

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019



Trial Continuous Cover Forestry extraction of totara in Northland. Photo credit- Paul Quinlan

**To be presented at the Annual General Meeting  
Minginui Nursery, Minginui,  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2019, 9.30am**

# **Annual General Meeting 2019**

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Minginui

## **AGENDA**

- 1. Welcome and opening comments**
- 2. Apologies**
- 3. Minutes of 2018 AGM**
- 4. Matters arising**
- 5. Chairman's Report**
- 6. Executive Officer's report**
- 7. Treasurer's Report**
- 8. Other business**
- 9. Close of meeting**

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - November 2019

Tāne's Tree Trust has for the last 20 years worked assiduously to facilitate and promote the planting and management of native trees and forests. Over many of those twenty years we had few partners as focused or aligned to the work of the Trust as we are finding now – the developing Government policy around climate change and of course the one billion tree programme has encouraged a refreshing change in attitude to planting native trees and managing native forests. While not everyone appreciates the long term, ecological significance of the right tree in the right place with the right management subsequent to planting, the fact that planting of native trees is being endorsed by both central and local government is creating the sort of planting momentum shift we have not seen previously (with native trees). And at least part of the shift from an almost total reliance on exotic tree species to a realisation that native trees should be part of the mix owes a great deal to the work of our Trust over almost 20 years.

It's not a contest, we realise that achieving climate change goals is of critical importance and we acknowledge that in the short term use of fast growing exotic trees as part of the mix is essential, however longer term native forests become more important as permanent carbon sinks. Our manual on continuous cover forestry (CCF) released more than a decade ago was well ahead of the thinking but is now very topical.

Of course our ability to lead in this way is very dependent upon a great deal of hard work and some wonderful supporters; I have commented before on the goodwill, support and volume of work members, Trustees and funders put into our activities. As a consequence, our profile, influence and progress are undoubtedly as great as they have ever been.

We are the repository for a large number of planting trials and have a large database of growth measurements all around New Zealand and involving all of our key species, and including management of naturally regenerated stands wherever these have been able to be accessed.

Last year we commenced the third stage of the *"Our forests, our future"* (referred to as OFOF) project, which is resulting in a number of planting trials/demonstration stands now being established around New Zealand and closely monitored as the trees develop. There is widespread demand for better information in this regard – there are virtually no native forest areas that have been grown with all of the attention given our exotic production forests but we are continuing to demonstrate that where practice is improved major improvements in production are possible. Most recently we have released our carbon calculator which will enable those seeking offsets for their carbon footprint(s) to calculate how much planting they need to undertake or support to ensure their attempts at being carbon neutral are soundly based.

During the last year or so we also completed what is undoubtedly the most comprehensive assessment of the other (non timber) values of trees and forests, and this will shortly be published. While ascribing monetary value to non-timber benefits of trees can be a fraught exercise it is clear that assessment tools that identify the relative merits of various forms of land use and remove much of the subjectivity will be extremely valuable and our focus will move in this direction now that the major project has been completed. Our enthusiasm for doing this acknowledges that unless we can clearly demonstrate the total suite of benefits of planting and managing native forests some uncertainty will remain and may reflect in some landowners planting decisions.

There are other issues with transitioning to more expansive planting of native trees such as the provision of seed and raising suitable plants in nurseries on the scale required. We have moved to set up guidelines on these matters on our website and in the process minimise the risks associated with inadequate biosecurity practices, use of inappropriate seed-lots (eco-sourcing) and so on.

Last year I acknowledged the establishment of Te Uru Rakau is an important first step in ensuring that the policy driving the establishment of our future forests is soundly based and again we have taken every opportunity to ensure that there is robust advocacy for planting and managing native trees and forests. We have continued to support the Northland Totara Working Group and more recently the Totara Industry Pilot study as a good case study in this respect.

Providing a better appreciation of the values and opportunities this very extensive area of reversion in Northland will help encourage landowners to both protect it and enhance its quality in coming years. We continue to engage with Northland Inc., Ministry of Primary Industry, Scion (NZ Forest Research Institute), local Iwi representatives and other landowners in the region to model and demonstrate what an effective value chain might look like. We also arranged tours and accompanied both the Minister of Forestry (Hon Shane Jones) and Minister of Conservation (Eugenie Sage) to look at some of this work.

Meanwhile we have been successful in getting support for a number of new projects, all of which are aimed at advancing access to and use of our extensive databases, stepping into the modern world with some quite stunning video coverage of a number of key aspects of native tree planting and management programmes such as continuous cover forestry.

## **TRUSTEES**

The trustees are - Ian Barton, Ian Brennan, Peter Berg, David Bergin, Helmut Janssen, Paul Quinlan, Robert McGowan, Warwick Silvester, Jon Dronfield, Gerard Horgan and Jacqui Aimers.

Trustees retiring by rotation were Peter Berg, Jon Dronfield, Ian Barton and Paul Quinlan. Three of the retiring trustees have elected to continue and have been re-appointed (being key members of the team), however foundation member Ian Barton, former Chairman (for a long period) and author of many Trust works such as the CCF Manual has determined to retire. In the early years Ian had a key role in shaping and driving the Trust and in many respects its success owes a great deal to his commitment so he will leave a big hole when he departs – fortunately not too soon as he has agreed to continue to be involved where he can help.

## **NETWORK GROUP**

The number of member/participants on our network group e-mail list remains at a similar level as the previous year – some 270 people or groups. Subscription rates remain at \$45 annually, although many members take the option of also providing a donation to the Trust and its various programmes and over the last 12 months members have again donated around \$3000 to our work programme. This along with subscriptions has becoming increasingly important to our ability to maintain Trust services to members and our key programmes.

