



# Symposium story

Over 200 people joined scientists and experts at the inaugural kauri dieback symposium on Saturday 30 November.

Following the welcome and blessing by Ngāti Whātua O Ōrākei representatives, the event was formally opened by Dr Paul Hutchison MP for Hunua who set the tone for the day by saying, “The Minister of Primary Industries, Hon Nathan Guy, is eagerly anticipating receiving the business case for the next 10 year programme very soon. I am sure that, provided that the business case is robust and defensible, that the government will play its part in assisting councils and the Department of Conservation in funding and implementing another successful Joint Agency long-term kauri dieback management programme.”



It was a full day with thirteen speakers each sharing their unique angle on the disease issue. Session one speakers gave an introduction to the issue, with the following three sessions covering: what’s happening now?; where to from here?; and, spreading the word. Each session was followed by an excellent question and answer time that could only be wrapped up by the lure of food and drink.

Having representatives from the scientific community, tāngata whenua, community groups and the general public made for interesting and informative discussions both in the lecture theatre and informally during the breaks. Although we can often perceive insurmountable odds against this disease, a feeling of positivity and momentum was created during the event.

The following day approximately 20 people joined experts on a field trip to Albany Scenic Reserve, one of Auckland’s worst hit kauri dieback sites.

Feedback from both days has been very positive, with participants and speakers already looking forward with anticipation to next year’s event. Roll on Symposium 2014!

The abstracts provided by the speakers can be found at <http://www.kauridieback.co.nz/media/38169/kauri%20symposium%202013%20-%20abstracts.pdf>. Each presentation was captured on video and a link to view these will be added when they are available. 🌱

## Post-2014 – An update from the Leadership Team

The Leadership Team have now completed the business case for the programme post-June 2014. Our preference is for a programme based on the current one, but with strengthened programme management, research, operations and engagement and behaviour change work.

As mentioned in the previous issue, we had hoped to share our future plans by the end of the year. However, we’re not currently in a position to do that, as all partner agencies need to work through their budgeting processes before we can confirm anything. It will take some time to do this and we hope to be able to confirm details sometime in May 2014.

In the meantime, MPI has significantly increased its funding of the programme through to June 2014 in order to allow continuation of critical research, engagement and operational work, so rest assured the programme is in a good position. 🌱

**TIAKINA ŌU KAURI**  
**E PATUA ANA E TE MATE KAURI**

Ka horahia mā te nekehanga o te oneone **AUKATIA!**

INGĀ WĀ KATAO

**HORIA ŌU TĀPUTAPU**  
Tangohia te oneone i mua, ā muri i te haerenga ngahere – horoia ō hū, ōu wira me ōu taputapu

**WHĀĪA TŪTURUTIA TE ARA**  
ā, keua e takahi i ngā pakiaka kauri

WWW.KAURIDIEBACK.CO.NZ

KEEP KAURI STANDING  
HE KŌHĀ KŌHĀ

# Independent review of the Kauri Dieback Management Programme

In July, the programme partners commissioned Independent Quality Assurance New Zealand (IQANZ) to conduct an independent review of the kauri dieback programme with the assistance of a generous grant from the Tindall Foundation.

The purpose of the review was to provide a credible, independent view of the progress of the Kauri Dieback Management Programme and to recommend opportunities for improvement and a suggested direction for the future. IQANZ have produced two reports: a high-level summary of findings and recommendations and a more in-depth report.

The Kauri Dieback Programme Leadership Team welcomes the views expressed by the independent review of the programme.

It is pleasing to receive independent confirmation of the steady progress of the programme. The report acknowledges the effort put into getting the programme up and running and concludes that we have established a good basis for the future.

The report was timely, as it came in the midst of the business case for the future

programme. We have factored many of the recommendations into our analysis, notably:

- » Leading, not managing
- » Planning better, not running faster
- » Improving practice and stretching performance
- » Investing in a wider range of research – over a longer horizon
- » Allocating realistic resource levels.

Other recommendations will be acted on once we've confirmed arrangements and funding for the new phase of the programme.

We thank Peter O'Connor of IQANZ for his professional and thorough approach to this work and the Tindall Foundation for their generous grant to fund Peter's work.

