

KauriKonnnect 25

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PASS IT ON. Please spread the word by sending this newsletter through your networks via email or print off hardcopies to pass onto those you meet.
Are you new to KauriKonnnect? Email lynn.mcilveen@mpi.govt.nz to register on the database and you'll never miss a copy.

Farewell...welcome!

There have been a few changes since the last newsletter.

Katherine Clift has had to stand aside in order to lead some very important foot and mouth disease preparedness work for MPI. Dr Erik van Eyndhoven will take over her role as Chair of the Kauri Dieback Programme Leadership Team.

Lynn McIlveen has moved from the Logistics workstream lead to head things up as Programme Manager. She replaces Liz Clayton who has guided the Programme with a steady hand in recent times – thank you so much Liz!

We are fortunate to retain Liz's experience as a workstream member in the Planning and Intelligence group (P&I), which will now be led by Chris Green from the Department of Conservation. We're currently looking to fill the logistics roles.

Kia ora kotou,

As the new Chair of the Leadership team I thought I'd take this opportunity to let you know a little about me and describe what I've been up to in my first few months in the role.

I trained as an ecologist at the University of Canterbury and worked for a number of years as an ecological consultant throughout the country. More recently, my focus has been with the threats invasive species

pose to conservation values. In a nutshell, I aim to collaborate with others to achieve greater protection of our precious flora and fauna. Hopefully this background will stand me in good stead within the programme!

My role is to chair the leadership team and represent the interests of the Ministry for Primary Industries within the programme. I've been very fortunate to have the support of a great team, including my predecessor, Katherine Clift, and have managed to hit the ground running during a very busy time.

Many of you will be aware that we're nearing the end of our current funding commitment for the programme, so we're working hard to determine what is needed for the next iteration. This has involved independent reviews, costs benefit assessments and a business case. I'm really proud of the way the team has been pulling together to get through this and we hope to have a clear view of the future programme near the end of the year. I look forward to working with you all to keep kauri standing.

Naku noa, na
Erik van Eyndhoven 🌿



Post-2014 – an update from the Kauri Dieback Leadership Team

In *Kauri Konnect 24* (June 2013), we outlined a process for developing a business case to guide the next phase of the programme and since then work has been progressing at a fast pace. While June 2014 will see the end of the first phase, we're still only at the beginning of what was always intended to be a long-term management programme.

A generous grant from the Tindall Foundation has been used to commission an independent review of the programme and we hope to make this available on the website soon. In short, the review indicates that the programme is in good shape but says there are also plenty of opportunities to improve it. We anticipate acting on many of the report's recommendations and these have informed the business case options.

The Kauri Dieback Leadership Team has discussed the merits of the different options at length and there is an emerging preference for an option based on the current programme but with strengthened programme management, research, engagement and behaviour change.

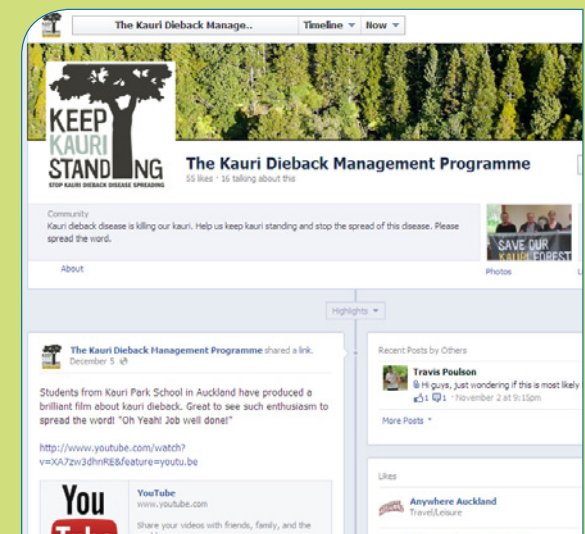
We still have work to do to confirm a preferred option and secure the funding necessary for the next phase but the programme partners have all committed to funding the programme for the foreseeable future. The process the Kauri Dieback Leadership Team has embarked on is an essential task at the end of this first funding cycle – and is nothing out of the ordinary. As all long-term projects and programmes do, we need to reflect on what has been learned and achieved, and use that knowledge to shape the next phase.

We acknowledge there is a degree of uncertainty for supporters of the programme until decisions on the future shape of the programme are made and we intend to provide certainty as soon as we can.

We hope to be able to announce the outcome of the business case and our future plans for the programme before the end of the year. But in the meantime, please be assured that the Kauri Dieback Programme is in good heart and will definitely continue beyond 2014. 🌱

Share the love...share the likes!

