



Tāne's Tree Trust

NATIVE FORESTS FOR OUR FUTURE

Hereherea te Wao-nui-a-Tāne



O Tātou Ngāhere

CONFERENCE: REGENERATING OUR LANDSCAPE WITH NATIVE FOREST

Tāne's Tree Trust, in partnership with **Pure Advantage**, is taking **O Tātou Ngāhere** to an important next level to produce a conference that builds on the successful programme of work behind the campaign.

Join us on **27-28 October 2022 at Te Papa Tongarewa** and hear directly from the experts in an event that will shine more light on the WHY and HOW of native forest regeneration and management.

We have various **sponsors** joining the endeavour, such as **Trees That Count** who are working to build a movement mobilising all New Zealanders to help regenerate the whenua via an innovative digital marketplace to connect tree funders and planters.

GET TICKETS

To get your tickets, see the full programme
& speaker list, visit the website
www.otatoungahereconference.org.nz

A two day programme is planned, aimed to focus Aotearoa on weaving more native forest back into our working lands.

The five session themes are:

- *Our place in the landscape - unlocking the narrative*
- *Why native forests are worth fighting for - their many values*
- *Think like a forest - busting the myths*
- *Envisioning the future*
- *Making it happen*

Plus keynote speaker, Professor Tim Flannery

Day one of the conference will finish with an evening event with **Professor Tim Flannery**, one of Australia's leading writers and communicators on climate change. An internationally acclaimed scientist, explorer and conservationist, Professor Flannery was named Australian of the Year in 2007 for his work and advocacy on environmental issues.

NEWSLETTER

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Te Papa Tongarewa | Wellington | NZ



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PureAdvantage™



BECOME A SPONSOR

Come join the movement to regenerate
native forest in Aotearoa.

To become a conference sponsor or
make a koha donation visit the website
or email office@tanestrees.org.nz.

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WAI 262, THE FLORA AND FAUNA CLAIM – HOW IT RELATES TO TTT

Written by Rob McGowan, Trustee

The Wai 262 Claim, commonly described as the “Fauna and Flora Claim”, is quite different to most of the other claims that have been considered by the Waitangi Tribunal. It's not about addressing historical issues, but about the future, and the type of New Zealand we would like it to be. It is worth quoting the Letter of Transmittal that prefaces the Report:

“..... the reforms we propose.... are the building blocks of a big and audacious vision, a perspective on a country of the future whose founding cultures have made a lasting kind of peace, where they have given one another the room each needs to grow and, with new confidence, made space also for the later migrants to join in this unique project. We are ambitious but not unrealistic. After all this is Aotearoa, built on a Treaty partnership that we may yet perfect”.

Wai 262 is a very optimistic and challenging report. It challenges us to contribute towards realising that vision.

How does Tāne's Tree Trust make its contribution?

The Wai 262 claim arose from Maori concerns about the collection and use of indigenous plants for scientific research and commercial ends. It had a broader scope but this is the aspect of the Claim that particularly relates to Tāne's Tree Trust.

Very basic to the Claim is the word “taonga”. Article 2 of the Treaty guarantees Maori the rights to what they consider taonga. Basically, a taonga is something that is treasured. It can be something physical, such as a tree or a bird, or pounamu – greenstone, or it can be something abstract such as te reo Maori, a relationship between people, etc. It is not about ownership, in the European sense of the word. The word carries both rights and responsibilities. Maori were and are very worried about their responsibility to care for what they considered taonga. Failing to do that affects their own health and well-being, and that of the whole natural order of which they are a part.

TTT began out of a concern that exotic forest species were overtaking the landscape, and that Aotearoa's own forest species, tōtara, kauri, rimu, etc. were being ignored and pushed aside, to the detriment of the landscape. That thought relates very much to the concerns of the people who submitted the Wai 262 claim.

A further concern is that timber trees are considered because of their economic value and that other considerations important to Maori were not acknowledged let alone addressed. Trees, as do all living creatures, have their own mana, their own rights, which need to be respected to ensure that balance needed to sustain life is maintained.



