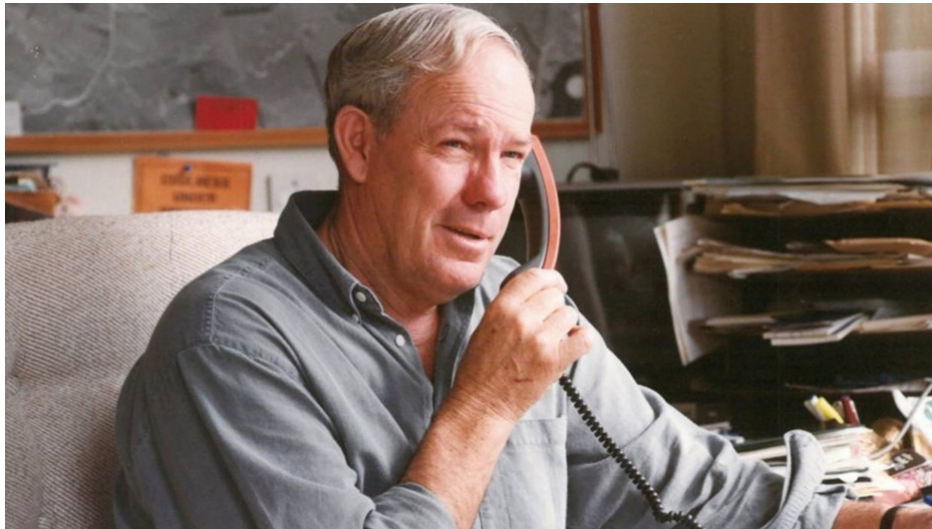




Obituary; William “Rob” Storey, QSO: 1936 – 2019

Rob was a Trustee of Tāne's Tree Trust from 2006 until 2013. He came to us from the same background as one of our founding Trustees, John Kneebone, for both were farmers and both had earlier been Chairman of Federated Farmers. Rob took it one step further though, for he was also a Member of Parliament from 1986 to 1996, and a Minister from 1990 until 1993, holding the portfolios of Minister of Transport, Minister of Statistics, Minister of Lands and Minister for the Environment.

But it was much earlier than this that I first met Rob for he was two years ahead of me at Wesley College, where we both had a strong interest in the Young Farmers Club, especially debating. That association grew after we had both left Wesley and we took a debating team back to the College to challenge the then Young Farmer's Club team.



We kept in touch over the years and in 1992, when he bought a property near Whitianga, I advised him on the planting and management of part of the area. An indication of his interest in native species is that he planted a small area of kauri into the kanuka of one of the gullies on this property.

Our deepest sympathy goes to Rob's wife Lorraine and their family.

Rob served his community, his country and Tāne's Tree Trust well, and we mourn his passing.

- Ian Barton

Northland Tōtara Working Group – Updates

A Northland Tōtara Working Group (NTWG) newsletter was sent out in August – click here if you missed it.

https://www.tanestrees.org.nz/site/assets/files/1234/ntwg_newsletter_aug_2019_1.pdf

It focussed on the harvesting done as part of The Tōtara Industry Pilot (TIP) project and had links to the TIP project video and website: <https://www.totaraindustry.co.nz/>

That timber, from over 300m³ of tōtara logs, has been milled and dried and is now ready for sale. At this stage it is only being made available for interior uses and all purchase enquiries are directed through the TIP website to two timber merchants participating in the project.



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Some of the TIP tōtara timber is being used in laminated beams in an exciting building project: '*Te Hononga, Kawakawa Hundertwasser Memorial Park*'. Roger Browning of Northern Timber Laminates reported no difficulties in making the beams. Such evaluation of the timber sales and performance will feedback into the TIP project and help determine the business case for a future tōtara industry.

Tāne's Tree Trust, on behalf of the Northland Tōtara Working Group, has also submitted two new tōtara project bids to Te Uru Rakau. One is to remeasure its network of permanent sample plots in stands of farm-tōtara. The other is to prepare a practical guide to the management of tōtara on private land. Otherwise, dialogue continues with Te Uru Rakau concerning the regulatory control of sustainable tōtara harvests under the Forests Act.



For further information, please
contact: Paul Quinlan

PH. (09) 405-0052, or email:
pdq@pqla.co.nz

**The Tōtara Industry Pilot project
involved the sustainable harvesting of
tōtara logs on 3 Northland farms, using
continuous cover forestry principles.
That timber is now for sale.**

<https://digitalninja.sharefile.com/d-94c448fd6cf7443b>

Guidelines to Species Selection, Ecosourcing and Seed Collection

Tāne's Tree Trust has developed guidelines, based on the best available information, for species selection, ecosourcing and seed collection. These guidelines aim to assist those involved in native forest restoration and planting projects. A summary is provided below. The full guidelines are now available on our website: - <https://www.tanestrees.org.nz/resource-centre/>

Species selection depends on the objectives for tree planting or forest establishment, e.g., ecological restoration, amenity, farm shelter, erosion control, timber production, etc.