## **EXECUTIVE TEAM**

Executive Officer Mel Ruffell continued to be ably assisted by Keri Anderson for much of the year, however most recently Keri has decided to shift to full-time employment elsewhere – and we are already missing her lively and efficient approach. Mel handles most of our liaison with partners, funders, etc. and her professionalism in this regard continues to be reassuring for them and us. As our programme has expanded she has continued to quietly and efficiently keep everything in order and we remain proud of the way she represents the Trust.

Mel, Keri and now Megan work hard to ensure quality service to our members (such as Newsletters) and project partners and otherwise keep Trustees up to the mark and I am sure that anyone needing to call or email would have found the service prompt and helpful.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN**

This year we have monitored our performance against the Strategic Plan and as always find we are ahead in some areas and lagging a little on others – members can view the plan on our website - the focus remains very much on promoting and facilitating the planting of native trees throughout New Zealand.

## **INFORMATION TRANSFER**

Bulletins and Handbooks: our policy is to make all of our publications as widely available as possible. This means that all can be accessed on line (the CCF bulletin is presently being prepared to add to that material) with portions of interest to users able to be down-loaded/printed off as required. We try and offer access to our site to others also interested in planting native trees, and some parties such as Trees that Count (TTC) have been quick to utilise this

capability (we have an operative agreement with TTC that includes provision of technical services to avoid duplication – we both receive substantial funding from the Tindall Foundation and this is obviously a far more efficient process.

Meanwhile as noted previously we have a surfeit of publication stocks, and as these can become dated and incur a storage cost we continue to invite members to acquire copies of anything they don't have at no cost (usually just postage and packaging). As a matter of policy all new material will continue to be advertised on the website and in the Newsletter and members are encouraged to obtain copies from the office of any reports of interest.

## **TRUST FUNDING**

As noted earlier we have now moved into phase 3 of our OFOF project alongside related work on totara, thanks to the very helpful funding we have had from the Tindall Foundation. The Phase 3 funding supports the Trust's involvement in this work but relies more heavily on our partners to meet their project costs. Other work on databases and modelling growth of native trees is being supported by new grants from the Sustainable Farming Fund. Other efforts continue as part of our drive to maintain and lift Trust funding, both to support our administrative needs but also to get more expansive project work underway.

Draft annual accounts for the past year's activity are attached for member's advice; they have been independently audited and otherwise indicate the breadth of our effort and our present situation, and as mentioned above we intend to hold the modest membership charge at its present level.

## **IN SUMMARY**

It has been another productive and busy year for the Trust and its Trustees, especially as others come to appreciate the merits of more tree planting and wider use of native species, and look to us for advice and information alongside practical demonstrations. I am particularly excited about new tools such as the carbon calculator and our developing suite of on-line videos to portray the very significant opportunity to make more use of native trees in New Zealand's tree planting programmes.

**Peter Berg** – Chairman.

## **EXECUTIVE OFFICER UPDATE**

Subscriptions have been sent out for the 2019/20 year, and the annual subscription remains at \$45.00. There are currently 297 members. We have 186 paid members to date for the 2019/20 year, which continues the trend of good membership renewal.

Keri Anderson left our team in July and we have welcomed Megan Wright into the role in September. Megan has settled brilliantly into the role and doing a wonderful job.

Please contact either Megan or myself at the office, [office@tanestrees.org.nz](mailto:office@tanestrees.org.nz) if we can be of any assistance or if you wish to obtain any of our publications.

**Mel Ruffell** – Executive Officer

**PROJECT UPDATES: *Compiled by Paul Quinlan, Ian Brennan, Jacqui Aimers, Gerard Horgan, David Bergin***

## **OUR FORESTS OUR FUTURE (OFOF)**

### **Introduction**

The first year of the implementation phase of Our Forests Our Future (OFOF) project, supported by The Tindall Foundation and managed by Tāne's Tree Trust (TTT), has been completed. This project aims to demonstrate the benefits of integrating native forest into our productive rural landscapes. The project was scoped in Phase 1 before

detailed planning was completed last year as reported in *Our Forests Our Future Phase II - Final report of a two-year planning study* (Tāne's Tree Trust 2018). Refer to the Tāne's Tree Trust website to access the OFOF Phase 2 final report [http://www.tanestrees.org.nz/site/assets/files/1099/phase\\_2\\_report\\_ttt.pdf](http://www.tanestrees.org.nz/site/assets/files/1099/phase_2_report_ttt.pdf) and to view the video illustrating our work <https://vimeo.com/257850942>

The project comprises five workstreams with the following outcomes:

**1. Best practice demonstration native forestry**

The first regional network of planted native forests established including a selection of existing native plantations showcasing management of multi-purpose native forest, illustrating cost-effective best practice.

**2. Sustainable forest management**

The Northland Totara Industry Pilot initiative started in phase 2 supported with complementary work in co-ordinating the Northland Totara Working Group, maintaining and growing the database and facilitating tech-transfer to stakeholders and further research requirements; a review for potential extrapolation to other native species and plantations completed.

**3. Business case and non-timber values toolkit**

A credible business case toolkit developed for new native forests incorporating non-timber values and continuous cover regimes that demonstrate the potential of native forest as a viable land-use for marginal pastoral landscapes.

**4. Supporting technical advisory network**

Tāne's Tree Trust has increased the technical expertise, knowledge, skills and confidence to assist landowners, iwi and councils establish and manage multiple-use native forest.