We have just launched a Facebook page to increase awareness about kauri dieback in communities online. Please check us out at <https://www.facebook.com/TheKauriDiebackManagementProgramme>, 'like' our page and share it through your networks. 🌱



Gardening with giants

In May, the *NZ Listener* included a great article when journalist Xanthe White wrote a feature on kauri dieback and how to care for kauri in the urban garden.

The article can be read here: <http://www.listener.co.nz/current-affairs/ecologic/gardening-with-giants/>

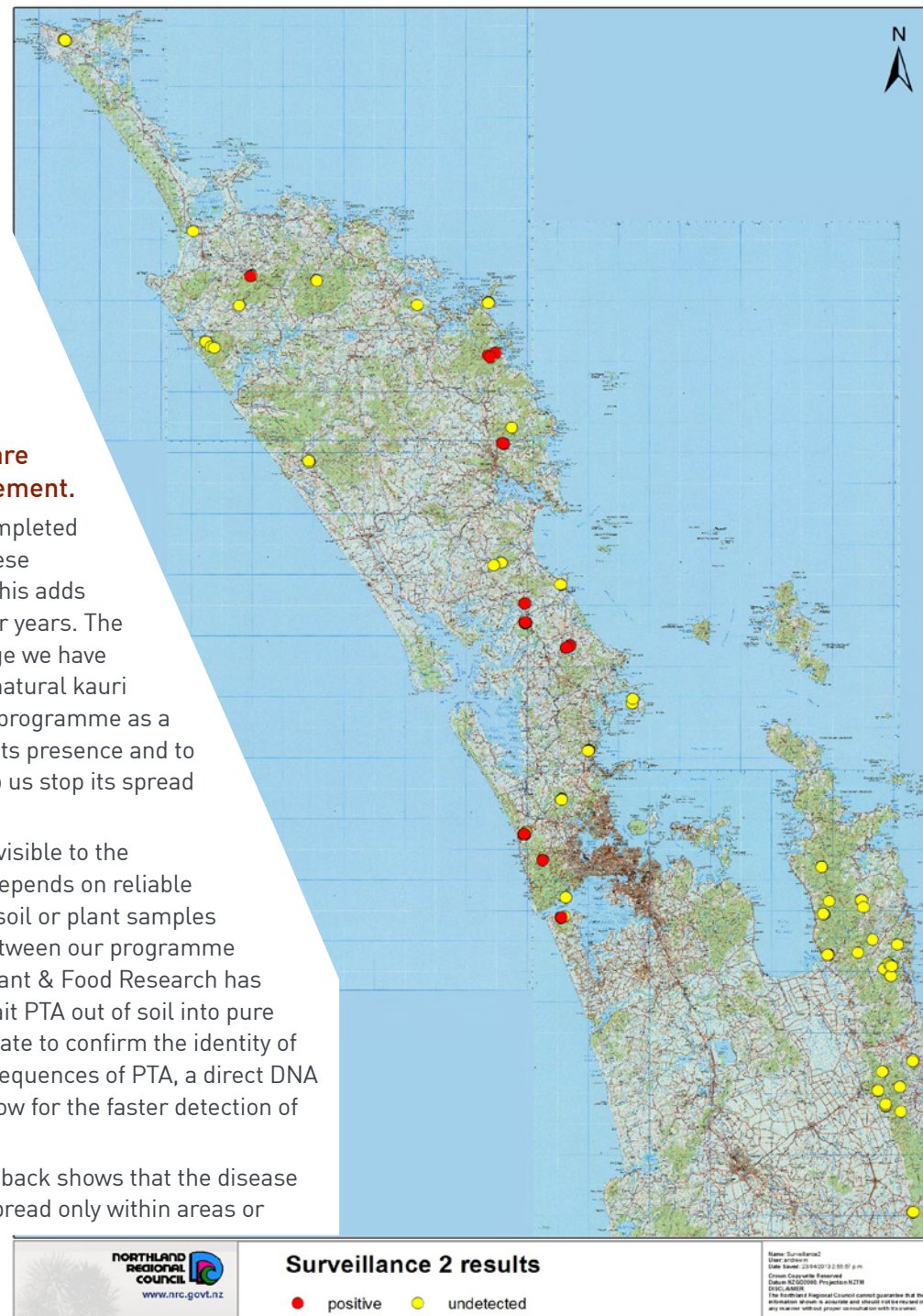
Our knowledge expands as the search continues...

A national surveillance programme is underway to determine the distribution of kauri dieback in New Zealand. Knowing which forests are still healthy and which are contaminated is critical to ground management.

The Kauri Dieback Programme has recently completed another round of surveillance and published these results to the website (*Surveillance 2 report*). This adds to all of the surveillance taken over the past four years. The cumulative results represent the best knowledge we have of the distribution of kauri dieback throughout natural kauri forests. With a limited budget, the surveillance programme as a whole has been undertaken to help us confirm its presence and to understand its historical spread in order to help us stop its spread in the future.

