

Proposed Waikato District Plan

Submission form



09 OCT 2018

Waikato District Council

ECM Project: DPRPh5-03

ECM #

Submission #

Customer # **15783**

Property # **2019.212**

" **30347**

" **2019213**

To submit electronically please go to: www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/pdp

Closing date for submissions: 5pm on Tuesday 9 October 2018

Submitter details: (please note that the (*) are required fields and must be completed)

First name*: Jean	Last name*: TREGIDGA
Organisation: -	
On behalf of: -	
Postal address*: 10 34A White Swan Road	
Suburb: MT Roskill	Town/City*: Auckland
Country: NZ	Postal code*: 1041
Daytime phone: 021 752638	Mobile: 021 752638
Email address*: jean@gin.co.nz	
Please tick your preferred method of contact*	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Postal	
Correspondence to*	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Submitter <input type="checkbox"/> Agent <input type="checkbox"/> Both	
Trade competition and adverse effects:*	
<input type="checkbox"/> I could <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I could not	
gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.	
Note:	
If you are a person who could gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission, your right to make a submission may be limited by clause 6(4) of Part I of Schedule I of the Resource Management Act 1991.	
Would you like to present your submission in person at a hearing?	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	
<input type="checkbox"/> I do NOT wish to speak in support of my submission and ask that this submission be fully considered.	
If others make a similar submission I will consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing (do not tick if you would not consider a joint case).	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Please complete the following for every submission point:

Provision number (e.g. 22.4.1.2 P2(a)): 3.1 -

Physical address of the property concerned (if relevant to your submission):

0 Lyons Rd Mangatawhiri dot 3 DP 62084
✓ 5 DP 62084
✓ 4 DP 62084.

Do you:

☐ Support ☒ Oppose ☐ Neutral

The decision I would like is:

Delete objective 3-1-1 and Policy 3-1-2
and all associated rules relating to
indigenous vegetation and habitats

My reasons for the above are:

This section of the plan is unreasonable
and unnecessary as the majority of landowners
today take a responsible approach to management
of indigenous vegetation on their properties

Please return this form no later than 5pm on 9 October 2018 to:

Waikato District Council, 15 Galileo Street, Private Bag 544, Ngaruawahia 3742, or e-mail: districtplan@waikato.govt.nz

Signed: 

Date: 02-10-2018

(A signature is not required if you make your submission by electronic means)

PRIVACY ACT NOTE: Please note that all information provided in your submission will be used to progress the process for this proposed district plan, and may be made publicly available.

Proposed Waikato District Plan
Submission form

RMA Form 5

ECM Project: DPRPh5-03
ECM #
Submission #
Customer #
Property # 2019212

To submit electronically please go to: www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/pdp

Closing date for submissions: 5pm on Tuesday 9 October 2018

Submitter details: (please note that the (*) are required fields and must be completed)

First name*: <u>Jean</u>	Last name*: <u>TREGIDGA</u>
Organisation: <u>-</u>	
On behalf of: <u>-</u>	
Postal address*: <u>10 34A White Swan Rd</u>	
Suburb: <u>mt Roskill</u>	Town/City*: <u></u>
Country: <u>NZ</u>	Postal code*: <u></u>
Daytime phone: <u>021 752 638</u>	Mobile: <u>021 752 638</u>
Email address*: <u>jean@gin.co.nz</u>	
Please tick your preferred method of contact*	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Postal	
Correspondence to*	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Submitter <input type="checkbox"/> Agent <input type="checkbox"/> Both	
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If others make a similar submission I will consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing (do not tick if you would not consider a joint case).	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Please complete the following for every submission point:

Provision number (e.g. 22.4.1.2 P2(a)): 22.2.7 P1(a)

Physical address of the property concerned (if relevant to your submission):

0 Lyons Rd Mangataniwha - Lot 3 DP 62084

Do you:

☐ Support

☒ Oppose

☐ Neutral

The decision I would like is:

amend rule 22.2.7 P1(A) by adding new paragraph (a) vi to read gathering and repotting plants for indigenous nursery.