To read the **full report** go to [http://www.kauridieback.co.nz/media/37113/kauri%20dieback\\_iqanz%20report%20-%20final%2017oct2013%20v1.2%20pdf.pdf](http://www.kauridieback.co.nz/media/37113/kauri%20dieback_iqanz%20report%20-%20final%2017oct2013%20v1.2%20pdf.pdf)

To read the **summary** go to [http://www.kauridieback.co.nz/media/37116/kauri%20dieback\\_iqanz%20report%20-%20summary%20-%20final%20pdf.pdf](http://www.kauridieback.co.nz/media/37116/kauri%20dieback_iqanz%20report%20-%20summary%20-%20final%20pdf.pdf)

## Digital Footsteps

The programme's reach into schools continues to grow. The most recent example of how kids become ambassadors for the programme is the students from Panmure Bridge School creating a "prezi" on kauri dieback disease.

Mrs Anderson's year 7/8 class have a great blog <http://digitalfootstepspbs.blogspot.co.nz/2013/09/kauri-dieback-kane-jacob-and-teagan.html> which shows a snapshot of the pathways they are exploring this year.

Check out the prezi that Kane, Jacob and Teagan have created within their blog or here: [http://prezi.com/5\\_60stg8uveb/untitled-prezi/?utm\\_campaign=share&utm\\_medium=copy](http://prezi.com/5_60stg8uveb/untitled-prezi/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy)

# Recapping soil Surveillance 2

**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.**

Surveillance 2 sampled 89 sites and took 212 samples. Eighty-five per cent of the samples were collected from around kauri, from seedlings to iconic large trees. Samples were also taken from sites lacking kauri, including areas of native bush, areas associated with kauri plantations in the Coromandel, and farm sites. This work has added to the Surveillance 1 data and the passive surveillance programme run through the Kauri Dieback Hotline.

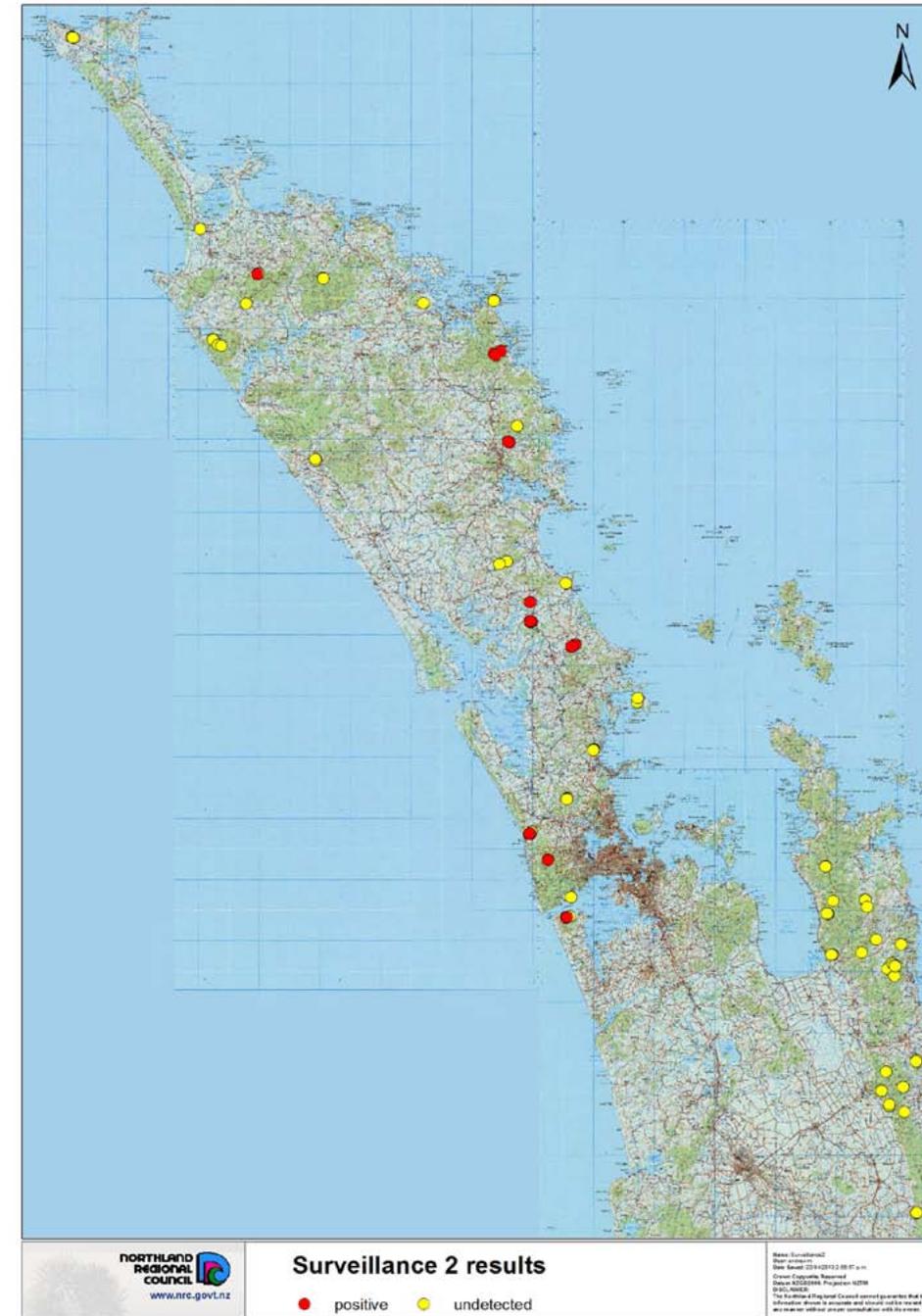
The overall picture that emerges from all surveillance and sampling is that four large, distinct kauri forest areas contain a number of disease foci; Waipoua, Waitakere, Punaruku and Aotea/Great Barrier Island. There are also infected areas throughout the predominantly rural areas between Auckland and the Brynderwyns. Sites at Aotea/Great Barrier Island, Centennial Park (Waitakere) and Tomarata all showed signs of dieback in the late 1960s and early 1970s and sampling in Surveillance 2 suggests this was kauri dieback. Tree rings from the site at Centennial Park, and the plantation evidence from Waipoua nursery from trees planted in 1955-56 (at least), suggests that kauri dieback was active in at least Waipoua and Waitakere, and the Tomarata rural area in the 1950s.