**5. Project governance**

Provide both technical and financial oversight to ensure projects remain focused on achieving agreed outcomes including transparent and independent governance and peer review. A Governance Committee set up to provide project oversight including financial, technical delivery and promotion.

Progress on each of the workstreams over the last year is outlined below.

Contacts for the Our Forests Our Future project:

- Peter Berg, Chair, Tāne's Tree Trust [peter@bergforests.co.nz](mailto:peter@bergforests.co.nz)
- Mel Ruffell, TTT Executive Officer [office@tanestrees.org.nz](mailto:office@tanestrees.org.nz)

## **Workstream 1 - Demonstration planted native forests**

This workstream aims to demonstrate options for effective establishment and early management of native forest. The aim is to establish a regional network of demonstration planted native forests that includes a selection of existing native plantations up to 100-years-old over the next three years. Progress over 2019 has contributed to the following tasks:

### **Demonstration planting sites:**

Planting plans have been completed or are underway for various sites in collaboration with project partners. Progress with these has included:

- Papamoa Hills Regional Park, Bay of Plenty, with the Bay of Plenty Regional Council – inspection of first-year planting of native tree groves completed with high survival recorded.
- Waikeruru (Long bush), Gisborne – planting and set up monitoring plots as an OFOF demonstration site in collaboration with Trees That Count, and Anne and Jeremy Salmond, and planting contractor Robyn Wilkes of EcoWorks.
- Tuhaitara Coastal Park, north Canterbury, in collaboration with Te Kohaka o Tuhaitara Trust – planning underway that will be part of a Coastal Restoration Trust’s coastal sequence project about to be funded.
- Sainsbury Road Reserve, in collaboration with Waipa District Council – Concept Plan completed but no decision forthcoming from the council to commit to planting as yet.
- Cassie’s Farm, Te Miro, Waikato – survival plots established, with native conifer and hardwood tree species planted as part of an excellent site within 20 ha of recently planted native forestry on recently retired steep pastoral hill country.
- Cranford Basin, Christchurch – update from Dr Antony Shadbolt of Christchurch City Council on demonstration planting indicates high survival of kahikatea but losses with shrub hardwoods due to high water levels; council plans for planting 40,000 trees on a 10-ha site.

Other sites under evaluation as potential demonstration planted native forests include:

- Putaruru Timber Museum, southern Waikato – initial discussions with the museum trust and site visit undertaken to scope out a potential satellite OFOF planting site.
- Orton Bradley Park, Banks Peninsula – site visits and liaison with managers as potential OFOF site including contact with Trees for Canterbury and Trees That Count to source seedlings.

#### **Profiling existing plantations:**

A search has been initiated for best performing older plantations nationwide based on an examination of the TTT Indigenous Plantation Database. Growth plots and Permanent Sample Plots were established in existing planted native stands during surveys in 1986 by the Forest Research Institute, and in 2010 by Tāne’s Tree Trust.

The next step is to undertake site inspections and remeasurements from a shortlist of the best plantations. Measurements are underway at Holts Forest Trust in four plantations of kauri, totara, rimu and kahikatea now over 50 years old, and with 18-year-old plantations established as seed islands at Waikeruru near Gisborne.

#### **Planning, co-funding and promotion:**

The first-year progress and planning for the second year was presented to the Governance Committee at a mid-year review of the OFOF project. This included progress with various co-funding opportunities and preparation of funding applications aligned with this workstream. Details on current and successfully funded new projects relevant to this workstream are provided below.

Preparation and contributions to several field-based workshops were completed including:

- MPI workshop in the Waikato in December 2018;
- Presentations to iwi, hill country landowners and Hawkes Bay Regional Council in January 2019;
- NZFFA field day in Bay of Plenty on alternative forestry species in September 2019; and
- PF Olsen’s Forest Managers workshop and field trip in Hawkes Bay in October 2019.

For more information, contact the workstream manager: David Bergin [davidbergin.eri@gmail.com](mailto:davidbergin.eri@gmail.com)





*Typical steep hill country across the farm at Te Miro, Waikato, which is being retired from grazing and planted in native forest species. Sample plots have been established to monitor growth of planted natives as part of the OFOF Planted Workstream.*

## **OFOF Workstream 2 – Building on Northland tōtara work**

This workstream has provided something of a ‘sweeper’ role in co-ordinating what could be called ‘The Northland Tōtara Initiative’. It attends to essential work that is needed to progress the tōtara work but is not covered by funded projects such as the Tōtara Industry Pilot project (TIP). In this way, it complements and supports both the TIP project and other funded Tāne’s Tree Trust projects, with a focus on tōtara and the advocacy of management of naturally regenerating native forests generally.

The continued co-ordination of the Northland Tōtara Working Group is the public face to what is otherwise more of a ‘behind the scenes’ effort to progress the interests of all potential tōtara growers and native foresters. Fielding and responding to general enquiries and updating the Northland Tōtara Working Group database and webpage, supplying images, interviews and content for media enquiries, preparing project bids and exploring further research needs and gaps and attending stakeholder workshops, has all been part of this ‘sweeper role’.

Highlights of the last year’s accomplishments include:

- The completion of three Sustainable Forest Management Plans to test templates produced by Te Uru Rākau (MPI) to try and reduce the cost of applications and highlight remaining problems with regulatory controls. These SFM Plans and Permits were needed and used by the TIP project to enable the trial harvesting.
- Field tours with conservationist Guy Salmon, and another with the Eugene Sage, Minister of Conservation, introducing the Northland Totara projects to important new audience groups.
- Providing advice to Pāmu Farms (Landcorp Farming Ltd) on large-scale tōtara planting projects on two of their Northland stations, and on the management of planted and naturally regenerated tōtara on those blocks.
- Presenting a 45 minute lecture (plus 30 minutes of Question & Answers) to the Northland Regional Council’s Land Management Team on the future for native forestry in the region.
- Providing a report to the Northland Regional Council on the regulatory processes affecting native forestry in Northland.