My reasons for the above are:

a nursery for indigenous trees, shrubs, ferns etc is an appropriate use of land with an SWEPT, CAL as it will contribute to obtaining the objective of 3-1-1 maintaining and enhancing indigenous biodiversity values & supply local communities with plants from the local area.

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Waikato District Council, 15 Galileo Street, Private Bag 544, Ngaruawahia 3742, or e-mail: districtplan@waikato.govt.nz

Signed:

Date:01-10-18.....

(A signature is not required if you make your submission by electronic means)

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Proposed Waikato District Plan
Submission form

RMA Form 5

ECM Project: DPRPh5-03
ECM #
Submission #
Customer #
Property # 2019212
" 2019213
" 30347

To submit electronically please go to: www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/pdp

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First name*: <u>Jean</u>	Last name*: <u>TREGIDGA</u>
Organisation: <u>-</u>	
On behalf of: <u>-</u>	
Postal address*: <u>cto 34A White Swan Rd</u>	
Suburb: <u>mt Roskill</u>	Town/City*: <u>Auckland</u>
Country: <u>NZ</u>	Postal code*: <u>1041</u>
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Trade competition and adverse effects:* <input type="checkbox"/> I could <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.	
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If others make a similar submission I will consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing (do not tick if you would not consider a joint case). <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Please complete the following for every submission point:

Provision number (e.g. 22.4.1.2 P2(a)):

22.2.7 / Policy 3.1.2.

Physical address of the property concerned (if relevant to your submission):

0 Lyons Rd Mangatawhiri. Lot 3. DP 62084

Do you:

☐ Support

☒ Oppose

☐ Neutral

The decision I would like is:

amend rule 22.2.7 to permit active management of indigenous vegetation including thinning and pruning, in order to maintain and enhance indigenous biodiversity

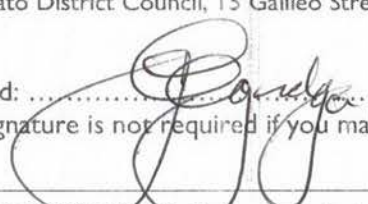
amend Policy 3.1.2 to include enabling active management of indigenous vegetation

My reasons for the above are:

Active Management of indigenous vegetation should be permitted as it provides opportunities to maintain and enhance indigenous biodiversity and attain objective 3.1.1 and implement policy

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Waikato District Council, 15 Galileo Street, Private Bag 544, Ngaruawahia 3742, or e-mail: districtplan@waikato.govt.nz

Signed: 

Date: 07-10-2018

(A signature is not required if you make your submission by electronic means)

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Organisation: <u>-</u>	
On behalf of: <u>-</u>	
Postal address*: <u>10 347 White Swan Rd</u>	
Suburb: <u>Mt Roskill</u>	Town/City*: <u>Auckland</u>
Country: <u>NZ</u>	Postal code*: <u>1041</u>
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<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Please complete the following for every submission point:

Provision number (e.g. 22.4.1.2 P2(a)):

Rule 22.2.3.4

Physical address of the property concerned (if relevant to your submission):

Do you:

☐

Support

☒

Oppose

☐

Neutral

The decision I would like is:

Amend rule 22.2.3.4 to permit earthworks for new tracks to be constructed within Outstanding Natural Features and Outstanding Natural Landscapes

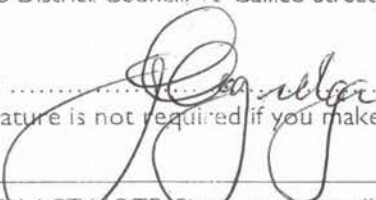
My reasons for the above are:

There is no provision for earthworks for new track construction. This is unreasonable as land such as mine at O Lyons Rd Mangatwhiri has no practical access at present to areas not subject to the SNA. This renders the land useless for all practicable purposes. This rule does not enable sustainable management of this as required by the RMA.