The spread on Aotea/Great Barrier Island and within Punaruku could be the result of forest service activity, which moved soil to and within these sites via seedlings or on machinery, and/or local movement of soil by other means including feral animals.

Kauri dieback has not been detected in areas of the northern forests outside of isolated plantations at Raetea and Omahuta, in the Hunua Ranges or the Coromandel and Kaimai forests. The southern-most site of kauri dieback recorded to date is within rural blocks on the Awhitu Peninsula in South Auckland.

The conclusions that can be reached from this sampling are:

- » The results of sampling and a lack of symptomology in kauri over large areas suggest that many areas of healthy kauri are still present within contaminated forests, and that some large kauri forests are not yet infected (with the disease potentially absent or still restricted to plantations in some areas). It is not too late to save many natural sites from contamination.
- » The symptomology that is considered characteristic of kauri dieback is not ubiquitous and cannot be used in all cases to identify positive sites. Kauri at Glenbervie and Punaruku are living with the disease-causing organism, but are not currently showing the classic symptoms that would be expected from such widespread contamination. The environmental and other likely reasons



for this are worth investigating. Some kauri that were planted at Glenbervie are probably from the same stock as plantations at Waipoua and Raetia, where classic symptoms are present.

- » Sampling now suggests that the dispersal of kauri dieback from Waipoua nursery was quite restricted and potentially occurred through only one cohort of seedlings planted in the 1955-56 period in Waipoua, Raetia, Glenbervie and Aotea/Great Barrier Island. Some sites in Waipoua and Great Barrier Island need further assessment. A full investigation of this dispersal route should be undertaken because it is the likely source of movement of material to other amenity plantings (e.g. Omahuta). Isolation of some planted forests (e.g. Raetia) and amenity plantations (e.g. Omahuta) by fencing could control or slow the spread of kauri dieback to natural areas. Such areas can be useful to allow key science on oospore destruction and natural longevity to be established.
- » There is no information to suggest that kauri dieback was spread from Sweetwater or other New Zealand Forest Service nurseries. The positive sites at Raetia and Punaruku and Glenbervie may be the result of poor equipment hygiene when the forests were blanked (the process of planting into areas of a plantation where tree death has occurred) or due to animal (human, goat, pig) movement from



contaminated plantings.