How does TTT relate to this concern?

This is a very pertinent question. Currently there is a strong focus on planting trees to diminish Aotearoa's carbon footprint. Should native species, particularly kauri and tōtara, which can continue to accumulate carbon over long time periods, be planted in preference to faster growing but shorter living species such as *pinus radiata*? How many carbon credits can planted indigenous forests accumulate as opposed to other species? TTT has contributed much to addressing the imbalances and inaccuracies that have dominated the debate, and challenged the presumptions of many that have largely excluded consideration of the potential of indigenous species. That's a very valuable and much needed contribution. It's made a real difference.

However there is much more to our trees than their contribution to the economy.

According to Maori tradition Tāne, the father of the forests, gave trees and plants to cover his mother Papatūānuku who was left exposed when she was separated from her partner Ranginui, so that she would be well. The primary role of trees is to cover the earth, Papatūānuku, not to store carbon or any other economic benefit they might create. Too much focus on the monetary value of forests and the trees can lead to an imbalance that in the long term will prove costly.

Over the years the focus of TTT has shifted from primarily focusing on native timber species to native forests for multiple purpose. It has supported a growing recognition of the many benefits that native forests bring the environment over and above their value as carbon stores and timber producers. Again that is a move that is more in line with what the Wai 262 claimants asked to be considered. *Continued over page...*



TTT can go further. To Maori trees are our tuakana, elder brothers. They have been here long before us. Their health and well-being is tied to our own. We need to make caring for the integrity of the forests our number one priority, for our own sakes as much as for the forest themselves. The economic benefits from doing this are the bonuses we will collect on the way.

Where does the present Government fit? It is struggling to find a way forward amidst many conflicting interests. After more than 10 years, the Crown has yet to formally respond. What's needed is somebody to lead the way.

HARVESTING TŌTARA FORESTS

Written by Paul Quinlan, Trustee

Harvesting is the latest topic in our free online manual: A Practical Guide to Managing Tōtara on Private Land.

Read the full chapter here: bit.ly/3wPmbzq or on the Publications section of the TTT website.

NEW VIDEO: Watch Ian Brennan's latest video on low-impact, sustainable harvesting of farm-tōtara in Northland here vimeo.com/692925422

Topics such as planting, pruning, thinning, sustainable harvesting and management, will be comprehensively covered, and each chapter posted in the publications section of the TTT website as they are completed. Instructional videos are planned to complement the written content – so keep checking for new content under 'Outputs' on the project page (Projects tab on website).



The pruning chapter and video have been getting great feedback. Check out the video - *Form-pruning tōtara for timber production on private land* vimeo.com/580207222. Planting and establishment of tōtara forests is the next topic. For more information on the project, contact Paul Quinlan : pdq@pqia.co.nz

THE FIRST EMISSIONS REDUCTION PLAN & BUDGET 2022 - IMPLICATIONS ON NATIVE FORESTRY

Written by Jacqui Aimers & Gerard Horgan, Trustee's

On 16 May, NZ's first Emission's Reduction Plan (ERP) was released. The ERP is part of a multi-party commitment on the direction of climate change policy. The Government is establishing a Climate Emergency Response Fund, a multi-year investment of NZ\$4.5b dedicated to climate change initiatives. Money for this will come from revenues from the NZ ETS.

A major concern acknowledged in the ERP is that **native afforestation levels are well below the Climate Change Commission's recommendations** and are projected to fall further. Key actions to address this include encouraging investment in native forests as long-term carbon sinks, building on experience gained through programmes such as Ngā Whenua Rāhui, updating NZ ETS yield tables for indigenous species (TTT is directly involved in this), and reducing deforestation.

Government will establish a work programme to support native forestation to deliver climate, biodiversity, and wider environmental outcomes. Key actions include reducing the costs of native plants through improvements in technology and management, and investigating impacts of management interventions (such as pest animal control) on carbon. Native forestation will also be supported through the Carbon Neutral Government Programme, and incentives for public and private investment will be investigated.