Please return this form no later than 5pm on 9 October 2018 to:

Waikato District Council, 15 Galileo Street, Private Bag 544, Ngaruawahia 3742, or e-mail: districtplan@waikato.govt.nz

Signed:



Date:

07.10.2018

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First name*: Jean	Last name*: TREGIDGA
Organisation: -	
On behalf of: -	
Postal address*: c/o 34A White Swan Rd	
Suburb: 114 Roskill	Town/City*: Auckland
Country: NZ	Postal code*: 1041
Daytime phone: 021 752638	Mobile: 021 752638
Email address*: jeandgin.co.nz	
Please tick your preferred method of contact*	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Postal	
Correspondence to*	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Submitter <input type="checkbox"/> Agent <input type="checkbox"/> Both	
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If others make a similar submission I will consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing (do not tick if you would not consider a joint case).	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Please complete the following for every submission point:

Provision number (e.g. 22.4.1.2 P2(a)):

Rule 22.2.3.3

Physical address of the property concerned (if relevant to your submission):

0 Lyons Rd Mangatawhiri Lots 3, 4 & 5 DP 62084

Do you:

☐

Support

☒

Oppose

☐

Neutral

The decision I would like is:

amend rule 22.2.3.3 to permit earthworks
for new tracks to be constructed within SNAs

My reasons for the above are:

There is no provision for earthworks for new track construction. This is unreasonable as land such as mine at 0 Lyons Rd has no practical access at present to areas that are not subject to SNA. This renders the land useless for all practical purposes. This rule does not enable sustainable management of the land as required by the RMA

Please return this form no later than 5pm on 9 October 2018 to:

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Signed:

Date: 07.10.2018

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Organisation: <u>=</u>	
On behalf of:	
Postal address*: <u>1034A White Swan Rd</u>	
Suburb: <u>Mt Roskill</u>	Town/City*: <u>Auckland</u>
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Please complete the following for every submission point:

Provision number (e.g. 22.4.1.2 P2(a)): 22.2.7. P1(a)

Physical address of the property concerned (if relevant to your submission):

Odyne Rd Mangatawhiri Lot 5 DP 62084

Do you:

☐ Support ☒ Oppose ☐ Neutral

The decision I would like is:

amend rule 22.2.7 P1(a) by adding new paragraph (vi) to read gathering and repotting plants for indigenous nursery.

My reasons for the above are:

A nursery for indigenous trees, shrubs ferns etc is an appropriate use of land within SNA ONE or ONE as it will contribute to obtaining the objective of 3.1.1 maintaining and enhancing indigenous biodiversity values. My proposed nursery, buildings etc that would be required would not be on this title and would be located on Lot 3 DP 62084.

Please return this form no later than 5pm on 9 October 2018 to:

Waikato District Council, 15 Galileo Street, Private Bag 544, Ngaruawahia 3742, or e-mail: districtplan@waikato.govt.nz

Signed: 

Date: 02.10.2018

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On behalf of: <u>-</u>	
Postal address*: <u>cto 34A White Swan Rd</u>	
Suburb: <u>mt Roskill</u>	Town/City*: <u>Auckland</u>
Country: <u>NZ</u>	Postal code*: <u>1011</u>
Daytime phone: <u>021 752638</u>	Mobile: <u>021 752638</u>
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<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Please complete the following for every submission point:

Provision number (e.g. 22.4.1.2 P2(a)):

22.2.7 P3(a)

Physical address of the property concerned (if relevant to your submission):

0 Lyons Rd Mangatawhiri Lot 3 DP62084.

Do you:

☐

Support

☒

Oppose

☐

Neutral

The decision I would like is:

Amend rule 22.2.7. P3. by changing $250m^2$
to read $8000m^2$

My reasons for the above are:

A nursery for propagation and potting of existing small native plants is an appropriate use of land within an SVA, ONF & ONL as it will contribute to attaining the objective of 3.1.1 of maintaining and enhancing indigenous biodiversity values. The restriction under P3 is unnecessary and unreasonably small to allow any practical building work. At least $8000m^2$ is needed.