- Submission of a funding bid to Te Uru Rākau for the remeasurement of our tōtara permanent sample plot network.
- Producing the August 2019 Northland Tōtara Working Group newsletter and circulating to over 500 email addresses.
- Submission of a funding bid to Te Uru Rākau for the preparation of 'A Practical Guide on the Management of Tōtara on Private Land'.
- Speaking to 170 attendees at a field trip of the New Zealand Association of Resource Managers (NZARM) conference (17<sup>th</sup> October), about tōtara management and native forestry in Northland.

Otherwise, more minor activities have involved:

- Preparation of an article for the Tree Grower magazine about sustainable harvesting as part of the TIP project.
- Advice to Maori landowners interested in native forestry landuse options.
- Opening dialogue with Ngā Whenua Rāhui and QEII National Trust on SFM Plans and bush protection covenanting.
- Supporting field research by AUT on 'root-grafting' in native trees – resulting in measurements being conducted on tōtara stumps in managed tōtara forests.

Presently, this workstream is on track to meet all its stated 'deliverables' and is also on budget.

Co-funding support for some of this completed work has been provided by the Northland Regional Council. More will be provided by Pāmu Farms for a Sustainable Forest Management Plan, and a further sum from the Northland Regional Council - if our bid to Te Uru Rākau is successful.

For the coming year, the role of providing continuity and facilitating support generally for all 'the Northland Tōtara Initiatives' will remain important, especially as the TIP project reaches its conclusion midway through the year. A draft strategic work plan was presented to the Governance Board in June for approval.

For more information on this, contact the workstream manager: Paul Quinlan [pdq@pqla.co.nz](mailto:pdq@pqla.co.nz)

### **OFOF Workstream 3 – Non-timber values and a business case for native forestry**

Economic calculators have been created to determine timber and carbon values for sustainably-managed native forests. A review of establishment costs, marketing issues and economic models/calculators generally indicate poor financial returns based on timber production alone. This is largely due to high establishment costs and longer rotation times (impact of time value of money/discounting) compared with exotic production forestry.

Credible business cases for establishing native forests are dependent on non-timber values (NTVs). Fortunately, there is now increased awareness of the importance (and vulnerability) of New Zealand's natural capital. And there is also increasing awareness that we need to acknowledge (and account for) the wider value of native forests to the environment and society.

Current thinking on NTVs was reviewed based on peer-reviewed publications and government reports. The focus was on New Zealand's native forests outside of the conservation estate. The term NTVs was used rather than ecosystem services, as it was deemed more appropriate in this context. Over 250 references were found, reviewed

and NTVs summarised under the following categories: (i) non-timber forest products; (ii) environmental services; and (iii) socioeconomic and cultural services.

The review of NTVs identified that much of the data has been researched and quantified within narrow disciplines and communicated in isolation, in a way that hinders the comprehension and recognition of the accumulative, wider value of native forests. The review indicates that aggregated NTVs of native forests (particularly permanent forests, or those managed under continuous cover forestry regimes) are likely to be considerably greater than that for clear-fell, exotic plantations. Native forestry deserves a higher profile as an economically viable land use, particularly in environmentally sensitive catchments, on erosion-prone soils, in riparian zones, and in scenic landscapes; and where indigenous biodiversity, and cultural and spiritual values are important.

Unfortunately, NTVs are currently not easily monetarised (with the possible exception of ‘products’ with an already existing market price such as carbon and honey derived from native species. There are widely differing methods for quantifying NTVs. Often these involve subjective judgments and extrapolation from site-specific examples to other sites with limited caveats attached to the ‘results’. This means wide margins of error. Ideally, NTVs should be determined on a case-by-case basis, with stakeholder engagement, and with both quantitative and qualitative values included.

There is also the question of ‘Who Pays – Who Benefits?’ The benefits of NTVs often accrue to the wider community – locally, downstream, regionally, nationally, and even internationally.

The business case for native forestry (including establishment and management issues) and the NTVs work have now been presented in multiple forums over the 12 months:

- At the Tāne’s Tree Trust workshop at Ian Brennan’s place, December 2018, attended by Te Uru Rakau and local government staff.
- At the Ngati Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated (NKII) workshop on native forestry, in Hawkes Bay, January 2019, attended by various Ngati Kahungunu hapu, regional council staff, landowners, and others with an interest in forestry.
- Two invited presentations at the **Oceania Ecosystem Services Forum 2019 (OESF)** in September:
  - (i) “Ecosystem services in sustainably-managed native forest” was presented in the Forest Ecosystem Services (FES) Workshop.
  - (ii) “Non-timber values in sustainably-managed native forest” (our second presentation) was in a subsequent parallel session geared for the industry sector including forestry, agriculture, and fisheries.

In summary:

- OESF brought together policymakers, business and community leaders, and researchers with the aspiration of ‘Creating healthy communities and ecosystems for a resilient future’.
- Very good numbers attended both our presentations, with good feedback and questions afterwards.
- There was considerable interest in the following: our work on NTVs, reducing establishment costs, increasing native forestation, and in continuous cover forestry regimes.
- Overall, valuable connections were made with other researchers, some of whom have provided useful information to help with our NTVs work, including a scoring system for ecosystem services based on stakeholder feedback.
- NZ Farm Forestry Association, Bay of Plenty branch field day at Awakeri, eastern Bay of Plenty.
- Tāne’s Tree Trust was invited to make a presentation and participate in PF Olsen’s 2-day training workshop and field day in October 2019, in Hawkes Bay, which was attended by 70 people from throughout NZ, and local regional council staff.