As kauri dieback spores are microscopic and invisible to the naked eye, our surveillance programme often depends on reliable detection and diagnostic methods to confirm if soil or plant samples are PTA positive. A collaborative partnership between our programme and Landcare Research, Scion Research and Plant & Food Research has successfully developed a standard method to bait PTA out of soil into pure culture and then genetically sequence each isolate to confirm the identity of each cultures as being PTA. Using the genetic sequences of PTA, a direct DNA probe is also under development which may allow for the faster detection of PTA in the field.

A new round of soil sampling to detect kauri dieback shows that the disease has not been found in any new regions. It has spread only within areas or nearby areas where it has been previously detected.



This is good news to the joint agency response which had earlier predicted the disease would spread more rapidly, especially if left unchecked.

Previous soil sampling established kauri dieback has contaminated kauri in Auckland, Northland and on Aotea (Great Barrier Island).

New soil sampling, carried out between October and December last year, involved 212 soil samples taken from 89 sites from Te Pahi in the north, to Rapurapu, in the Kaimai Mamakau Forest Park, in the south.

“Kauri in the Hunua Ranges in south Auckland, on the Coromandel Peninsula and in the Kaimai Mamaku Forest Park, between Waikato and Bay of Plenty, appear to remain free of this deadly disease,” says Erik Van Eyndhoven, the Kauri Dieback Programme Chair.

“That’s a good outcome of this soil sampling and means it’s not too late for us to save many stands of kauri from contamination with kauri dieback.

“The agencies that have joined with Tāngata Whenua to combat this serious threat to kauri will continue working hard to keep non-contaminated kauri forests free of kauri dieback.

Our knowledge expands as the search continues...

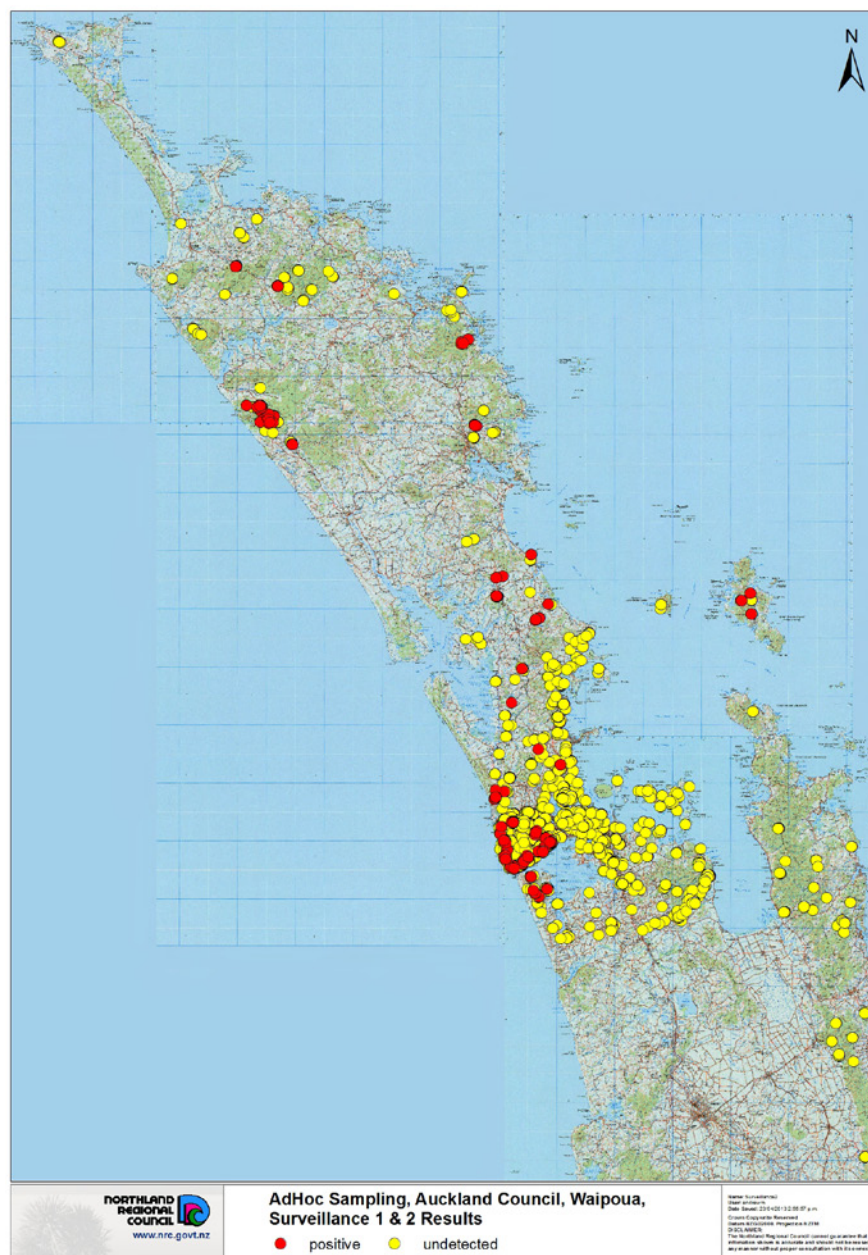
“The results of this sampling, provide valuable information that will help our efforts to contain kauri dieback and keep it out of areas free of the disease.