Please return this form no later than 5pm on 9 October 2018 to:

Waikato District Council, 15 Galileo Street, Private Bag 544, Ngaruawahia 3742, or e-mail: districtplan@waikato.govt.nz

Signed:

Date: 08.10.2018

(A signature is not required if you make your submission by electronic means)

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Proposed Waikato District Plan
Submission form

RMA Form 5

ECM Project: DPRPh5-03
ECM #
Submission #
Customer #
Property # **2019212**

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First name*: Jean	Last name*: TREGIDGA
Organisation: -	
On behalf of: -	
Postal address*: cto 34A White Swan Rd	
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Country: NZ	Postal code*: 1041
Daytime phone: 021-752638	Mobile: 021-752638
Email address*: jean2gin.co.nz	
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

Please complete the following for every submission point:

Provision number (e.g. 22.4.1.2 P2(a)):

MAP. 3 (property ID 2019212)

Physical address of the property concerned (if relevant to your submission):

0 Lyons Rd Mangatawhiri - Lot 3 DP 62084.

Do you:

☐

Support

☒

Oppose

☐

Neutral

The decision I would like is:

Reduce the area of SNA, ~~ONLY~~ ONLY proposed on Lot 3 DP 62084 to areas of high quality indigenous vegetation.

My reasons for the above are:

The mapped area of SNA etc on this lot is excessive as it contains (includes) areas of exotic plantings as well as wilding pines. The council needs to revise the map to recognise this. The map needs to be adjusted to have access to Regal Road. The map is insignificant, NO actual area clearly defined or where it actually starts and finishes. More acreage needed for nursery (plant) and sustainable off the grid living and buildings, private fruit orchard etc.

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Signed:

Date: 01-10-2018

(A signature is not required if you make your submission by electronic means)

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ECM Project: DPRPh5-03
ECM #
Submission #
Customer #
Property # 303471
" 2091212
" 2091213

To submit electronically please go to: www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/pdp

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Organisation: <u>1 -</u>	
On behalf of: <u>-</u>	
Postal address*: <u>10 34A White Swan Rd</u>	
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Country: <u>NZ</u>	Postal code*: <u>1041</u>
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Please complete the following for every submission point:

Provision number (e.g. 22.4.1.2 P2(a)):

Policy 3.4.3

Physical address of the property concerned (if relevant to your submission):

0 Lyons Rd Mangatapuhi
lots 3, 4, and 5 DP 62084.

Do you:

☐

Support

☒

Oppose

☐

Neutral

The decision I would like is:

Amend policy 3.4.3 by inserting the words
(vi) recognising historic farming and forestry operations
that continue today.

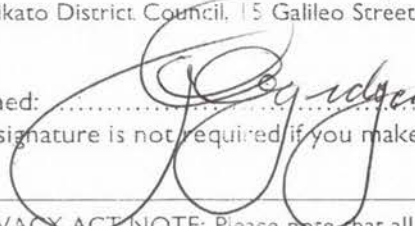
My reasons for the above are:

This submission is in case my submission to
delete this policy is not accepted. The amendment
adopts words from Policy 3.5.3 relating to the
Coastal Environment about historic land use, which are
equally appropriate to SNAs - ONFs and ONLs
which have been added to all my properties

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Signed:



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Submission form

RMA Form 5

ECM Project: DPRPh5-03

ECM #

Submission #

Customer #

Property # 303471

To submit electronically please go to: www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/pdp

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On behalf of: -	
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Postal	
Correspondence to*	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Submitter <input type="checkbox"/> Agent <input type="checkbox"/> Both	
Trade competition and adverse effects:*	
<input type="checkbox"/> I could <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I could not	
gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.	
Note:	
If you are a person who could gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission, your right to make a submission may be limited by clause 6(4) of Part I of Schedule I of the Resource Management Act 1991.	
Would you like to present your submission in person at a hearing?	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	
<input type="checkbox"/> I do NOT wish to speak in support of my submission and ask that this submission be fully considered.	
If others make a similar submission I will consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing (do not tick if you would not consider a joint case).	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Please complete the following for every submission point:

Provision number (e.g. 22.4.1.2 P2(a)):

22.2.7 P1(a)

Physical address of the property concerned (if relevant to your submission):

0 Lyons Rd Mangataniwhi Lot 4 DP 62084.

Do you:

☐

Support

☒

Oppose

☐

Neutral

The decision I would like is:

amend rule 22.2.7 P1(a) by adding new paragraph (vi) to read gathering and reporting plants for indigenous nursery.

