# Convolvulus soldanella

## COMMON NAMES
shore bindweed, shore convolvulus, rauparaha

## BIOSTATUS
Native

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS
2023 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO
Jump to previous conservation statuses

Fortrose Spit. Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.

Macauley Island. Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.

## CATEGORY
Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS
Lianes & Related Trailing Plants - Dicotyledons

## FLOWER COLOURS
Red/Pink, White

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION
Perennial herb with stout, white, deeply descending, fleshy roots and numerous prostrate branching stems forming dense patches. Stems glabrous. Petioles 80 mm or less, slender. Leaves (10-)50(-80) x (10-)50(-75) mm, reniform, fleshy, glossy, entire; sinus shallow and rounded; apex emarginate, obtuse or acute. Flowers solitary; peduncles ribbed, 100 mm long. Bracts ovate. cordate, obtuse 12-18 mm long. Sepals nearly = bracts, obtuse. Corolla 20-40 x 25-50 mm, campanulate, pink with white mid-petaline bands. Capsule 15-20 mm long, broad-ovoid, apiculate. Seeds dark brown, smooth.

## SIMILAR TAXA
None - the prostrate habit and reniform leaves clearly distinguish this species from all other indigenous and introduced *Convolvulus* species. However, *C. soldanella* forms hybrids with *C. tuguriorum,* and these can be recognised by their weakly lianoid habit, puberulent, subsucculent stems and leaves, reniform to deltoid leaves, and pale pink subcampanulate flowers. *C. soldanella* is also suspected to hybridise with *C. sepium subsp. roseata*, and *C. naniflorus*

## DISTRIBUTION
Indigenous. Kermadec, Three Kings, North, South, Stewart and Chatham Islands. Indigenous to both Northern and Southern Hemisphere temperate regions.

## HABITAT
Coastal or inland along lake shorelines. Usually in sand or shell banks but also grows in fine gravel or pumice, talus slopes and on occasion in coastal turf or on cliff faces.

## GENUS
Convolvulus

## FAMILY
Convolvulaceae

## AUTHORITY
Convolvulus soldanella L.

## SYNONYMS
Calystegia soldanella (L.) R.Br.

## ENDEMIC TAXON
No

## ENDEMIC GENUS
No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

## FLOWERING
August-March

## FRUITING
Present throughout the year

## LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL
Capsules are water and possibly also wind dispersed (Thorsen et al., 2009).

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE
Easy from seed or rooted pieces. Once established very hard to eradicate! An attractive ground cover for a difficult, dry, sunny or exposed spot. For a bit of variety try growing it in bach lawns - its does not require mowing and is much more interesting than kikuyu grass (Pennisetum clandestinum Chiov.)

## WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING
UPL: Obligate Upland
Rarely is a hydrophyte, almost always in uplands (non-wetlands).

## CULTURAL USE/IMPORTANCE
Māori gathered the thick, white, fleshy roots and pounded these to form a pulp, this was then used as a relish to flavour some meats.

## ETYMOLOGY
**convolvulus**: From Latin convolvere, which means to twine around
**soldanella**: From Latin 'soldo' a type of coin, referring to the shape of the leaves

## NVS CODE
CALSOL

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER
2n = 22

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES
2017 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO
2012 | Not Threatened
2009 | Not Threatened
2004 | Not Threatened
Jump to current conservation status

## REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES
Auckland: 2025 | Regionally Not Threatened | Qualifiers: DPS, DPT Help
The regional threat classification system leverages off the national assessments in the NZTCS, providing information relevant for the regional context. Auckland conservation status information is sourced from the "Conservation status of vascular plant species in Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland" Simpkins E et al. (2025) report.
Otago: 2025 | Regionally Not Threatened Help
The regional threat classification system leverages off the national assessments in the NZTCS, providing information relevant for the regional context. Otago conservation status information is sourced from the "Conservation Status of Indigenous Vascular Plants in Otago, 2025" Jarvie S et al. (2025) report.

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H.H. 1961: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I. Wellington, Government Printer.
Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 11*: 285-309
Webb, C.J.; Sykes, W.R.; Garnock-Jones, P.J. 1988: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. IV. Naturalised Pteridophytes, Gymnosperms, Dicotyledons.Christchurch, New Zealand, Botany Division, D.S.I.R..

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 1 November 2005. Description adapted from Allan (1961) and Webb et al. (1988), supplemented with observations made from fresh and dried material.


## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): Convolvulus soldanella Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network.
https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/convolvulus-soldanella/ (Date website was queried)

## MORE INFORMATION

https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/convolvulus-soldanella/

## PDF DATE

25 May 2026