



Wainui Stream Enhancement Plan, Taharoa Mine, Waikato

Client

New Zealand Steel Ltd.

Project

Tonkin & Taylor prepared a habitat enhancement plan for the Wainui Stream as mitigation for ecological effects of the damming and diversion of the stream for the Taharoa iron sand mine. The focus of the plan was on enhancing inanga (whitebait) spawning areas and managing potential threats to these habitats. The challenging coastal dune environment at this site, with high winds and salt spray, strongly influenced the planting design with a two-stage planting process using hardy nurse crops and extensive use of low-growing coastal shrubs and ground covers.

Services provided

- Inanga spawning habitat enhancement through weed and animal pest control and protection of rank grass riparian fringes
- Customised planting programme to maximise plant survival in the harsh coastal environment
- Riparian revegetation for inanga habitat was balanced with the need to maintain stream access for operational requirements, fishing and other recreational and cultural uses

- Consultation programme with stakeholder groups from regulatory authorities, public interest groups and scientific communities. Involvement of local community in planting and monitoring
- Monitoring for inanga spawning, rodent control, plant survival, and weed establishment to ensure project success and guide future programmes.



Source: www.niwa.co.nz/rc/freshwater/fishatlas/species/inanga

www.tonkin.co.nz