My reasons for the above are:

A nursery for indigenous trees, shrubs, ferns etc is an appropriate use of land within SNA ONE or ONE as it will contribute to obtaining the objective of 3-1-1 maintaining and enhancing indigenous biodiversity values.

My proposed nursery, buildings etc that would be required would not be on this title and would be located on Lot 3 DP 62084.

Please return this form no later than 5pm on 9 October 2018 to:

Waikato District Council, 15 Galileo Street, Private Bag 544, Ngaruawahia 3742, or e-mail: districtplan@waikato.govt.nz

Signed: 

Date: 01/10/2018

(A signature is not required if you make your submission by electronic means)

PRIVACY ACT NOTE: Please note that all information provided in your submission will be used to progress the process for this proposed district plan, and may be made publicly available.

Proposed Waikato District Plan

Submission form

RMA Form 5

ECM Project: DPRPh5-03

ECM #

Submission #

Customer #

Property # .20.91.212

To submit electronically please go to: www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/pdp

Closing date for submissions: 5pm on Tuesday 9 October 2018

Submitter details: (please note that the (*) are required fields and must be completed)

First name*: <u>Jean</u>	Last name*: <u>TREGIDGA</u>
Organisation: <u>-</u>	
On behalf of: <u>-</u>	
Postal address*: <u>10 34A White Swan Rd</u>	
Suburb: <u>mt Roskill</u>	Town/City*: <u>Auckland</u>
Country: <u>NZ</u>	Postal code*: <u>1041</u>
Daytime phone: <u>021 752 638</u>	Mobile: <u>021 752 638</u>
Email address*: <u>jean2gin.co.nz</u>	
Please tick your preferred method of contact*	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Postal	
Correspondence to*	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Submitter <input type="checkbox"/> Agent <input type="checkbox"/> Both	
Trade competition and adverse effects:*	
<input type="checkbox"/> I could <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I could not	
gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.	
Note:	
If you are a person who could gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission, your right to make a submission may be limited by clause 6(4) of Part I of Schedule I of the Resource Management Act 1991.	
Would you like to present your submission in person at a hearing?	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	
<input type="checkbox"/> I do NOT wish to speak in support of my submission and ask that this submission be fully considered.	
If others make a similar submission I will consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing (do not tick if you would not consider a joint case).	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Please complete the following for every submission point:

Provision number (e.g. 22.4.1.2 P2(a)): 22.3.3

Physical address of the property concerned (if relevant to your submission):

0 Lyons Rd Mangatawhiri - Lot 3 DP 62084.

Do you:

☐ Support ☒ Oppose ☐ Neutral

The decision I would like is:

Amend Rule 22.3.3 to permit dwellings and
accessory buildings within natural features and outstanding
natural landscapes.
↑

My reasons for the above are:

The requirement for every building to have resource
consent is unreasonable as it will add significant
cost to me in developing my land for my own use.

Please return this form no later than 5pm on 9 October 2018 to:

Waikato District Council, 15 Galileo Street, Private Bag 544, Ngauruawahia 3742, or e-mail: districtplan@waikato.govt.nz

Signed: 

Date: 02-10-2018

(A signature is not required if you make your submission by electronic means)

PRIVACY ACT NOTE: Please note that all information provided in your submission will be used to progress the process for this proposed district plan, and may be made publicly available.

Proposed Waikato District Plan

Submission form **RECEIVED**

09 OCT 2018

RMA Form 5

Waikato District Council

To submit electronically please go to: www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/pdp

ECM Project: DPRPh5-03

ECM #

Submission #

Customer #

Property # ... 2019212
" 0019213
303471

Closing date for submissions: 5pm on Tuesday 9 October 2018

Submitter details: (please note that the (*) are required fields and must be completed)