“To achieve this we need the support of all New Zealanders to ensure the disease is not being spread. Everyone visiting kauri needs to take a precautionary approach: treat all kauri areas as disease-free (ensure gear is clean of all soil on arrival) and when you leave a kauri area, treat your gear as being potentially contaminated (clean gear thoroughly of all soil on departure).”

The full *Surveillance 2 Report* is now available on our website www.kauridieback.co.nz. The report includes maps of sites sampled and where the disease has been positively identified and not detected.

Please be aware that a “not detected” result is not necessarily a “not present” result (i.e. the disease causing organism may be present but not detected, or it may have arrived recently). Therefore, regardless of the result, everyone needs to take a precautionary approach: treat all kauri areas as disease-free (ensure gear is clean of all soil on arrival) and when you leave a kauri area, treat your gear as being potentially contaminated (clean gear thoroughly of all soil on departure).

There are no new areas of kauri dieback to report, just new detail. This helps inform future research needs and management practices required to contain the disease.



Kauri Dieback Symposium 2013: Phytophthora Information Group

Please join us on 30 November to learn more about kauri dieback and discuss action to manage kauri dieback disease. This exciting event will bring together scientists, land managers and community groups to encourage open discussion and action to manage kauri dieback disease.

The Kauri Dieback Symposium will be the first large-scale opportunity to showcase the considerable achievements that our scientists have achieved so far and future research directions for this programme. This interactive event will include a kauri dieback treatment demonstration and several panel discussions enabling audience participation. Register for this free event through the registration form tab on our home page or <http://kauridieback.co.nz/registerform>

KAURI DIEBACK SYMPOSIUM 2013

PHYTOPHTHORA INFORMATION GROUP

» This event is an exciting opportunity to learn about kauri dieback and aims to encourage open discussion and action to manage kauri dieback disease.

Speakers including scientists, politicians, community and iwi representatives will share their perspectives on the importance of kauri and the threat we face from kauri dieback.

The Kauri Dieback Symposium will be the first large scale opportunity to showcase what our scientists have achieved so far and the future direction of research for this programme.

Professor Giles Hardy will present a summary of lessons learned from more than 30 years of dieback management in Australia.

This event will include a panel discussion and a treatment demonstration.

» All members of the public who are interested in kauri conservation are welcome to attend this free event.



Please register your interest to attend this event via the website www.kauridieback.co.nz or phone 0800 NZ KAURI (695 2874).



9AM-5PM
30 NOV 2013



The University of Auckland
Engineering Lecture Theatre
and Neon Foyer
Building 401
22 Symonds St Auckland



New kauri dieback school resource

“Give me the child until he is seven and I’ll give you the man.”

The source of this quote is disputed, but what can’t be disputed is the relentless call to develop school resources so that our tamariki can become agents of knowledge and change within families – spreading the word of kauri safe behaviours when in the forest.

To answer that call, Auckland Council has used its experience in developing educational resources and the hard work of educational writer Sarah Ross, illustrator Damon Keen and a team of supporters to produce our first **kauri dieback school resource** (<http://www.kauridieback.co.nz/media/32648/kauri-dieback-education-kit-web.pdf>).

This resource is designed for teachers and students of levels one to five. The activities are designed to create awareness and extend understanding of the threat to kauri trees from kauri dieback disease, the loss we face if kauri became extinct, and what we can do to protect kauri.

The Kauri Dieback Schools Resource contains background information and provides activities for use both inside and outside of the classroom with links to the New Zealand curriculum.



Virtual Field Trip

In another exciting educational innovation, the Programme is using technology to bring the forest to the classroom.

It is working to develop a Virtual Field Trip that will be filmed in the summer months. It will take participants on a journey from the Waitakere Forest in Auckland to the west coast including Tane Mahuta and the Waipoua Forest.

On that journey children have the opportunity to learn about and discuss kauri ecology and the threat of kauri dieback disease. The field trip is available to all registered teachers in New Zealand and means they can develop lesson plans that don't involve costly or time-consuming travel. The field trip will have student work programmes attached that cover a range of age groups, across a number of curricula.

