

Hunua Quarry Vegetation Management Plan, South Auckland

Client

Winstone Aggregates.

Project

The development of a new 40 ha extraction pit at Hunua Quarry required the removal of streams and indigenous vegetation, including part of a nationally-important Site of Special Wildlife Interest (SSWI). Tonkin & Taylor was engaged to develop a Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) to meet resource consent requirements for mitigating adverse ecological effects associated with the works, primarily through habitat creation and restoration and management of adjoining remnant native forest. Particular challenges included compensating for the removal of food habitat for New Zealand's threatened wood pigeon (kereru) and the destruction of known populations of protected lizards. Planting plans incorporated management-by-learning approaches, developing alternative methods for native forest establishment that use resources on site to reduce costs and accelerate forest restoration (e.g. use of gorse as a nurse crop for native plants).

Services provided

- Concept design
- Detailed project design, including programmes for implementation and monitoring/ maintenance
- Consultation with stakeholder groups from regulatory authorities, public interest groups and scientific communities

- Specialist advice over management programmes for nationally threatened Auckland green gecko populations at the site
- Continuing technical advice for project implementation and management.



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