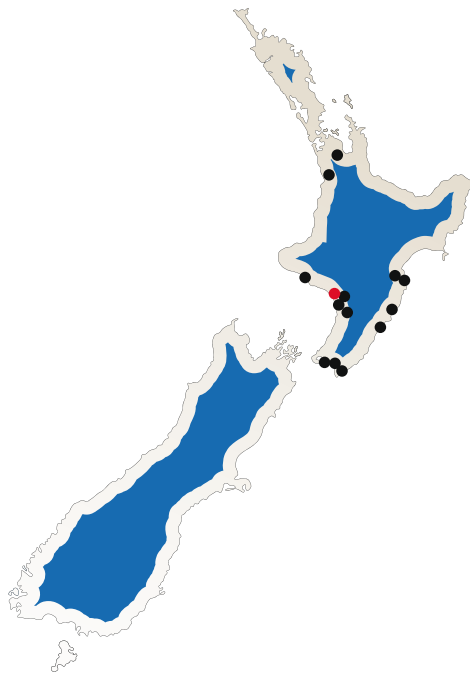
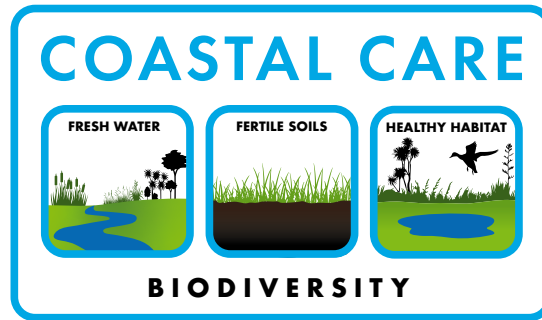


Feeding you sustainably



**R O T O K A W A**

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## Feeding you sustainably

Since inception the Coastal Lamb Brand has connected our customers to us as farmers. This connection is a key point of difference for our brand and something that is deeply valued by consumers.

Climate change is a worldwide phenomenon in 2022 and all countries are making moves to address this problem. Customers want to know who is producing their food and now more than ever want to know how their food is produced.

Communicating the focus we have on farming sustainably and the care we take of our farm environments is now essential. **Coastal Care** gives us a tool to communicate our sustainability stories effectively with our consumers.

In Hong Kong leading hotels have a **"Quota for Sustainably produced product"** Our **Coastal Care** programme gives us the ability to showcase our credentials and participate in this growth opportunity.

**The focus of Coastal Care is looking at the following elements and how they combine to create biodiversity.**

Fresh Water + Fertile Soils + Healthy Habitat =

**BIODIVERSITY**

Biodiversity is a great measure of the health and sustainability of our farm environments.

Our aim is to document each farms current status and looking to the future, encourage anything that improves the sustainability of our farming systems.

# Fresh Water

*Fresh water is critical for the survival of all living organisms.*

Fresh water is central to farming at Rotokawa, with the farm encompassing Lake Rotokauwau, and bounding the Whangaehu River to the south. The following initiatives have taken place to protect and enhance the waterways at Rotokawa.

- Fenced 3.1 km of the Whangaehu river boundary, to exclude stock, stabilise river banks and planted native trees to increase biodiversity of the lower river catchment.
- Develop and install a stock water bore, with full reticulated/ gravity fed stock water system, to enable the retirement of historical stock water sources.
- Fenced off wetlands and major drains and waterways for retirement and to exclude Stock.
- Member of the Whangaehu River catchment group.
- Collaborated with Fish and Game, and Horizons regional Council to create a number of new wetlands, and enhance the existing wetlands on the property, to improve native habitat and promote biodiversity.
- Created silt traps, to limit sedimentation into Lake Rotokauwau.
- Willow tree removal at McDowall's Swamp Wetland and Lake Rotokauwau, to reduce sedimentation, and promote the native vegetation to flourish.