Here's a description of the field trip as prepared by Ian Mitchell, Programme Relationship Manager.

What you will do

You are invited to join a true journey of discovery!

From the Waitakere Ranges in West Auckland to Northland's Waipoua Forest, home of the famous Tane Mahuta, you will discover how an ancient tree species has created its own forest environment, how we as humans have related to it and how we need to understand the threat it is now under. The kauri is the largest and oldest living species in NZ: join this journey of discovery and help keep it that way.

Enrol now

In preparation for this field trip you will learn about:

- Kauri (the) an ancient and mighty rain forest tree and a symbol of New Zealand.
- The importance of kauri to Māori.
- Past and present uses of kauri.
- Why kauri forests have the highest level of species diversity of any forest.
- What and where is kauri dieback?
- How can we stop the spread of kauri dieback?

During the field trip you will:

- Search northern forests for ancient giants such as Tane Mahuta, Te Matua Ngahere and McGregor kauri, all believed to be over 1000 years old.
- Get to know kauri forests, what grows and lives in them.
- Investigate how huge kauri waka were made.
- Join students in the Hokianga as they hone their carving skills.
- Meet biosecurity experts who are learning about what causes dieback.
- See simple things you can do to prevent the spread of the dieback soil borne disease.

Where you will go

Your journey of discovery starts in Auckland. Over 3 days you will travel north visiting places where kauri still stand tall. You will visit the Waitakere Ranges and forests in Waipoua, Puketū, Omahuta and Warawara.

Note weather and other factors out of our control may influence activities during the field trip.

Main Learning Areas

Science: Living World Levels 1-4, Nature of Science Levels 1-4; Social Sciences: Social Studies Levels 2-4, Identity, Culture and Organisation Levels 2-4, Continuity and Change Levels 2-4, Place and Environment Levels 2-4.

Key Competencies, Literacy and Numeracy

By their nature, LEARNZ field trips encourage development of the Key Competencies of Thinking, Using language, symbols and text, Managing self, Relating to others, and Participating and contributing. Teachers continually remind us of this in their evaluation comments. LEARNZ field trips have support and activities for Literacy, with opportunities to develop skills in Listening, Reading and Viewing and in Speaking, Writing and Presenting. LEARNZ field trips have support and activities for Numeracy, encouraging the development of skills in Number and Algebra, in Statistics and in Geometry and Measurement.

ESOL

As well as providing visual and audio material and access to real experiences, LEARNZ links well to ESOL Principles, especially Principle 3: Maintain and make explicit the same learning outcomes for all the learners. How can I make the lesson comprehensible to all students? How can I plan the learning tasks so that all the students are actively involved? Do my students understand the learning outcomes? Principle 4:

Begin with context embedded tasks which make the abstract concrete. How can I put these concepts into a concrete context?

What's in a Field Trip

Every LEARNZ field trip has its own self-contained website, ready for integration into your teaching and learning programme. The Preparation section contains a Teachers' section with curriculum integration, copies of field trip newsletters, the audioconference timetable, two sets of background pages for students at reading levels 2 years apart, online interactive and print-copy activities to check students' understanding, and a glossary. During the field trip there are daily additions such as a diary, video clips with questions (answers are placed in the Teachers' section), live and recorded audioconferences, profiles of the experts, a photo gallery, ambassador (mascot) page updates, and Ask-an-Expert – a web board for students to post questions for answering overnight. After the field trip, teachers are encouraged to take further action with their class in the community or going on a related field trip, inviting a guest speaker, or presenting what they have learned to a wider group. Teachers also fill in an online evaluation, the field trip prize winner is drawn, and the final newsletter is sent. Content remains online for continued use.

How teachers use LEARNZ

There are two main ways teachers use a LEARNZ virtual field trip with their class. Firstly, a LEARNZ field trip is ideally an immersive, engaging, synchronous, online learning experience with real-time components and a myriad of opportunities for teachers and students. Secondly, and less ideal but still effective, a LEARNZ field trip can be used as a retrospective experience where the resources such as photos, text, activities, videos and audioconferences comprise a unique collection of real, contemporary New Zealand teaching and learning material.

Action orientated knowledge: New reports online now

Two reports on work underway in the Kauri Dieback Management Programme were presented at the New Zealand Plant Protection conference in Napier in August.