The review of Non-Timber Values (NTVs) in native forests will soon be submitted for publication in multiple forums, including an academic paper for the NZ Journal of Forestry Science (or possibly an alternative publication), a summary paper in NZ Tree Grower and on Pure Advantage's website. The full paper will also soon be made available on the Tāne's Tree Trust website.

Preliminary meetings have been held to scope out potential collaboration on developing an Ecosystem Services Assessment Tool to support decision making in restoration of native forest.

For more information on this, contact Dr Jacqui Aimers [jacqui.aimers@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jacqui.aimers@xtra.co.nz), or Gerard Horgan [gerard@horganfamily.kiwi](mailto:gerard@horganfamily.kiwi)

#### **OFOF Workstream 4 – Technical advisory role**

In December 2018 we held a very successful workshop at Cassie's Farm in the hills above Cambridge. Fifteen staff from Te Uru Rakau, six from Waikato Regional Council, six from Waipa District Council and a number of other interested attendees from QEII Trust, Trees That Count, Landcare Research and Scion attended along with six trustees from Tāne's Tree Trust. Those present were given a tour of the farm, where a minimum of 1500 native trees and shrubs have been planted every winter since 2007, with 7500 planted as part of the TTC launch in 2016 and 6000 in 2017.

Attendees were shown what has been successful as well as areas where plants have struggled to establish. Discussion ranged from nursery stock and soil type to micro climates and planting methods. We demonstrated Ground Based Monitoring methods based on simplified circular sample plots designed for rapid assessment of survival and growth within Trees That Count demonstration plantings. Within 10 years a selection of these rapid survival plots will be converted to larger Permanent Sample Plots for long term monitoring of stand performance to feed growth data into the Tāne's Tree Trust Indigenous Plantation Database.

A second Workshop was held on Cassie's Farm in October 2019 for five scientists from Scion and two DOC field staff. Over four hours we visited all those sites covered during the December field day plus a variety of planting treatments within ten hectares (20,000 trees) planted in June 2019. Design and monitoring of Sample Plots was explained and we visited some of the thirty different planting scenarios we have established over the past ten years - most within the past four years.

As part of an ongoing MOU between Tāne's Tree Trust and Trees That Count (TTC) we have provided support to the TTC regional-based technical advisory network, where there are now at least 8 TTC part-time Regional Advisors appointed to selected regions from Northland to Southland. This has involved several meetings between trustees and staff from both organisations, and updates on projects including the Tāne's Tree Trust Carbon Calculator for Planted Native Forest to TTC regional advisory meetings and field trips held in Gisborne in May, and in Wellington and Manawatu in August 2019.

Three pilot videos were initiated over the past year. The first was on Continuous Cover Forestry (CCF). This provides a general introduction to the topic and some examples of existing commercial CCF operations visited during the activity weekend attached to our AGM in the South Island in November 2018. The second covers pruning and thinning of totara at various ages from five to twenty years. The third video is a case study of planting to establish native CCF at Cassie's Farm near Cambridge. This video is already being updated to include more specific detail on the planting methods used by contract planters as opposed to community groups.

Tāne's Tree Trust has also been able to leverage off this workstream a successful application for funding to the Department of Conservation's Community Fund to produce further videos on establishment and management of native forest for multiple benefits. Over the next 3 years, this project will deliver free, instructional training videos, along with further field-based workshops, on restoration of our indigenous ecosystems in collaboration with

community groups, iwi and landowners. The focus is on best-practice practical methods including site preparation, planting, weed control and encouraging natural regeneration.

There is still work to be done on administration and presentation of the first pilot videos. The exact way in which they are accessed from our website is still evolving, with longer videos such as that on totara management being broken into segments to better serve the needs of those seeking technical advice. This reflects the fact that video is a new medium for Tāne's Tree Trust and we are therefore still getting to grips with it. It also demonstrates the flexibility of electronic publishing whereby updated or modified information can be made available instantly.



One of the field-based workshops held on Cassie's Farm near Cambridge, Waikato, where the landowner Ian Brennan has so far planted 20 ha of retired steep pastoral hill country in native forest over the last decade to complement covenanted forest fragments. This has been in collaboration with Tāne's Tree Trust, Trees That Count, Waikato Regional Council and Waipa District Council.

For more information on this, contact the workstream manager: Ian Brennan [ianatcassiesfarm@gmail.com](mailto:ianatcassiesfarm@gmail.com)

## OFOF Workstream – Governance

The TTT Governance Committee has continued to provide project oversight including financial, technical delivery and promotion of research results. This has involved monthly progress reporting from each of the workstream managers including technical and financial information. A review of progress of the first year implementation of the OFOF project was undertaken at a workshop held in Ohakune on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> June 2019 for workstream managers and the governance committee.

All workstreams are on target for the first year of this implementation phase with project outcomes met and within budget. There are several new projects with additional funding leveraged from the OFOF project as intended.

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## NORTHLAND TŌTARA INDUSTRY PROJECT (TIP)

Tāne's Tree Trust is a partner in the Tōtara Industry Pilot (TIP) project. Peter Berg chairs the project's steering group and SCION provides project management and are major co-funders. This two-year project was initiated in phase 2 of the Our Forests Our Future programme and will run until mid-2020.