First name*: <u>Jean</u>	Last name*: <u>TREGIDGA</u>
Organisation: <u>-</u>	
On behalf of: <u>-</u>	
Postal address*: <u>10 3AA White Swan Rd</u>	
Suburb: <u>mt Roskill</u>	Town/City*: <u>Auckland</u>
Country: <u>NZ</u>	Postal code*: <u>1041</u>
Daytime phone: <u>021 752638</u>	Mobile: <u>021 752638</u>
Email address*: <u>jean@gin.co.nz</u>	
Please tick your preferred method of contact*	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Postal	
Correspondence to*	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Submitter <input type="checkbox"/> Agent <input type="checkbox"/> Both	
Trade competition and adverse effects:*	
<input type="checkbox"/> I could <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.	
Note:	
If you are a person who could gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission, your right to make a submission may be limited by clause 6(4) of Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991.	
Would you like to present your submission in person at a hearing?	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	
<input type="checkbox"/> I do NOT wish to speak in support of my submission and ask that this submission be fully considered.	
If others make a similar submission I will consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing (do not tick if you would not consider a joint case).	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Please note: projector / white board would be required for hearing, thank you.

PRIVACY ACT NOTE: Please note that all information provided in your submission will be used to progress the process for this proposed district plan, and may be made publicly available.

Proposed District Plan: Waikato District Council.

Feedback due 09-10-2018

To whom it may concern.

Attached please find other submission forms (which I hope will not be required after you have given serious consideration to this request for not including my properties under Outstand Natural Features, Outstanding Natural Landscapes and Significant Natural Area)

Property numbers: 2019212, 2019213 and 303471. 0 Lyons Road Mangatawhiri.

I understand that when the hearings are heard that there is limited time to produce all evidence, therefore I have enclosed various articles relating to my submissions.

1. The Waipoua Argument: Letters to the NZ Herald, Rudolf Hohneck aka Ron Hohneck.
2. Tane's Tree Trust, Newsletter No.2 November 2002. Guest Editorial, by Lindsay Poole.
3. Paper presented to. The Seventh Conference of the Australian Forest History Society Christchurch, 29 Jan – 2 Feb 2007. The Legacy of Rudolf Hohneck "A Lover of Trees: A Forester Unique" by Ian Barton.
4. A small page from another article by Ian Barton.
5. A few small poems written by my late mother Ina Trump aka Ina Johnson, nee Hohneck.
6. Obituary: MR R. Hohneck
My father and grandmother were both forest rangers in the Waitakere and Hunua Ranges, so you can see our family's connection and love of our Indigenous Forests goes back many years and still continues today.

These properties are my only assets and I am being heavily penalised both monetary and mentally. My only income is the NZ Super Fund; I do not even own a house to live in and am not entitled to other help as these are

2/

considered "other assets". I am forced to come and go between friends and go
bush to do minimal maintenance on my properties.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jean Tregidga', with a large, stylized initial 'J'.

Jean Tregidga

Email: jean@gin.co.nz

Ph 021 752638

C/O 34a White Swan Road

Mt Roskill

Auckland 1041

Refer attachments.

3/

I am not against all SNA'S etc as most are small and on working pasture farms.

My properties are unique; they were set up in the 1920's as a sustainable source of native timber. Native trees do not have a short growing period: 70-100 years minimum before any milling can take place. There has been no felling of native timber since the 1960's.

The decision I would like is;

That "Outstanding Natural Features Added" "Outstanding Natural Landscapes Added" and "Significant Natural Area Added" be removed from all of these titles.

My reasons for the above are;

These properties were purchased by my late grandfather in the 1920's and the blocks 2019212 and 303471 were mainly covered in tea tree. The block 2019213 was cutover indigenous forest. He climbed trees for seed and scattered them amongst the tea tree. In those days there were no plantation forests as we now know them. Your proposed plan does not recognise any forestry other than afforestation and forestry. He was a dedicated forester and was the first person in NZ to actively manage his native bush and was also the first person to be recognised as a forest farmer by the IRD. Other blocks of land owned by neighbours were cleared for pasture and have had valuable monetary returns. My family and I have had no monetary returns for over 50 years. We have had to pay for rates, insurance, pest control and other expenses for maintenance etc.

INDIGENOUS FORESTRY on PRIVATE LAND.

