



## *Ranunculus acaulis*

### **Common Name(s):**

sand buttercup, shore buttercup

### **Current Threat Status (2012):**

Not Threatened

### **Distribution:**

Indigenous. New Zealand (North, South, Stewart, Chatham and Auckland Islands). Also Australia (Tasmania), South America (Chile) and the Falkland Islands.

### **Habitat:**

Coastal and occasionally inland. Usually in saltmarsh or meadow, muddy ground near tidal creeks, on rock platforms or rock stacks, Occasionally on salt pans, limestone bluffs and along lake margins.

### **Features:**

Perennial, mat-forming; rosettes tufted along pale, spreading, slender rhizomes. Leaves long-petiolate; lamina dark bronze-green to dark green, fleshy, glabrous, trifoliate or deeply 3-lobed, 5-15 (-20) mm diameter; lobes bluntly obovate, entire to shallowly toothed, terminal lobe entire or 3-fid, rounded to obtuse at apex, lateral lobes entire or with 1 basispic lobe. Flowers solitary, 5-10 mm diameter; scapes ± sessile, or very short, peduncles glabrous. Sepals spreading, glabrous. Petals 5-8, greenish-yellow, narrowly oblong or spatulate; nectary single, 1.5-2.0 mm from petal base, pocket-like. Receptacle glabrous. Achenes (6-)10-12(-30), not flattened, glabrous; body 2-3 mm long; beak straight, 0.5-1.0 mm long.

### **Flowering:**

August - April

### **Fruiting:**

September - July

### **Threats:**

Not Threatened

### **For more information, visit:**

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=2236](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=2236)



**Caption:** Enderby Island, growing amongst *Rumex neglectus*

**Photographer:** Jane Gosden



**Caption:** *Ranunculus acaulis*

**Photographer:** John Barkla