



Kauri Konnect 27

Message from the Chair

Reflecting back on the first five years of the Kauri Dieback Programme I am proud of how much we have achieved.

The programme has been in a constant state of self-improvement since it was established in 2009. Early on we focused on establishing programme management structures, systems and a partnership governance group. We also began commissioning critical research, such as the development of diagnostic tools to enable surveillance and initiating control tool trials, designing and implementing a behaviour change programme targeting forest users, rolling out hygiene stations at high use forest tracks, and developing community engagement and support for managing kauri dieback within forests.

There were early challenges, including dealing with a new-to-science organism, delivering the programme through a new, untested partnership model and building people capability fast enough to meet needs.

With the help of passionate people and committed partners we overcame these challenges and the programme has evolved into a longer term 'delivery' phase with a solid understanding of PTA biology, modes of spread and distribution, and a clear plan for managing kauri dieback.

We've achieved high levels of awareness of the issue within

kauri lands and have enabled forest users to adopt practices that reduce PTA spread. We have developed new tools for detecting and managing PTA and we have an active programme of operational work combating vectors of kauri dieback. We have created a well regarded model for involving tāngata whenua as an equal partner, reflecting Treaty obligations.



Programme partners have always been committed to the longevity of the programme and it's pleasing that additional funding has been allocated by the Government in this year's Budget. DOC will receive an additional boost of \$21.6 million over the next four years to significantly increase the rate of track upgrades and installation of hygiene stations aimed at minimising kauri dieback spread. MPI will also receive \$1.2 million per annum over the next 10 years to cover their commitment for the programme. Regional councils have also confirmed their ongoing financial commitment to the programme. MPI will continue to lead the programme.

Programme partners and the independent review of the programme last year confirm that the outcomes the current programme seeks are still relevant, the programme is achieving its goals and is functioning well given the complexities of working in partnership. With this

PASS IT ON. Please spread the word by sending this newsletter through your networks via email or print off hard copies to pass on to those you meet.

Are you new to KauriKonnect? Email lynn.mcilveen@mpi.govt.nz to register on the database and you'll never miss a copy.

in mind we will focus on expanding and strengthening the programme rather than making any wholesale changes. We'll be:

- » increasing efforts to collaborate with external parties with an interest in protecting kauri;
- » increasing the rigour of programme management, strategic planning, performance measurement and reporting;
- » increasing the science outputs of the programme and improving the strategic direction and governance of science within the programme;
- » focusing on new spread pathways, such as nurseries, forestry and farming;
- » increasing our engagement with the public and key vectors of PTA;
- » exploring the development of additional regulatory tools to support the programme;
- » exploring alternative delivery models for the programme to improve programme effectiveness and efficiency.

With these changes we expect that over the next five-year period we will have:

- » more effective tools to manage the disease;
- » much better compliance rates from key disease vectors; and
- » significantly reduced disease spread rates.


Kauri is an iconic species and a taonga for many New Zealanders. From adversity springs opportunity and I am humbled by the group of passionate people who have put their hands up to protect something precious to us all – on behalf of the Kauri Dieback Leadership Team, I thank you all.

We hope that you will continue to be involved as we strongly believe that partnerships and working together are essential to the future success of this programme and encourage everyone to help “save our kauri forests”.

Kia toitu he kauri

And remember...when you are around kauri:

- » Make sure shoes, tyres and equipment are cleaned to remove all visible soil and plant material before AND after visiting kauri forests.
- » Please use cleaning stations installed on major tracks: scrub to remove all soil and spray with disinfectant.
- » Stay on the track and off kauri roots.

Dr Erik van Eyndhoven
Kauri Dieback Programme Chair 


Programme funding boosted in Budget

This year's Budget allocated additional funding to the Kauri Dieback Management Programme.

The Department of Conservation (DOC) will receive \$10.9 million for operational costs over four years and \$10.7 million for capital costs for tracks, boardwalks and hygiene stations.

The new funding will enable DOC to upgrade 100km of high-use tracks through kauri forests, construct five kilometres of boardwalk to keep visitors away from the root system of the trees and install over 300 hygiene stations to reduce the risk of the disease spreading.

New funding of \$1.229 million per year for the Ministry for Primary Industries will go towards its leadership and management of the programme, support for research and surveillance activities and maintenance of effective working partnerships between the Crown agencies, Tāngata whenua, regional authorities and community groups. This funding will be available for 10 years.

The new funding provided in Budget 2014 is additional to baseline funding provided by DOC and regional council commitments. Overall funding for the programme will increase significantly. 



Work stepped up to protect Coromandel from kauri dieback

In response to the confirmation of kauri dieback at a single site in the Coromandel Peninsula in March this year, the Kauri Dieback Management Programme has conducted further rounds of aerial surveillance and soil sampling and stepped up its community engagement and education in the area.

“Several rounds of aerial surveillance have now been completed across the Coromandel Peninsula to look for any notable stands of kauri which may look sick or dead,” says Kauri Dieback Programme Relationship Manager Ian Mitchell.

“Any suspect stands are followed up with soil sampling, which has taken place in the Whangapoua Forest/ Hukarahi Conservation Area; at the northern end of the Whangapoua Forest; and at various sites across the Peninsula. We expect to be able to report on lab results by the end of May.

“We are also updating kauri dieback signage and increasing the number of cleaning stations at key sites on the Peninsula. Permanent cleaning stations are being installed at Waiumu kauri grove, the Pinnacles track, Wainora/

Cookson’s kauri walk, Whenuakite, and Waiau kauri grove on the 309 Road.”