Felling of native species on privately owned land are covered by numerous Acts of Parliament and strictly controlled by MPI. I have not previously applied for any of the four ways of managing my properties. I understand SFM PLANS AND PERMITS, PERSONAL USE and OTHER MILLING STATEMENTS are available.

OTHER MILLING STATEMENTS can be issued for milling indigenous timber such as windblown trees, naturally dead trees and trees removed for the CONSTRUCTION OR MAINTENANCE of an accessway from areas not subject to a registered Plan or Permit. The proposed plan does not cover this.



GUEST EDITORIAL

REFLECTIONS OF A FOREST GIANT

Lindsay Poole C.B.E. can quite rightly be referred to as "the grand old man" of New Zealand forestry. What's more, at the age of 94 his opinions are still as accurate and trenchant as ever. Born in 1908 on the East Coast of the North Island Lindsay obtained his forestry degree from the now defunct Auckland University School of Forestry. With the depression looming he spent the next 6 years as a "labourer" in the Forest Service which included having to manage a nursery in Kaingaroa and shooting deer in the Ureweras. Joining the Botany Division of DSIR in 1937 it was only a few years before he found himself overseas with the 15th Forestry Company. For most of the next 6 years he was Scientific Liaison Officer with the DSIR in London doing work relating to forestry and agriculture in Britain and Germany. Returning in 1946 he attended Victoria University where began his lifelong study of beech. By 1949 he was Director of the Botany Division of DSIR, moving back to the Forest Service as Assistant Director in 1951. From 1961 to 1971 he was Director General of the Forest Service and upon retirement, Chairman of the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Council until his second retirement in 1978. Since then golf, gardening and writing have kept him occupied.

I write these notes with a pen, the body of which, is fashioned out of kauri wood. And I have just read "Sustainable management of New Zealand's indigenous forests: the sorry record of government mismanagement", by Ian Barton in the Proceedings of the Launch of Tane's Tree Trust –held at Waharau Regional Park on 8 September 2001.

In another paper in the Proceedings, Maggie Lawton spelt out clearly the "Vision and Objectives" of the Trust. Many important matters are dealt with. In my experience two stand out clearly. First, education of the wider community so that the place of indigenous forestry is better understood and, secondly, the pressing need to resolve the legal and political obstacles serving as disincentive to the planting of indigenous trees.

While attending the Probus Rendezvous 2002 in Auckland, Ian Barton took my wife and I to see kauri investigation work he is involved with in the Hunua Ranges, South Auckland. The day was of very great interest to me because of the investigations being carried out and because it was in this area 70 years ago, while studying for the forestry degree at Auckland University, we used to visit a kauri forest area owned by Rudolf Hohnack. He was busy converting cutover forest, still containing much kauri regeneration, occasional very old kauri trees, tanekaha and other species that could be used, into a sustainable forest. So here was the beginning of actual sustainable kauri management.

With this example and extensive cut-over areas of kauri forest throughout the north of the North Island it was inevitable that the newly formed Forest Service became engaged in the investigations that would lead to sustainable yield kauri management. Specialist officers were appointed to investigate the whole potential. Kauri tree seedlings were raised in quantity and cut-over forest was experimented with, in places on a large scale.

Then came the obliteration of the Forest Service, in the 1980's and 90's, and with it kauri investigations by the government ceased. Potential sustainable-yielding kauri forest can now only be seen in untouchable reserves. In fact the Government that sold the State Plantation cutting rights (Sale of the Century), specifically omitting management practices, completely undermined the matter of sustainable yields.

This has been a great long term loss to New Zealand as a whole. Unfortunately it has been repeated in the wonderful glacial-terrace uneven aged rimu forests of the West Coast. Several times schemes were submitted to Governments for the sustained yield, permanent management of these forests but there has never been permanent acceptance of them. The remains of what could have been continuing, sustainable wealth to the West Coast, and a continuing attraction to travellers are now bogs.

The same political manipulation of casting aside the potential for sustainable yield in Southern Beech (*Nothofagus*) forests is underway. The remaining beech forests are extensive-mainly in the South Island- and they are being little cut because the 'hardwood' they yield is not in demand like the 'softwood' yielded by conifers. However in time their wood will be sought in quantity, partly for power as populations expand and put increasing pressure on power sources.