Full project details and updates are provided on the TIP project website: <https://www.totaraindustry.co.nz/>

To date, 300m<sup>3</sup> of tōtara logs have been sustainably harvested from three different farm properties. The logs have been milled and dried and is now ready for sale in order to test the business case for a new regional industry – based on continuous cover native forestry.

For further information, please contact: Paul Quinlan [pdq@pqla.co.nz](mailto:pdq@pqla.co.nz)

## OTHER TĀNE'S TREE TRUST PROJECTS

### Tāne's Tree Trust planting native forestry toolkit and carbon calculator

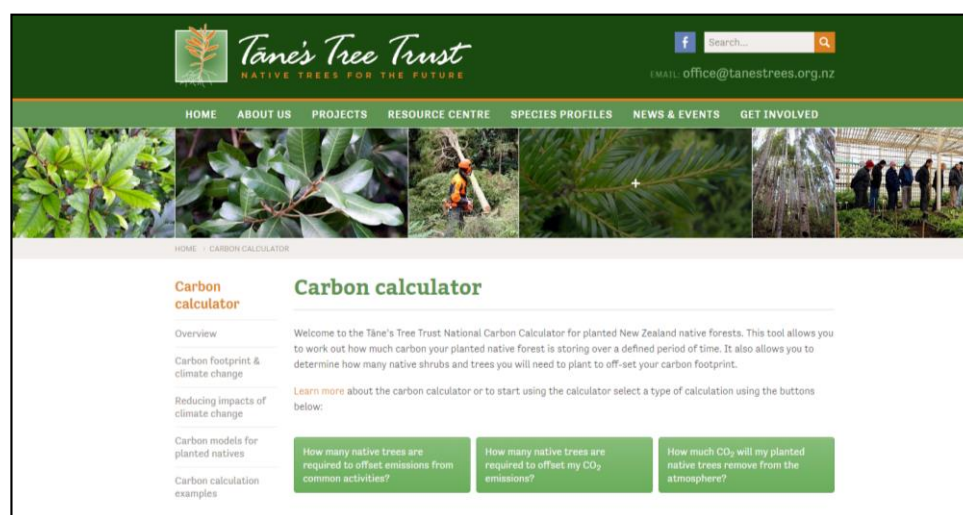
The first year of this three-year project will be completed in December 2019. The project is funded jointly by the Ministry for Primary Industries' Sustainable Farming Fund and TTT. It aims to provide a free comprehensive on-line toolkit from planning to implementation for planting native forestry to meet multiple objectives from maintaining and improving environmental values through to sustainable production.

This year tasks have focused on interrogation of the Tāne's Tree Trust Indigenous Plantation Database preparing the growth data, checking for integrity and standardising it across all sites and plots ready for importing to the web system. The data structure in the web system has been completed by Robin Sallis of Cerulean Design and Development to accommodate the plantation database.

Refinement of growth and yield models for the key native timber species is well underway using an initial aggregation of species into broad groups including native conifers (e.g. podocarps, kauri, tanekaha), tree hardwoods (e.g. puriri, beeches, kohekohe, rewarewa, etc), and shrub hardwoods often used as nurse cover (e.g. manuka, kanuka, tarata, karamu, kohuhu, etc). Front-end access controls involve design of the growth and yield calculator interface to allow for testing by selected users toward the end of the project, prior to launching on the website.

Refinement will include creating growth and yield models for individual key species where there is sufficient growth data, and if practical by region and site type. This may provide an opportunity to develop a basic site index for planted native species based on different site quality, management history, and growth rate for a selection of the most commonly planted native trees within the Indigenous Plantation Database.

Substantial progress has been made developing a carbon calculator for planted native trees and shrubs using the refined growth and yield models. Initial testing has been undertaken in collaboration with Trees That Count where there is substantial interest from the public, community groups, landowners and corporates in planting native trees and shrubs to offset carbon emissions. The TTT Carbon Calculator for Planted Native Forestry will be available for use on the TTT website in the next few months.



*The Tāne's Tree Trust Carbon Calculator for planted native forests, which is one of the outputs from the planting native forestry toolkit project. This will be available soon on the Tāne's Tree Trust website <https://www.tanestrees.org.nz/>*



## Adaptive Management of Coastal Forestry Buffers

A three-year project replacing coastal pines with native coastal forests managed by Tāne's Tree Trust with support from the Coastal Restoration Trust of New Zealand is well underway. Sand-dune exotic forests typically have had a sacrificial exotic forest buffer zone providing critical salt and wind shelter to landward production forest stands. This project focuses on the upper North Island as a pilot study exploring practical options to transition failing exotic coastal buffers to resilient permanent buffers comprising indigenous coastal forest species based on an adaptive management approach. The project is partially funded by the Ministry of Primary Industries' Sustainable Farming Fund, with project management and ongoing peer review from Tāne's Tree Trust.

Work involves a review of existing experience, field surveys and establishment of planting trials in collaboration with the forest industry, iwi, landowners, councils and communities to develop preliminary guidelines. An initial literature review of available information on indigenous duneland forest along the northern New Zealand coastline has been completed.

The Project Team comprising Meg Graeme, Jim Dahm, Michael Bergin and David Bergin has been working with project partners in the establishment of the first planting trials at Te Hiku/Aupouri Forest, Northland; Kawhia Forest, western Waikato; and Opoutere, eastern side of Coromandel Peninsula, during 2019.