- » Kauri dieback is present on farmland and has the potential to spread within and between farms by stock and farming activity. Kauri dieback is not present in all farmland and mechanisms should be investigated with the farming and transport sectors to reduce the risk of spread within farmland and especially to farmland in South Auckland, the Coromandel and north of the Brynderwyns.
- » Kauri dieback appears to be spread by pigs and maybe other animals. The spread of pigs from contaminated forest to uncontaminated ones represents a high risk. There is the potential for pig spread within existing contaminated regions.
- » There are some existing sites that were not sampled in Surveillance 2 but could add to the current information. Sampling of potentially infected sites and development of management plans should remain a focus of the programme.



## McCahon's Kauri

**There's another chapter in the book that is Colin McCahon and kauri. Art historian Peter Simpson presented a beautiful summary of Colin McCahon's work on kauri at McCahon House in October.**

Colin McCahon (1919–1987) is one New Zealand's most famous painters. From 1953 to 1959 he lived with his family in French Bay, Titirangi, in the Waitākere Ranges. His cottage at 67 Otitori Bay Road has been restored and hosts guided visits. An additional house has also been built for visiting artists in residence.

Kauri were a major inspiration to McCahon in this period. Around 50 of his paintings have a link or focus on kauri. Today, the kauri McCahon painted at his cottage are dying from kauri dieback disease. These trees which should have stood for another

thousand years may now only survive in these paintings.

Read an essay by Peter Simpson on "McCahon's Kauri" at <http://www.mccahonhouse.org.nz/EventsNews/KauriDieback.aspx>



**Two dead kauri at the McCahon House (in Titirangi, west Auckland) were removed in late January 2013.**

Photo: Chris McBride.



# Save our kauri forests – the film launch

The official launch of the "Save Our Kauri Forests: Kia Toitu He Kauri" documentary was held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November.

The film was well received by over 40 people at the council chambers in the Auckland Town Hall.

This film was created for the Kauri Dieback Management Programme to help raise awareness and reinforce kauri-safe behaviour change in forest users.

Bicultural in approach and illustrated with lively graphics, this educational film shows why kauri are special, how kauri dieback disease functions and what we can do to stop its spread.

The story is explored through the eyes of tangata whenua, conservation workers, school kids, forest visitors and scientists. It also features popular ex-All Black Glen Osborne sharing his practical advice.

We have a few copies of the film on DVD available for information centres, libraries, schools or community groups – please let us know if you are interested in a copy.

This 20-minute documentary is now available to view online at <http://www.kauridieback.co.nz/media/video-footage/save-our-kauri-forests-film>



Following the film, the group discussed ways to improve awareness of the kauri dieback issue and increase community involvement. Some great ideas were brought up including suggestions on ways to improve management of parks and our awareness campaigns.

There are opportunities for members of the public to help with the maintenance of footwear cleaning stations on parks and/or join a team of advocates to help "spread the word" and improve compliance at the cleaning stations. This event also prompted discussion about formation of a "friends of kauri" group. 🗣️

## The word is spreading!

Auckland Council recently completed a "people's panel" survey to measure awareness and attitudes on kauri dieback and its management.

These results have been used to provide a measure of current knowledge of kauri dieback, in order to assess the effectiveness of the kauri dieback communications programme in Auckland. The wealth of information will also inform our management on parks and help shape an awareness campaign for this summer. A stunning 3077 people responded to this survey and 82% of participants were aware of kauri dieback disease. Three-quarters (74%) of those who knew of kauri dieback also recognised that the disease is spread by soil.

Read the [full survey report](http://www.kauridieback.co.nz/media/37909/kauri%20dieback%20people's%20panel%20report.pdf) here: <http://www.kauridieback.co.nz/media/37909/kauri%20dieback%20people's%20panel%20report.pdf>

It looks like awareness of kauri dieback is growing – these are our best results to date. The real challenge remains converting this awareness into action – with kauri forest users doing kauri safe behaviours each and every time they visit.

Thanks to everyone that has helped spread the word about this issue and to everyone that participated in the survey! 🗣️



# 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 love... share the likes!

We have 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. **Let's get to 500 'likes' before Christmas!**

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