There will be better access to funding and information for landowners, and biodiversity outcomes will be included in ERP reporting.

Nature-based solutions with a biodiversity focus will be included within planning and regulatory systems, e.g., restoring and planting native forests in upper catchments, 'green infrastructure' in our urban areas, and restoring wetlands and coastal ecosystems.

Are native forests a winner in Budget 2022?

While the ERP acknowledges the importance of native forests in countering climate change, it's the money in the Budget that counts. The Budget has the following commitments:

- \$145 million on native afforestation.
- \$111m on research into carbon storage - native and exotic forests, and wood products.
- \$27m to increase predator control (DoC), and \$30m in deer & goat control over next 4 years.
- \$19m to increase incentives for private landowners to support biodiversity.

While all of this is positive, there are some major challenges ahead to make this work. The Trust will continue to advocate for native forestation.

TĀNE'S TREE TRUST NOW AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF PRO SILVA

Written by Paul Quinlan, Trustee

Tāne's Tree Trust has gained associate member status with Pro Silva – an international confederation of foresters who advocate and promote Close-to-nature forestry.

Who is Pro Silva? Pro Silva is a European confederation of professional foresters across more than 25 European countries that advocates and promotes Pro Silva Close to Nature Forest Management Principles as an alternative to clear felling, short-term tree plantations.

Check out the Pro Silva website and principles here: www.prosilva.org/close-to-nature-forestry/pro-silva-principles/

Pro Silva background

Pro Silva was founded in Slovenia in 1989 and celebrated its 30th anniversary in Slovenia in 2019. Pro Silva recognises and values the unique history of forestry and its past, current, and potential contribution at local, regional, and national levels. Members are convinced of the need for a greater range of management skills amongst foresters and forest owners. Pro Silva membership is made up of forest owners, foresters, forestry students and others who wish to practice and learn more about Pro Silva forestry practice.



Why did we join and what does this mean for Tāne's Tree Trust?

Tāne's Tree Trust has long promoted Continuous Cover Forestry ideas for both native, exotic and forests in New Zealand. Indeed, Ian Barton's 2008 Handbook on the matter is still a valuable resource and guide. Our recent O Tātou Ngāhere campaign developed this even further and championed a 'Nature-based forestry' vision for Aotearoa.

As associate members of Pro Silva, we hope for an exchange of inspiration, knowledge, and experiences. It is also another way in which we can network with the latest developments in international forestry thinking and practice. How to manage transitions from exotic plantations to native forest is a topic of particular interest to us.

Check out Tāne's Tree Trust's Pro Silva associate membership profile page here: www.prosilva.org/members/

For more information contact Paul Quinlan: pdq@pqia.co.nz who will be coordinating the relationship between Tāne's Tree Trust and Pro Silva.

Check out all our publications online at www.tanestrees.org.nz/resources/publications/

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE NOW

Membership renewal notices have been sent via email or post. Your contribution goes towards supporting projects and our operational costs. In return you receive updates on our work and industry news via this newsletter and the collective benefit of joining a growing network of over 300 members.

You may also opt to make an additional donation, which is eligible for a 33.33% tax rebate on your income tax. All donations are placed in a designated fund to enable the Trust to continue research and information transfer.

Email is our preferred method of communication. If you are receiving this via post, please email your details to office@tanestrees.org.nz. We thank you for your continued support of Tāne's Tree Trust.

DONATIONS: A note from the Treasurer - all members should be aware that all donations (but not subscriptions), are eligible for a 33.33% tax rebate on your income tax. If required, we can send a receipt of donation for you to submit to IRD with your tax return.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Membership renewal notices are sent annually on April 1st via email or post. Members can access all resources at www.tanestrees.org.nz/resources. If you need to update your contact details, simply email us office@tanestrees.org.nz.