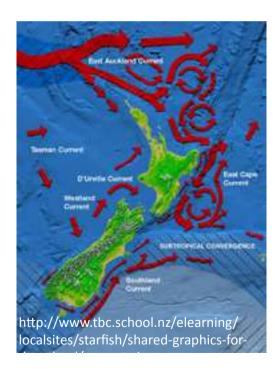
Managed pathways

- Passengers
- Cargo/mail, imported goods
- Craft



Uncontrollable pathways

- Jet streams
- Ocean currents



Risks and management

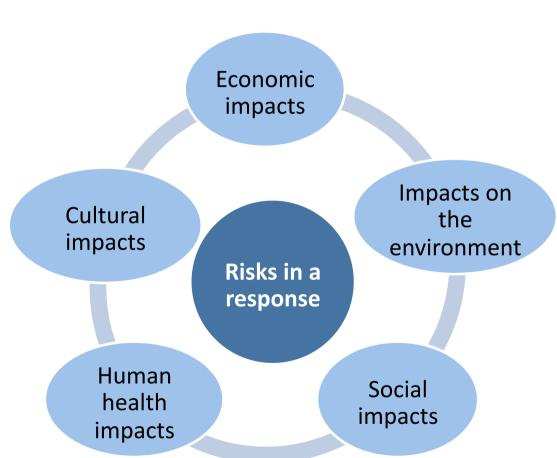
Biosecurity response is to manage the risk:

- Science based decisions
- Risk assessment
- Management options
- Risk management



Modified from http://intomillion.com/ideas-opinions/investment-finance/investments-with-zero-risk-true-or-false/

What risks do we consider in a response?



Risks associated with response activities



Biosecurity is a joint effort!



Prominent examples of responses







Undaria on monitoring rope in Sunday Cove. Photo: K. Blaemore, DOC



Pyp grass

Responses – When MPI is notified of a new pest or disease

People from across MPI come together to form a response team





Biosecurity response to sea spurge Euphorbia paralias



Photo courtesy of Department of Conservation

Aotea Heads detection site



- Detection February 2012
- Population 3-4 years old
- First detection in NZ

Response questions

- Potential impact?
- Entry pathway?
- Containment?
- Distribution?
- Risk management?

Eradication possible?



Sea spurge: Euphorbia paralias

General characteristics

- Small coastal shrub
- Well adapted to establishment on sand dunes
- Propagation by seed
- Toxic sap
- Similar appearance to native Euphorbia glauca

Distribution

- Native to European Atlantic coast and Mediterranean
- First reports: Australia 1927
 New Zealand 2012



Sea spurge habitat

- Coastal dunes
- Coastal gardens
- •Sea walls
- Pebbly beaches
- Pasture
- Scrubland
- Tidal estuaries















Potential Impacts

- Changes physical and ecological structure of sand dunes
- Threat to endangered species and nesting
- Reduced recreational quality
- Establishment: most of New Zealand coastline
- Spread: dunes, pasture, open



Entry pathway: Uncontrollable entry

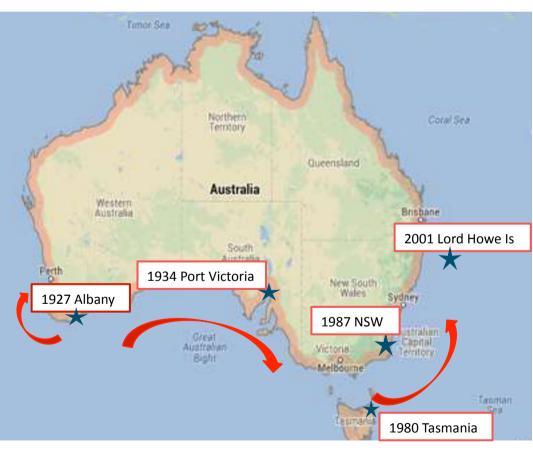
Primary dispersal mechanism: seed floating on coastal and ocean currents

Seeds float for up to 1000 days in sea water

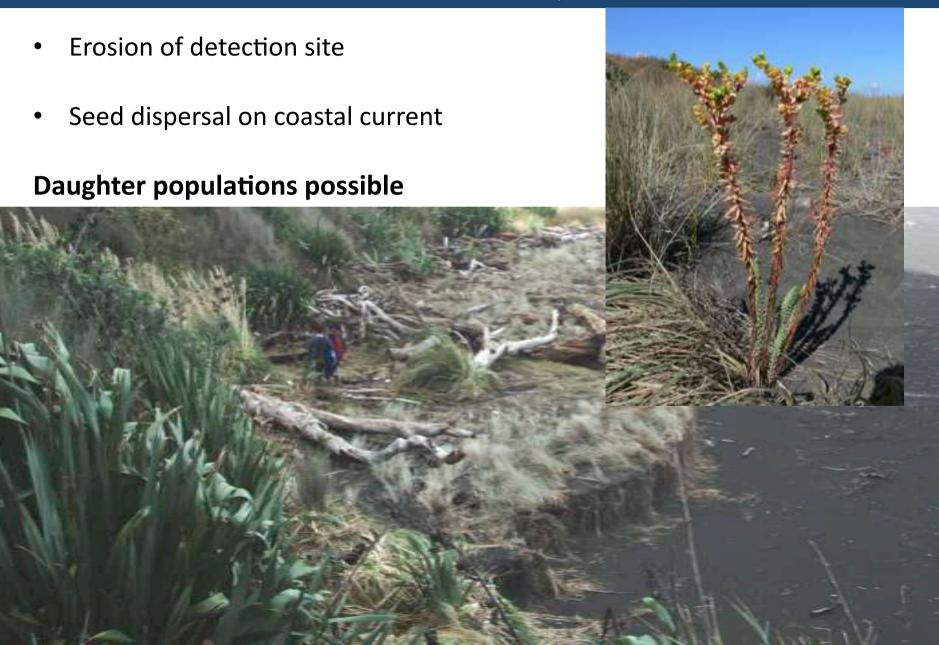
Seed survival:6 years in sea water10 years on land

More incursions possible!





Containment: not possible



Distribution: Local survey

• 15km each side of detection site

 Harbours previous vegetation survey

No other populations found



Distribution: Waikato west coast

Aerial survey along Waikato west coast

High risk sites:

• Flotsam above high tide mark

• Vegetation on the incipient fore-dune

• Stream & creek mouths



No other populations detected

Eradication possible?



Risk Management: eradication

Local surveillance: Prevent daughter populations establishing Annual survey

Site Management: Prevent seed production 10 year programme







Risk Management: early detection

Raise awareness and promote early reporting

Where to look:

- Zone between high tide and highest storm surge
- Flotsam
- Coastal vegetation

Reporting:

- Call MPI exotic pest hotline
- Leave plants in situ
- Landmarks & GPS
- Photograph

To report suspected exotic land, freshwater and marine pests, or exotic diseases in plants or animals, call:

0800809966

Ministry for Primary Industries Manatū Ahu Matua



Exotic Euphorbia paralias vs native Euphorbia glauca



Invasive exotic weed

- Green flowers
- Small leaves
- Stems die after flowering





Threatened native species

- Red flowers
- Larger plant leaves, stems
- Stems do not die after flowering

Acknowledgements

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