Dr Nick Waipara (Auckland Council Biosecurity) presented: **Surveillance methods to determine tree health, distribution of kauri dieback disease and associated pathogens.** N.W. Waipara, S. Hill, L.M.W. Hill, E.G. Hough and I.J. Horner 2013. *New Zealand Plant Protection*, Volume 66: 235-241

This paper summarises the results of Auckland Council's passive surveillance programme (2008–March 2013) to assist private landowners and community report sick trees and receive diagnostic testing and management advice. The diagnostic and research undertaken was in collaboration with Plant & Food Research and clearly demonstrated kauri dieback is a serious and widespread problem for Auckland landowners. Management implications included containing the disease, protecting healthy stands, significant cost implications for removing dead trees and the urgent need for control tools.

Collaborators Dr Ian Horner and Ellena Hough (Plant & Food Research) also published:

Phosphorous acid for controlling *Phytophthora taxon Agathis* in kauri: glasshouse trials. I.J. Horner and E.G. Hough 2013. *New Zealand Plant Protection*, Volume 66: 242-248

This reports results to date summarising the increasing potential of using phosphite as a management tool against kauri dieback.

Both kauri dieback papers were very well received by the science/ research organisations as well as plant industry-based sectors. Several offers of collaboration (including in-kind contribution from Lincoln University and BioProtection) were received for the programme to develop wider research linkages to help answer some the Council's key knowledge gaps around its kauri dieback management objectives. 🌲



Ashes to ashes

Inspiring work is underway in the Ash Dieback programme in the UK. Scientists have completed the first genome sequencing of the microbe (*Chalara fraxinea*) responsible for Ash Dieback across Europe.

The full article on this work is available at: <http://www.loveitorloseit.org.uk/ash-dieback-dna-breakthrough/>.

To take this a step further: the public are being asked to help in the fight against ash dieback by playing a computer game that analyses genetic data of British ash trees. This game, based on “people power” will ultimately work to identify what/if any resistance is present in the ash tree population.

All hands to the pump

Auckland University student Simon Wegner is conducting his Masters thesis on “Research into the influence of identity of public responses to biosecurity control behavior change efforts”. This work will further our knowledge of what forest visitors think and do when it comes to kauri safe behaviours. He writes:



“I have been enthralled with the outdoors since I was a young boy and when my partner brought me home to New Zealand, I fell in love with its forests and coasts. I feel privileged to live in a place where I can go biking and tramping so close to the city. However, I’ve also lived in places where the ecosystems have collapsed and it’s no longer possible to enjoy the outdoors. I want to help prevent that from happening again, so I made the decision to change careers and work to protect our natural world. Even so, like most of us, I’m still far from perfect.

In the case of kauri dieback, however, protection needs perfection. One muddy boot or bicycle tyre may be enough to spread the disease and kill healthy trees, so stopping the spread of kauri dieback requires as close to total cooperation as possible. The Kauri Dieback Programme’s efforts have been successful in raising awareness of the problem over the last four years, and many forest visitors now help out by staying on tracks, keeping their dogs on leads, and cleaning their footwear and gear at cleaning stations. Yet not everyone does. If we are serious about stopping this disease, we need to figure out how to get everyone involved. With my research, I hope to help answer that question.

Over the summer months, I have been conducting surveys and interviews among forest visitors to try and identify why people do or do not follow the Kauri Dieback Programme’s recommendations. In particular, how people perceive the disease and the control efforts as well as some of the psychological factors underlying those perceptions. Our hope is that by better understanding the factors that discourage people from participating, we can work to resolve those concerns and encourage everyone to join in protecting kauri.” 🌲



Kauri 2000 Trust member checks out Lone Kauri wine at local Coromandel wine shop.

Sponsorship in action

The support of Coopers Creek ‘Lone Kauri’ brand continues to develop as popularity of the wine range expands. Here are some examples of just how powerful a partnership can be when a tough message is delivered by way of a product designed to facilitate conversations. We know that conversations about kauri dieback, and actions everyone can take to stop its spread, are increasing by the day.

Promotion of Lone Kauri in local wine shop.

SAVE OUR KAURI FORESTS

Help stop a disease that's killing our precious Kauri trees. The Lone Kauri brand is dedicated to getting the message out on how everyone can avoid spreading Kauri Dieback disease when visiting the forests. Go to www.keepkauristanding.co.nz for more information.



Every time you purchase Lone Kauri brand wine you're helping us spread the word to save our precious Kauri.

A picture is worth a thousand words*

New Zealanders are a pretty proud bunch, which should come as no surprise given we've got a lot to be proud of! This rings particularly true when it comes to our love of the outdoors and the emphasis we place on the preservation of our unique forest biodiversity.

What many don't realise is the extent to which this pride in our natural heritage influences newcomers to our country and becomes an inter-cultural commonality within the melting pot of New Zealanders.