For ecological restoration projects, the mix of species planted should match (as close as possible) the species originally present prior to human settlement. Priority should be given to tree and shrub species important for the seasonal food cycle of native birds, because providing food sources will encourage natural regeneration processes through dispersal of seed. Consideration should also be given to forest successional processes, particularly selecting an initial nurse cover of pioneer



species, as well as the ultimate forest cover. Natural regeneration processes should be mimicked wherever practical.

Ecosourcing is defined as the sourcing of seed from nearby natural populations to propagate stock for native plantings in the same locality. It also involves collecting seed across a large range of individuals within the source population. This results in a broader and more representative genetic base, which increases adaptive fitness in forest plantings.

Continued next page ...

Ecosourcing is particularly important for ecological restoration projects but may be less relevant for other types of plantings, as discussed in the guidelines. The importance of ecosourcing for adaptive fitness, conservation values and cultural values is discussed. Operational issues with ecosourcing are also reviewed.

Conversely, the concept of **genetic pollution** is explained, i.e., genetic introgression undermining the unique inherited characteristics of natural populations. This can happen with the introduction of commercially-bred strains of native species into natural areas, or if plants are used in a restoration project that have been raised from seed collected from a widely separated geographic region.



Pragmatic seed collection guidelines and recommendations are provided. This covers the importance of forward planning, liaising with land owners and managers (including staff from the Department of Conservation), seed collection protocols, labelling and record keeping.

The importance of planning ahead is emphasised, as nurseries must have sufficient time for collection and propagation of ecosourced seed. Very few nurseries sell ecosourced stock 'on spec' - most require a contract.



Recommended references are also provided for those requiring more information.

Tāne's Tree Trust advocates for best practice ecosourcing as outlined in the guidelines, but it should not be so rigidly enforced that it becomes a deterrent to planting native forest. Strict adherence to the use of local seed raises difficulties where the definition of boundaries for seed-collecting zones is not clear, or the supply of local seed is inadequate. We believe a pragmatic approach is required to incentivise the adoption of ecosourcing principles in raising and planting natives for multiple purposes.

- by Jacqui Aimers



Report on the Oceania Ecosystem Services Forum 2019

A Big Thank You to Tane's Tree Trust for funding me to go the Oceania Ecosystem Services Forum 2019 (OESF) so I could present our work on ecosystem services and particularly, work on the business case and non-timber values in sustainably managed native forests.

Summary of the OESF:

OESF was held in Christchurch on **2 – 6 September 2019**. (The first OESF was held in Brisbane in 2017).

The theme was "*Creating healthy communities and ecosystems for a resilient future*".

The **main aims** were for sharing knowledge, making new connections, fostering collaborations, and being inclusive and inspiring, which I think was well accomplished. **A total of 125 people participated** from over 86 organisations and over 15 countries - mostly Oceania countries but there were also participants from Asia, Europe and North America.

Continued next page ...

There were eight pre-conference workshops, five plenary sessions with 18 speakers, eleven parallel sessions with 57 presentations, three town-hall style meetings, three side events, plus a conference dinner and a full-day field trip. It was the **most diverse group of people** that I have ever come across at a professional conference/forum – in terms of a wide mix of ethnicities, women being well represented, and professionals of nearly every kind – primary industry people (land-based and aquaculture), natural resource managers, economists, scientists, community leaders and policy makers.

Indigenous voices were often centre stage, including many highly-qualified indigenous people, passionate about protecting natural capital in their home countries, as well as indigenous community leaders – a unique blending of voices on cultural, human wellbeing and socioeconomic themes in relation to environmental and natural resource matters.

Major focuses were the benefits of natural capital, methods for valuation, and the connection with human wellbeing.

Both of our TTT presentations were well received:

“Ecosystem services in sustainably-managed native forest” was presented in the well-attended Forest Ecosystem Services (FES) Workshop. Our presentation was based around the business case for forestry with native species, including timber and non-timber values, and the costs associated with establishing and managing native forests.

At the FES workshop, MPI forest policy manager Antonia Reid gave an interesting presentation - an **update on the billion-trees programme**:

Of the **landowner grants** – more funds had been allocated to exotic plantings, as compared with native plantings, at that point in time (early September).

The native plantings were generally a lot smaller than the exotic plantings.

There was acknowledgement of the need for more planting of native forest as part of the billion-trees programme.