Ian says everyone is being reminded to do their bit to prevent the spread of kauri dieback by making sure they clean footwear, vehicle tyres and machinery when moving to or from any kauri forests.

“The support of our partners and the community is vital for managing the spread of kauri dieback.

“The Coromandel Kauri Dieback Forum is being established with the support of government agencies to bring together community groups and industry with an interest in slowing the spread of kauri dieback on the Peninsula.

“Our engagement with Tāngata whenua is crucial. All Tāngata whenua groups across Coromandel and Hauraki are being contacted and invited to be engaged in the response. Relationships are being formed with those groups who have indicated interests in or near the infected site.

“Kauri is a taonga and incredibly important to New Zealanders and all the programme partners are fully committed to managing the spread of this disease,” says Ian. 🌱



The Coromandel sampling team (L-R): Lorraine Anderson, mana whenua; Ken Brown, DOC; Wendy Briljerich, mana whenua; (squatting) Sarah Cooper, Kauri 2000 Trust; Jeannie Allport, Waikato Regional Council; Norbert Klein, Ernslaw One Forestry Ltd; Benson Lockhart, Waikato Regional Council; Kevin Carter, DOC (absent David Hammon, mana whenua).

The Kauri Dieback Programme thanks the following partners for their support

If you'd like to help spread the word about kauri dieback to your customers, staff and networks then please contact Ian Mitchell on **029 894 0773** or email imitchell@doc.govt.nz.

Coopers Creek

Coopers Creek 'Lone Kauri' brand is an iconic Kiwi wine that has lent its support to the Kauri Dieback Programme. In an innovative messaging alliance, every Lone Kauri bottle helps raise awareness of kauri dieback and what we can all do to stop its spread. They are distributed throughout the Upper North Island and into Asian markets. We feature on their website and Facebook pages and promotional material at tastings, events and point of sale is also helping to spread the word. Cheers Coopers Creek!



Soar Print

As an environmentally sustainable printer, Soar Print is generously putting their money where their mouth is by providing discounted printing services to the Kauri Dieback Programme. We're proud to join their portfolio of community programmes which help good things happen.



Bivouac

Thanks Bivouac for getting the kauri dieback message to all your intrepid outdoorsy customers on your Facebook page. We really appreciate you letting us use your communication channels to raise awareness and encourage kauri-safe behaviours in the forest.




Kauri art exhibition raises awareness

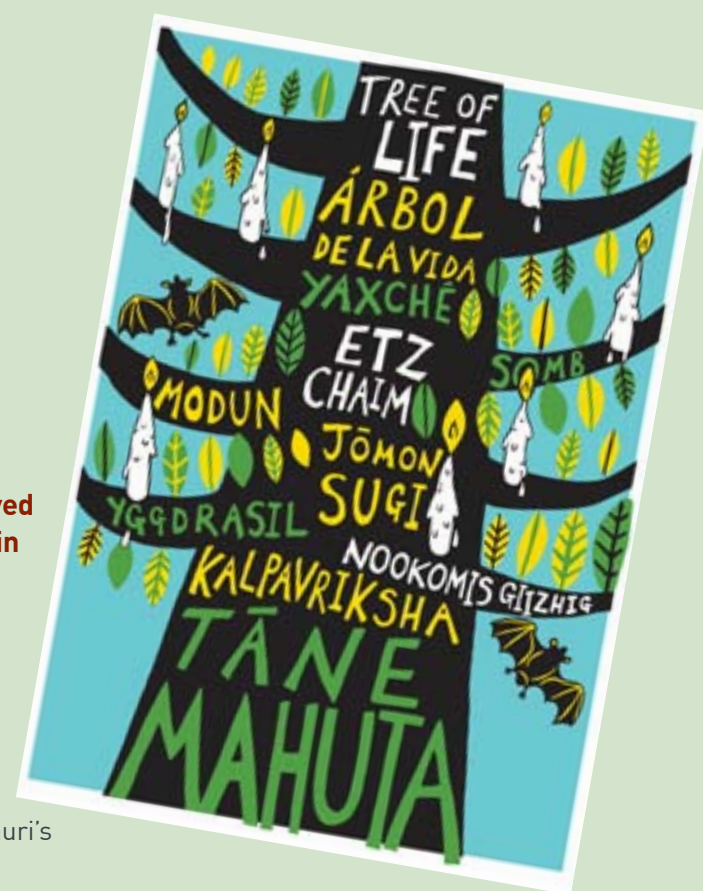
The Kauri Project's first exhibition is currently displayed at the Lopdell House Gallery in New Lynn.

The Kauri Project is an ongoing initiative to use art as a language for raising awareness and promoting understanding of kauri dieback disease and the scientific, cultural, social and economic contexts that inform kauri's current situation.

Co-curators Chris McBride and Ariane Craig-Smith are passionate about raising awareness of environmental concerns, particularly kauri dieback through art and are working collaboratively with The Kauri Dieback Management Programme.

The first of the art projects to be developed by the Kauri Project is the Poster Series. Contemporary artists and designers Charlotte Graham, Philip Kelly, Tessa Laird, Natalie Robertson and Haruhiko Sameshima have been commissioned to produce new works addressing the social, cultural and historical value of kauri, one of our most beloved species, in the face of the threat posed by kauri dieback disease. These beautiful posters can be seen at the Lopdell House Gallery until the 9th of June.

Each work is also available to purchase as a limited edition high quality digital print signed by the artist. 



Kauri Project Poster by Tessa Laird.