For artist Weilun Ha, a second generation kiwi and proud 'Westie', a simple bush walk with friends two years ago proved a pivotal and inspirational occasion. It was during this walk that Weilun first came across a kauri dieback boot-cleaning station, learned of the disease, the impact it has on kauri forest ecosystems, and resolved to incorporate his love of the natural world with his passion for art.

Subsequently he created his first gallery supported exhibition entitled 'Gods of the Forest' which promotes advocacy for kauri and the devastating kauri dieback disease.

Under the tutorship of a Lingnan master of traditional Chinese painting and the support of Lopdell House Gallery, Weilun developed his unique style. By combining the Lingnan philosophy of 'balancing the Chinese and foreign, ancient and modern' with his own dash of 'kiwiana' flair, Wei sees his work as a vehicle to translate and



communicate deeper issues across cultures.

The result of this union is an architectural corridor of painted panels, which in Weilun's words "capture a story through time and space" and feature life-like representations of native bush in both its glory and demise. This story is portrayed via dominant black and white panels which he uses to represent the past and the future, and contrasted against a selection of coloured panels representing the current situation of kauri. Bleeding gum and defoliated branches cast a grim image against flitting fantails and cruisy keruru, to show both destruction and hope for a brighter future for kauri and native biodiversity.

Weilun's desire to communicate other important conservation plights through his art doesn't stop here, citing issues such as shark-finning, snapper quotas and paua poaching as close to his heart and next on the agenda!

For further information about Weilun Ha's work please contact Lopdell House Gallery: <http://www.lopdell.org.nz>.

He certainly demonstrates that a picture does indeed convey as much as many, many words. 🌲

*Visit <http://www.phrases.org.uk/meanings/a-picture-is-worth-a-thousand-words.html> to explore the (also disputed) origins of this phrase – including some disingenuous references to it coming from Confucius.

Intelligent television – spreading the word



Māori TV ran a clip about kauri dieback on Native Affairs during September in support of Conservation Week. They noted, "'Celebrate Conservation' was the theme of this year's Conservation Week, but when it comes to our greatest native, the kauri – there isn't much to celebrate. That's because our kauri are dying of a highly contagious and aggressive disease called 'Kauri Dieback'."

"While \$85mil was spent saving pine trees from the painted apple moth and \$50mil was made available to eradicate the kiwifruit industry's PSA, just \$5mil has been spent saving the kauri."

The lead reporter, Billie Jo Hohepa-Ropiha, probably bought some personal passion to the programme given she is of Ngāpuhi, Te Rarawa and Te Ātiawa affiliation having grown up in Moerewa in the Bay of Islands and Waima in the Hokianga.

Billie Jo spent eight years at *Television New Zealand*. She reported on *One News*, *Tonight* and *4:30pm News* shows then transitioned into a presenter position on *TVNZ News Now* and *News at 8* for three years. She returned to study fulltime at Te Wānanga o Takiura in Epsom, fulfilling her dream to learn Te Reo Māori in 2011. On her *Māori TV* website profile she says, "I am committed to continuing [a] philosophy [that] produces in-depth current affairs news stories from a Māori and indigenous worldview."

View the TV footage at: <http://www.maoritelevision.com/news/regional/native-affairs-great-loss> 📺

On the airwaves

RadioLIVE

In July, Graeme Hill from **RadioLIVE** spoke to ecologist Bruce Burns about kauri dieback. You can hear this great wee interview here: <http://www.radiolive.co.nz/Environews-Kauri-Dieback/tabid/506/articleID/36842/Default.aspx>.

Ian MitchellLIVE

Our Relationship Manager, Ian Mitchell also spoke on **RadioLIVE** about kauri dieback disease. He got nine minutes of quality conversation in the Sunday 6–11 am slot with host Wallace Chapman, covering kauri's importance to us as Kiwis, the threat of kauri dieback disease and what we can all do to prevent its spread. **RadioLIVE** reaches thousands of listeners in the kauri catchment area. Wallace is also host of the political satire *Back Benches* TV programme. Take a listen to the interview: <http://www.radiolive.co.nz/Kauri-Dieback-Disease/tabid/506/articleID/34982/Default.aspx>.



Our Changing World

An in-depth feature on kauri dieback was broadcast on **Radio NZ** during May. Journalist Alison Ballance did a fantastic job with her investigation on kauri dieback. In the broadcasts, Alison spoke to scientists, artists, land managers and arborists about the disease and its impacts.

The audio file links below paint a graphic picture of this issue. Take a listen to:

1. Shorter audio focusing on the visit to McCahon House – <http://www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/afternoons/audio/2554889/our-changing-world-kauri-dieback-disease>
 2. Twenty minute audio feature speaking to a variety of people involved in the programme or feeling the impacts of the disease – <http://www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/ourchangingworld>
- And for the detailed programme notes they provided listeners: <http://www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/ourchangingworld/20130516>

In addition to the Thursday night broadcasts (repeated Sunday morning) the programme is available for podcast on the **Radio NZ** website which receives over 14 million hits a year according to its 2011/12 annual report. The same report says over 3.4 million podcasts are downloaded each year. 📻

Kauri blog

Botanist Rebecca Stanley has written a great blog about kauri dieback on the **Forest and Bird** website.