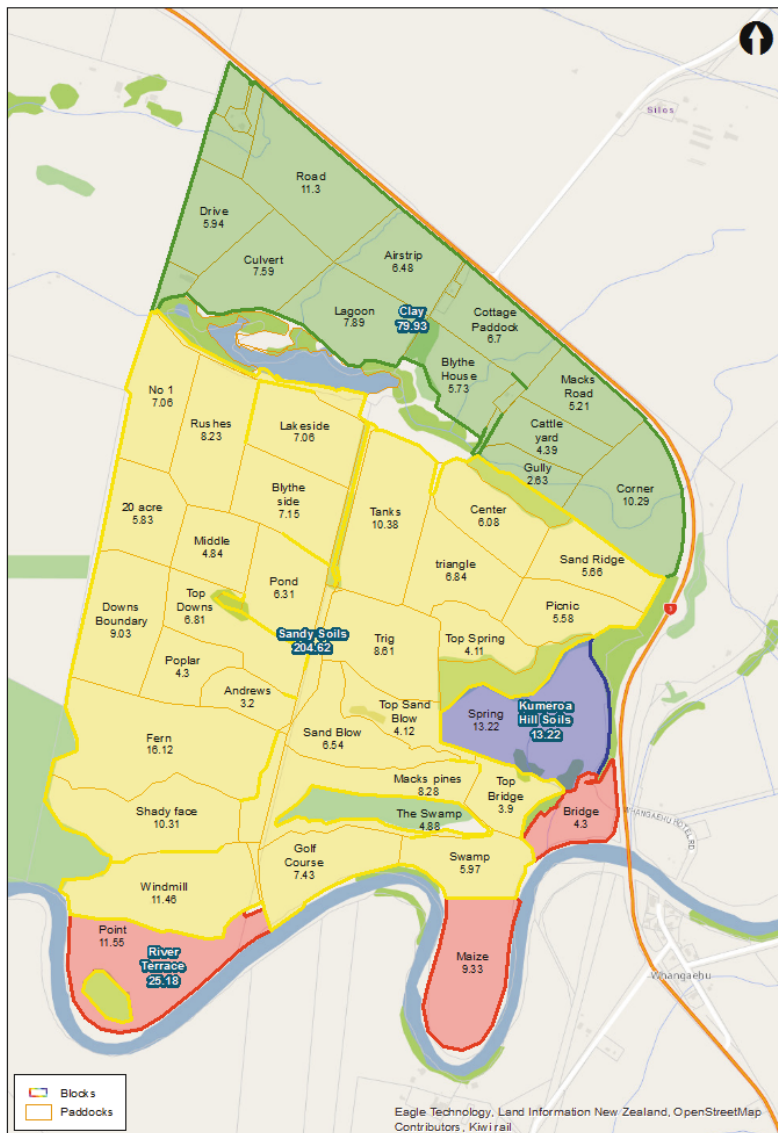


# Fertile Soils

*Land or soil that is fertile is able to support the growth of a large number of strong healthy plants.*

We at Rotokawa are privileged to farm a diverse range of Soil types, ranging from clay, sand and river silt on the Whangaehu River terrace. We have developed our farming system around the strengths of the different soil profiles, to nurture and ensure the sustainability of our farming system. The following are ways we enhance our fertile soils, and mitigate for factors that may have a negative impact on our soils health.

Rotokawa Soil Map



- Extensive subdivision for targeted management of the differing soil types.
- Tile draining of the clay country.
- Cattle excluded from the clay country during winter, moved to the free draining sandy areas of the farm to mitigate the impacts of winter grazing.
- Work with fertiliser representative to fine tune soil nutrient requirements and targeted application of fertiliser.
- Soil test prior to application, targeted application for the differing soils.
- Extensive use of direct drilling to minimise tillage, to maintain soil structure and health. 40ha drilled annually.
- Targeted plant species for differing soil types, lucerne for drier sand, cover crop winter grazing.
- Marram grass used to stabilise fragile sandy soils.
- Small scale production forestry planted (5ha) on steep sideling's and sand ridges.



# Healthy Habitat

*A diverse environment where a plant or animal naturally or normally lives, grows and reproduces.*

At Rotokawa we value the diverse coastal habitats we are fortunate to be the caretaker of, which include two wetlands of significance. Lake Rotokauwau, and McDowalls swamp, which has recently been enhanced through willow removal, excavation, and native shrub and tree planting.

- Extensive native shrub and tree planting at wetland sites.
- Native tree windbreaks, for shade, shelter, and to promote biodiversity.
- Amenity tree planting, Oaks, fruit trees.

## **Rotokawa Wetlands include.**

Lake Rotokauwau, lake of 6.6 ha, greater wetland 8.6 ha

McDowalls Swamp, pond of 2 ha, greater wetland of 5 ha.





# Biodiversity

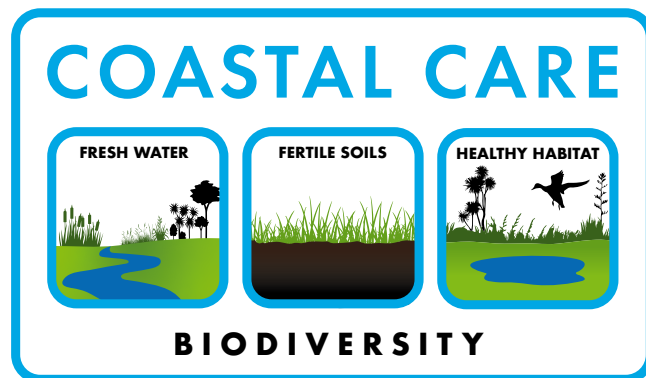
*The amount of diversity between plants, animals and other species in a given habitat at a particular time.*

The coastal landscape and temperate climate of at Rotokawa gives rise to a broad diversity of flora and fauna, which we are privileged to be able to see on a daily basis.

The property, and Lake Rotokauwau in particular is home to a vast array of native and introduced species, including a spectacular stand of Kahikitea in the McDowall's Swamp.

- Lake Rotokauwau, and the McDowall's Swamp wetland are home to a wide range of birdlife including, Royal Spoonbill, Black Swan, Scaup, Grey Teal, Blue Heron, Pukeko, Grey and Mallard Duck, Paradise duck, NZ shoveler, Dab chick, Pied Stilt, Spotless Crake, King fisher, Black shag.
- Other birds which are regularly spotted are Pheasants, Fantails, Tui, Kereru, NZ Harrier, NZ Falcon.
- Fish in Lake Rotokauwau include Long fin eel, shortfin eel, Perch
- Other fish found in waterways around Rotokawa include Banded Kokopu and inanga.
- Typical vegetation of the wetlands include Flax, cabbage trees, Kahikitea & Manuka.
- In conjunction with Fish and Game we have helped to facilitate an annual Duck banding program on Lake Rotokauwau and the McDowall's Swamp, to monitor the Grey and Mallard duck populations in the wider Whanganui area.
- Actively run a trapping program around the two major wetlands, to try to eradicate stoats, ferrets and feral cats.
- Possum control.
- Native Tree planting most notably along the Whangaehu river bank, and the McDowall Swamp wetland.





Feeding you sustainably





# ROTOKAWA