The plant species selected for the trial plots reflect the range of possible historic coastal forest species at each of the sites but constrained by eco-sourced plant availability. For the exposed open coast plots only a limited selection of hardy primary canopy species have been planted in the trials. Planting trials have incorporated a range of treatments including different site types, sheltered sites within the existing pines, exposed sites, artificial seedling shelters, fertilisers and hydrogel.

In total over 6,500 plants were planted in trials this winter by project partners and community volunteers. The survival and growth of these native trees and shrubs will be monitored as part of the project and further planting will continue at the three sites next year.

The project team has also undertaken assessments of plantings and/or naturally regenerating indigenous coastal dune shrubs/trees at Te Hiku (Aupouri Forest), Whananaki Spit, Piha, Muriwai, Woodhill Forest, Kawhia and Opoutere/Ohui.

This is a collaborative project including input, advice and field support from our project partners including forest companies Summit, Hancock, Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara, Rayonier and Tainui-Kawhia Inc; Northland Regional Council, Whangarei District Council Auckland Council and Waikato Regional Council staff; Department of Conservation staff; Far North and Kawhia iwi; and local community volunteers.

For further information contact Project Manager Meg Graeme: [meg@ecologist.nz](mailto:meg@ecologist.nz)



*Over 40 volunteers from the local Kawhia community and surrounding area helped plant the pilot planting trial site at Te Arai O Te Wiwini Nature Reserve, Kawhia harbour in mid-June. This is one of several planting trials being established in the upper North Island within the zone of coastal pines to evaluate establishment of a native forest buffer to provide long-term protection for production forestry landward.*

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## NEW TTT PROJECTS

Over the last year, Tāne's Tree Trust has had two proposals approved for funding in collaboration with various project partners.

### **Cost-effective planting and reversion scenarios for establishing native forests**

For the One-Billion-Trees programme to have maximum impact, a range of site-specific, low-cost planting and regeneration scenarios are required for establishment of permanent native forest, especially for scaling up the establishment of native forestry across marginal, pastoral hill country. Tāne's Tree Trust has been funded for 3 years by Te Uru Rakau's One-Billion-Trees Partnership Fund to develop factsheets and planting templates. The aim is to provide clear, pragmatic guidelines on planting options and scenarios, based on existing research, data and information for land owners and managers keen to establish permanent native forest for multiple purposes.

Tāne's Tree Trust (TTT) has generated a substantial resource of information over the last 2 decades in collaboration with other research and information providers based on research and operational experience. These existing information resources are held by TTT and include:

- Tāne's Tree Trust Archive Database
- Tāne's Tree Trust Indigenous Plantation Database
- Northland Totara Working Group plot network
- Indigenous plantations for carbon accounting
- Tāne's Tree Trust Technical Handbook
- Indigenous tree bulletin series.

Specific aims are to evaluate a range of low-cost but effective planting scenarios and subsequently produce short, well-illustrated factsheets that include:

- Practical scenarios for establishing native forest at different stocking rates and species mixes based on existing and established best-practice experience and research.
- Native forest establishment planning templates for a range of sites, scales and objectives for both planting and regeneration options.
- Costing for forest establishment options to maximise the benefit of support from the TUR Tree Grant fund and other complementary funding options.
- Practical guidelines on post-planting maintenance and methods for monitoring of success.
- Highlighting case studies of successfully established and managed native forests using a network of demonstration areas in collaboration with Trees That Count, councils and other successfully established native forest sites.

We will be working in collaboration with Auckland University of Technology, Scion, Pamu Farms (Landcorp), iwi, landowners and community groups involved in planting and managing native forests.

### **Training videos and workshops for best-practice restoration**

Tāne's Tree Trust (TTT) have been successful in obtaining funding from the Department of Conservation's Community Fund to provide training videos and contribute to workshops promoting best-practice restoration of indigenous ecosystems by planting and natural regeneration. The project is aligned with the OFOF Technology Transfer Workstream and will deliver free, instructional training videos, accessible via mobile devices and websites, along with field-based workshops, on restoration of our indigenous ecosystems. The project is in collaboration with community groups, iwi and landowners, Department of Conservation, regional, district and city councils, NZ Farm Forestry



Association, The Tindall Foundation, The Project Crimson Trust and Trees That Count, research providers, and regional staff of the One-Billion-Trees Programme.

The focus is on best-practice practical methods including site preparation, planting, weed control and encouraging natural regeneration. A minimum of 18 informational and instructional videos will be produced by TTT over 3 years targeting priority topics. These include:

- demonstration of site preparation, planting, weed control, long-term management of planted natives
- showcasing best-practice and successful restoration programme with those from the community that are undertaking the work and explaining how they got there
- demonstrating the importance of high-quality planting stock utilising those in the native plant nursery sector to illustrate the folly of cutting corners with poor quality stock, and reinforce the concepts of ecosourcing, best-practice seed collection, etc.
- promoting natural regeneration on appropriate sites as an effective lower-cost method to establish native forests, such as on our marginal hill country – this includes methods for enhancing natural reversion
- importance of monitoring success of planting and regeneration programmes under development by TTT and Trees That Count.

In addition, we will contribute to a minimum of two field-based workshops per year with project partners. The 3-5 minute videos will be presented and promoted at these field-based workshops held each year with feedback used to refine outputs. The videos and workshops can complement other restoration initiatives such as pest animal control programmes, and bird and seed predator control.

