### **Dune Wilderness – Hidden in Plain Sight**

• Uniqueness – wetland turf habitats contain 20.6% of NZ's native flowering plant species, and 17.8% of threatened plant species<sup>[1]</sup> in a tiny percentage of the total land area.



- **Dynamic Landscape** we are watching the changes as the Dune Garden evolves, over seasons and years
- Signage Requirement educate and inform at all entry points and key sites in the Dune Garden.



# **Manawatu Estuary Dune Garden Context**



#### Dune Garden Background

- 50ha of dunes dune wetland within Manawatu Estuary Ramsar site
- Over 2 dozen native species, about 25% on threatened species list
- Except for marram, almost no weeds remaining. Marram programme active.
- Bare sand in 2016, growing in significantly every year
- Weed maintenance since 2019



## Threatened Species





**Biodiversity** 



Half-star = Goodenia heenanii

### **Environmental Awareness**







#### **Further information**

- Wetland Trust: <u>https://www.wetlandtrust.org.nz/get-involved/ramsar-wetlands/</u>
- Manawatu Estuary Trust: <a href="https://www.metrust.org.nz/home">https://www.metrust.org.nz/home</a>
- Manawatu Estuary Dune Garden: <u>arnim@actrix.gen.nz</u>