Kea chewing Jacqui's finger

At the end of our FES session, we were invited onto a panel where questions were raised by the audience.

Antonia Reid was grilled (by other attendees) over the **lower proportion of native plantings** being funded versus exotic plantings, quoting the figures I presented about the higher costs of establishment of natives versus radiata-pine, i.e., it was argued that the **grant for planting**

native species is too low in comparison to actual costs and this is a **disincentive** to planting natives.

I was asked about how we could **lower the cost of establishment**. I wished that David Bergin was present, but fortunately, I remembered discussions we have had on this and was able to talk about ongoing TTT research in this area.

Antonio Reid asked me about TTT's position on **ecosourcing, including factoring in climate change** when sourcing seed for future plantings.

“Non-timber values in sustainably-managed native forest” (our second presentation) was in the parallel session on **“Using ecosystem services and nature's contribution to people concepts at a sector level** including in forestry, agriculture, fisheries”. Very good numbers attended our presentation, and there was good feedback and questions afterwards, with only one negative comment. I was also asked to be the moderator for this session, which included introducing speakers and summing up the session. Unbeknownst to me, **Ashlee McCormick, Donations Programme Manager for The Tindall Foundation**, was present at the presentation. Ashlee gave positive feedback and I was able to spend some time with her and hear more about the work and aims of the Tindall Foundation.

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. We will be able to send you a certificate of donation for you to submit to IRD with your tax return.

Please remember us in your bequests.

In the **“What do we do now?”** wind-up of the formal part of the forum, **Te ao Maori principles** involving whenua and natural resources, particularly the concepts of people belonging to the land and kaitiakitanga (guardianship), as opposed to the land belonging to people, was put forward for adoption – interestingly, this was put forward by a diverse group of young scientists from other countries. There was **a lot of interest in continuous cover forestry** after both our presentations and I gave away the copies of Ian Barton's handbook that I had with me and wished I had brought more down to Christchurch. The weather turned nasty for the **field trip** with a bitter southerly and diagonal rainfall; the Pacifica people struggled with this, but it turned into a wonderful bonding experience.

We visited the Bexley Wetlands and **Red Zone** (Avon River Corridor) where 7000 homes were removed and the estuary environment was considerably changed by the 2010 – 2011 earthquakes. What will happen to the land? There are now plans to plant an 11-km 'Green spine' as a **nature corridor from the city to the sea**.

We then went to **Travis Wetland**, which is the last large freshwater wetland in Christchurch – an important habitat, which includes the Millennium Forest with plantings of kahikatea, totara and matai, plus trees and shrubs to provide food to attract native birds.

The next stop was **Radcliffe Road native reserve** – part of Styx Living Laboratory, which includes a **Rakau rongoa** (for traditional Māori healing). We planted about 200 trees in wet and windy conditions (which helped offset our carbon associated with travel to the forum). I was happy to be handed a young kahikatea to plant (I had earlier asked about kahikatea ecosystem restoration work).

The final stop was **Willow Bank Wildlife Reserve** (Zoo) where we spent time in the native wildlife section. I had a kaka land on my shoulder, nibble my ear and play with my coat toggles, much to everyone's delight; and then a surreal interaction with a long-finned tuna (native eel).

Overall, I made valuable connections and have subsequently had contact with eight OESF participants, including five OESF committee members, and three people have sent useful information to help with our NTVs work. One of the biggest things I gained from the OESF was confidence. I found that there were other quantitative biophysical scientists struggling in dealing with non-quantitative, subjective data.

On the last presentations given at the forum was an excellent talk on the development of a scoring system for ecosystem services based on stakeholder feedback – I have since had useful correspondence with the presenter and will look to utilise similar methodology.

OESF co-ordinator **Suzie Greenhalgh**, Manaaki Whenua, stated that **ES data will always be incomplete or include proxy data, but we must have the courage to publish, regardless (with caveats)**.

I was able to spend time with Suzie, whose work I much admire, and have subsequently had encouraging correspondence with Suzie.

It seemed that the **scientists** were anxious about obtaining **good quantitative data**, whereas many of the economists seemed happy to extrapolate data, make broad assumptions and use proxies. This made me even more grateful that we have the sound expertise of Gerard Horgan, a forestry economist who also has a scientific background and considerable wisdom around data.

OESF co-ordinator **Sandra Velarde**, Scion, summed up some salient OESF messages, which included: from the **scientists** – **“show me the data”**, the conundrum of linking environmental measures of natural capital in a meaningful way to human well-being; and the importance of indigenous voices.

- by Jacqui Aimers

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Have you paid your subscription for the 2018-2019 year? Please contact Mel or Megan in the office, office@tanestrees.org.nz if you are unsure or wish to find out payment options.