The videos will be made available on the Tāne's Tree Trust website. For more information contact the Project Manager Ian Brennan: [ianatcassiesfarm@gmail.com](mailto:ianatcassiesfarm@gmail.com)

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## **Proposals for future projects**

In addition to our current projects, Tāne's Tree Trust is presently developing a number of other proposals for new work in areas and on aspects that have become more relevant as other work has been completed. The emphasis remains on facilitating the planting and management of native trees and forests and better realising the many values that come from that activity. We are also working to form better partnerships or collaborations with other organisations where there are natural synergies, such as the NZ Farm Forestry Association which has a very active native forests interest group and which would like to show-case the opportunity for native trees on farms.

## **COLLABORATION WITH TREES THAT COUNT**

Trees That Count (TTC) is part of The Project Crimson Trust with a vision to help New Zealand to plant millions of native trees across the country to ameliorate climate change and restore and enhance our environment. Planters are encouraged to register their planting projects to add their trees to the count of native trees planted each year as a measure the positive impact of the work underway to improve the environment. TTC is bringing together business, community and the public to help plant more native trees by providing support for nursery-raised seedling via the TTC Marketplace.

Tāne's Tree Trust and TTC have a Memorandum of Understanding to collaborate in this vision of seeing more planting of natives for multiple benefits. In particular, TTT is providing technical support to Trees That Count, including best establishment and management practices for planting native forest, as well as growth, yield and carbon modelling based on the TTT Indigenous Plantation Database. Ongoing collaboration is maximising opportunities that include

developing web-based systems for monitoring and mapping of planted and naturally regenerating native forest, and setting up demonstration planting sites to encourage best-practice planting and management of natives.

Check out the Trees That Count website <http://www.treesthatcount.co.nz/> for more details and for registering your planted native trees and shrubs.

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## **TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2018-2019**

It is heartening again to report that TTT has attracted sufficient funding to expand our reach yet again. The continuing support of The Tindall Foundation has been a boon and has allowed us to expand our activities and attract further funding.

I note that last year I expressed a caution that our financial success comes with a need to not overcommit our staff and trustees. This caution is now even more relevant as we now have more commitments and a potential to take on further work.

I want to acknowledge the debt we all, and the treasurer in particular, owe to our EO Mel. Mel has a firm grip on the accounts, manages the flow of information and provides prompt and positive support to all trustees. Thank you Mel!

We have had to say goodbye to our secretary Keri who has moved to another position. It was sad for us to see Keri go because she has been such a great asset to the team. However, we welcome Megan Wright to the team, and she has already come to grips with the complexities of our operation.

You will see that we are financially in good shape and the auditor has again passed our accounts without question and as usual commended Mel on the way in which our financial management is conducted.


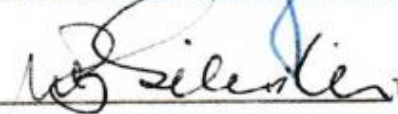
**Warwick Silvester** - Treasurer

**TANE'S TREE TRUST**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

	2019	2018
<b>Operating Revenue</b>		
Taratahi Project	3,100	13,670
Sustainable farming fund	66,636	-
Tindall Project	190,000	127,750
Southern Trust Grant	-	1,000
Joint Projects Grants and Sponsorships	5,000	-
Project Co-Funding	4,500	6,500
TIP Project	28,389	-
Subscriptions	7,239	6,769
Conference Fees	435	-
Donations received	6,212	2,445
Interest received	2,351	1,548
Other income	2,261	-
Plus Income Received in Advance from Last Year	-	123,898
Less Income Received in Advance for Next Year	(67,722)	0
	<u>248,401</u>	<u>283,580</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Accountancy	800	-
Administration	12,400	10,120
Audit fees	800	844
Contractors and consultants TTT projects	30,841	10,023
Depreciation	770	403
Executive officer	9,380	6,600
General expenses	892	-
Insurance	865	816
Joint projects	193,981	174,507
Newsletter	-	958
Office Expenses	119	33
Postage	943	601
Printing and stationery	644	7,883
Rent	1,200	1,200
Seminars and Conferences	1,507	-
Subscriptions	222	-
Telephones and tolls	1,015	1,063
Travelling and accommodation	8,011	4,376
Trust Meeting Expenses	239	220
Website & internet	809	2,763
	<u>265,438</u>	<u>222,410</u>
<b>Nett Surplus (Deficit) For Year</b>	<b>(17,037)</b>	<b>61,170</b>
Less Transfer of Donations to Research Funds	6,212	-
<b>Operating Surplus (Deficit) For Year</b>	<b>(\$23,249)</b>	<b>\$61,170</b>



**TANE'S TREE TRUST**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT 31 MARCH 2019**

	2019	2018
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Bank Star Transaction	106,068	32,215
Bank Funding Account	18,437	12,091
Bank Call Investment Account	67,722	34,475
Bank Term Deposits	-	40,665
Accounts Receivable	39,869	-
GST	-	2,533
Petty Cash	78	127
	<u>232,174</u>	<u>122,106</u>
<b>Non Current Assets</b>		
Fixed assets (as per schedule)	1,121	274
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>233,295</u>	<u>122,380</u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	67,886	12,107
GST	4,451	-
Income Received in Advance	67,722	-
	<u>140,059</u>	<u>12,107</u>
<b>Total Net Funds Employed</b>	<u><u>\$93,236</u></u>	<u><u>\$110,273</u></u>
<b>Represented By:</b>		
<b>Trust Equity</b>		
General funds	72,580	95,829
Research funds	20,656	14,444
<b>Total Trust Equity</b>	<u><u>\$93,236</u></u>	<u><u>\$110,273</u></u>
For and on behalf of the trustees		
 Chairman	<u>19/9/19</u> Date	
 Treasurer	<u>19/9/19</u> Date	
Page 5		

