



# S A W M I L L I N G N E W S L E T T E R

## Species and Volumes received at the Mill for 2018/2019

Below are the volumes of indigenous timber received at the mill for the 2018/2019 financial year. Volumes received for 2019/2020 will be published in a later newsletter.

SPECIES	VOLUME (M³)
Tōtara	259
Hard Beech	95
Kahikatea	93
Kauri	132
Mātai	214
Pink Pine	540
Red Beech	1 033
Rimu	1 898
Silver Beech	16 216
Kānuka	239
Other	169
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20 886</b>



## Grants for the One Billion Tree Fund and Planted Indigenous Forest Certificates

Direct grants are available from the One Billion Tree (1BT) Fund to help landowners integrate trees into their landscape. Grants are available for those having a legal right to plant on eligible land and who can commit to maintaining the planting project for a minimum period of 10 years.

Native forest plantings have a grant rate available of \$4000/hectare. This could be used to establish a native timber plantations for commercial timber production. Nurse species such as kānuka are accepted in the planting mix as long as they don't make up the majority of the trees.

Additional top-up grants are available for erosion prone land, land with high land preparation costs or land in a surge region (Northland, East Coast, Hawke's Bay, Manawātū-Whanganui, West Coast).

Planted Indigenous Forest (PIF) Certificates are available for eligible land. This is where indigenous timber trees have been planted on land that was not indigenous forest land immediately

before planting. The sustainable forest management provisions of the Forests Act do not apply to indigenous plantations, only a milling statement is required prior to milling. The Planted Indigenous Forest Certificate can be used to certify that a forest is a plantation for Forests Act purposes.

Grants are also available for kānuka/mānuka plantings (\$1800/hectare) and exotic plantings (\$1500/hectare). New forests can also apply to be registered with the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) to earn carbon credits (except radiata pine which cannot register for 6 years from year of planting).

For more information, visit:

[www.teururakau.govt.nz/growing-and-harvesting/forestry/indigenous-forestry/harvesting-and-milling-indigenous-timber](http://www.teururakau.govt.nz/growing-and-harvesting/forestry/indigenous-forestry/harvesting-and-milling-indigenous-timber)

[www.teururakau.govt.nz/funding-and-programmes/forestry/one-billion-trees-programme](http://www.teururakau.govt.nz/funding-and-programmes/forestry/one-billion-trees-programme)

## Progress on the Tōtara Industry Pilot Project

Regenerating tōtara provides a unique opportunity for Northland and the Tōtara Industry Pilot project was established to test the commercial viability of the project. The vision is to establish a regional industry based on the sustainable management of regenerating farm tōtara on private land.

A total of 300m³ of farm-tōtara logs from three Northland farms have been harvested and processed to date. Milling was conducted for the first time on a commercial scale with high log to lumber recovery. Kiln drying of green tōtara boards were also trialled with promising results.

Market testing is one of the primary objectives of the project and dried timber was supplied to merchants to sell the timber and test the market.

Two commercial orders were received to date with one being used in the Te Hononga, Kawakawa Hundertwasser Memorial Park. Further orders are in the pipeline with a steady flow of enquiries for the product. The results are very promising considering the limited market research that has been done to date.

For more information, visit:

[www.totaraindustry.co.nz](http://www.totaraindustry.co.nz)

# Indigenous timber exports and the Supreme Court Judgment

The Forests Act 1949 restricts the type of indigenous timber and indigenous timber products that may be exported, and under what circumstances. The Ministry for Primary Industries is responsible for the administration of the Forests Act. Te Uru Rākau would like to draw exporters attention to the November 2018 decision from the Supreme Court in *Northland Environmental Protection Society Incorporated v Chief Executive of the Ministry for Primary Industries* [2018] NZSC 105.

In its decision, the Supreme Court clarified that for an indigenous timber product to be a finished or manufactured indigenous timber product (FMITP) under the Forests Act 1949, the following should be taken into consideration:

- If an indigenous timber item has the identity of a log, or rough sawn timber, or if further processing is plausible, or

it has other potential practical and economic uses, it is not a finished product.

- Kitset finished products must be complete and include all components required to assemble it for immediate use.
- If a product intended for export requires any additional coating, such as varnishing, to be applied for it to be used for its intended purpose, then it will not be considered a finished product until the final coating is applied.

A voluntary process is in place with the swamp kauri industry that MPI will be advised of intended exports of swamp kauri FMITP's.

A "Notice of intention to export" form must be submitted to MPI for all proposed indigenous timber exports other than personal effects and FMITP's.

## Forests Act Prosecutions

MPI promotes voluntary compliance through engagement and education and the majority of the indigenous forestry sector are reliable and work hard to follow the rules. However, Te Uru Rākau do, on occasion, apply the Forests Act prosecution provisions to individuals or entities who knowingly or deliberately choose to breach the Forests Act. Since the last sawmillers newsletter was published the following matters have been prosecuted:

- **June 2020** – \$2270 fine for the milling of 7.94m<sup>3</sup> tōtara salvage timber without a milling statement and sentenced in the Whangarei District Court.
- **January 2020** – \$13,500 fine for the milling of 35m<sup>3</sup> rimu timber on an unregistered sawmill and sentenced in the Greymouth District Court.
- **September 2018** – \$4000 fine for the milling of 102m<sup>3</sup> swamp kauri timber without a milling statement and sentenced in the Auckland District Court.
- **August 2018** – \$450 fine for the milling of 5m<sup>3</sup> swamp kauri timber without a milling statement and sentenced in the Papakura District Court.
- **April 2018** – \$800 fine for milling 6.6m<sup>3</sup> swamp kauri timber without a milling statement and sentenced in the Auckland District Court.

## NOTICEBOARD

### Proposed Industry Body for Specialty Timbers

An industry working group are looking for feedback on a proposal for an organisation, to represent those working in the specialty timber industry. It is intended that the organisation will initially focus on small-scale sawmillers.

The proposal has been developed with assistance from Forest Growers Research, and a discussion document and survey on the proposal can be found on their website.

For more information, contact Harriet Palmer at [harriet.e.palmer@gmail.com](mailto:harriet.e.palmer@gmail.com) or 021 02532529

#### Discussion Document:

<https://fgr.nz/documents/download/8365>

#### Survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HBH7RBJ>

For noticeboard items to be included in the newsletter, please contact: [indigenous.forestry@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:indigenous.forestry@mpi.govt.nz)

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

To find indigenous forestry information and forms go to:  
[www.mpi.govt.nz](http://www.mpi.govt.nz) > Growing and Producing > Forestry > Indigenous Forestry