Tree guru Rebecca has provided an ecological perspective on the kauri dieback issue since the programme first began. Now working at the Auckland Botanic Gardens, she initiated the kauri festival and science days there in April and May this year. These events were a great success with hundreds of children and adults learning hands on about the disease.

Check out her blog: <http://blog.forestandbird.org.nz/saving-a-giant/#more-4309> 📖

Southerner stands strong

The following from James Puller in the *Bay of Plenty Times* 19 July 2013: http://www.nzherald.co.nz/bay-of-plenty-times/news/article.cfm?c_id=1503343&objectid=11105122#.UehlzsXxXML.facebook

A 100-year-old kauri has been discovered eight kilometres south of the believed extent of its range.

The lone tree was found at Aongatete Lodge, near Omokoroa. The ancient species is only found in the upper North Island and the southern boundary of its range was thought to be Hot Springs Rd, near Katikati.

It was discovered off the long loop track behind the lodge by Forest and Bird's Kaimai Connection co-ordinator Hamish Dean and Aongatete Forest Restoration Project volunteer Barry Pethybridge.

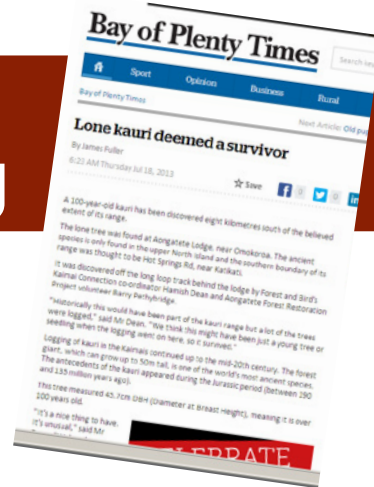
"Historically this would have been part of the kauri range but a lot of the trees were logged," said Mr Dean. "We think this might have been just a young tree or seedling when the logging went on here, so it survived."

Logging of kauri in the Kaimais continued up to the mid-20th century. The forest giant, which can grow up to 50m tall, is one of the world's most ancient species. The antecedents of the kauri appeared during the Jurassic period (between 190 and 135 million years ago).

This tree measured 45.7cm DBH (Diameter at Breast Height), meaning it is over 100 years old.

"It's a nice thing to have. It's unusual," said Mr Dean. "We've also discovered some colonies of king fern in the last six months which is very rare. The king fern has been decimated by introduced species like pigs and deer which eat it."

Kauri has been under serious threat in recent years from kauri dieback disease. Mr Dean said precautionary signs would likely be erected so people understood the dangers of spreading the disease and their obligations. 🌲



Orewa locals mobilise to protect kauri

Locals in Orewa have set up cleaning stations to keep kauri dieback out of Eaves Bush Reserve.

Eaves Bush reserve contains one of the largest areas of kauri in the Orewa area. Kauri dieback disease has been found in the Rodney region so work is needed to protect these kauri and keep the reserve disease-free.

Eaves Bush Appreciation Group member Laurie Rands estimates there are hundreds of kauri trees, of all ages,



Laurie Rands from the Eaves Bush Appreciation Group.



in the bush making it one of the largest stands in the district. She says members are concerned that the disease is present in Okura Bush Walkway as well as Albany.

Visitors to Eaves

Bush in Orewa are being asked to do their part to keep the soil-borne pathogen known as PTA, or kauri dieback disease, out.

This month signs and equipment supplied by Auckland Council were placed at all three entrances (Old North Rd, Kensington Park bridge and Hillcrest Rd) alerting visitors to the need to clean and disinfect their boots before entering the bush reserve.

There is a brush to clean boots of earth and debris, a spray bottle to spray the bottom and bottom sides of boots/footwear and signs about the dangers of spreading Kauri Dieback disease.

Laurie says the group are looking for a local resident to look after each station. This entails checking, tidying and cleaning the equipment weekly and topping up the plastic dispenser with the disinfectant once a month.

If you can help, contact Spencer Drinkwater, ph (09) 427 5517 or Laurie Rands (09) 426 3122. 🌲

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.



SHARE THE NEWS. Got a story to share on kauri dieback? Spread the word in *KauriKconnect*.

Contact **nick.farland@paradise.net.nz** to pass on any news, updates or articles and photos.

If we all contribute we'll make this newsletter even more relevant and interesting!