Southern beeches, with three to four years between flowering –followed by tremendous seeding, are easy forests to manage for sustained yields but, as with kauri and rimu, they get nowhere with stop-go planning. What we must not have, under any circumstances, is clearfelling without regeneration and sustainability of production –and some governments could plan this given an urgent need for wood supplies. And this world-wide demand will come sooner or later.

New Zealand urgently needs the spread and basic thrust of the concepts of Tane's Tree Trust.

Lindsay Poole

BOOKS BY LINDSAY POOLE

Tomorrows Trees

L Poole & J Johns Caxton Press. 1992. *An illustrated history of New Zealand forestry*

Trees, Timber & Tranquility

L Poole. Monigatti Publishing. 1998 *An autobiography with comments on forestry*

3/

Paper presented to the Seventh Conference of the Australian Forest History Society; Christchurch, 29 Jan to 2 Feb. 2007

THE LEGACY OF RUDOLF HOHNECK "A LOVER OF TREES: A FORESTER UNIQUE" ¹

Abstract:

Born in California, Rudolph Hohneck came to New Zealand as a five year old in 1899. His early working life was spent gum-digging and climbing for kauri gum but he soon became involved in timber milling. In 1926 he began purchasing areas of cutover forest on the southern edge of the Hunua Ranges and over the next 30 years developed this into a productive forest.

Using Sir David Hutchins 1919 report – "New Zealand Forestry; Part 1: Kauri forests and forests of the North" as his guide he developed a selection system of managing the regenerating forest. His methods were much further ahead than New Zealand practice at the time where, contrary to the advice of professionals like Hutchins, the indigenous forests were largely ignored in favour of developing exotic monocultures.

In the late 1940's he took part in the debate on the future of the Waipoua kauri forest and his methods of management were outlined in a series of some 20 letters published by Auckland newspapers.

Rudolph Hohneck was the first forest land owner to see the real potential of New Zealand's indigenous forests and, although lacking any formal forestry education, he developed a management system which today falls squarely under the umbrella of Continuous Cover forestry. His legacy is only now coming to be recognized.

One of New Zealand forestry's least known but most colourful forestry characters was Rudolf Hohneck. But he was more than this, for he was the first person in this country to practice what we now call Continuous Cover Forestry. He was not a trained forester, but self taught, as in his earlier years he observed the forest while digging and later climbing for the valuable kauri gum and operating small sawmills. To aid him in his endeavours to make a living from the piece of cutover kauri forest that he later acquired, he had but one book; David Hutchin's "New Zealand Forestry. Part 1" ². This he was wont to refer to as his bible.

Rudolf's origins were German. His paternal grandfather was a portrait painter in the city of Dresden and his father Ernest, reputedly joined the German navy, later deserting and migrating to San Francisco where he settled down for a time and married Minnie, a local German girl. It was here that Rudolf, their third child, was born in 1894. Soon after this wanderlust struck again and Ernest left his young family and returned to sea. Minnie, eventually discovering that he was in New Zealand, came here with the children in 1899, after which two more children were born. The family first settled in Whangamomona in inland Taranaki, later moving to Hunterville. About 1905 and after the death of Minnie, Ernest moved his family

to Northland where he farmed on various properties just north of Whangarei.³ In common with his brothers and sisters Rudolf probably received only 2 or 3 years education but obviously made good use of this as he wrote fluently and had good faculty for numerical work.

Beginning work as a gum digger in the Kamo area about 1914, Rudolf, with his older brother Adolph had graduated to gum climbing within a few years. They would work in areas soon to be logged, climbing the trees and removing the gum from branch crutches in the crowns of trees. In areas where the kauri were very dense it was usual for them not to return to ground after removing the gum from one tree, but to use their climbing gear to swing over into the next tree. Rudolf ceased climbing in the early 1920's and turned his attention to logging and sawmilling. In 1923 he became a naturalized New Zealander and in 1926 bought a block of cutover kauri forest at Mangatawhiri in the southern Hunua Ranges, south-east of Auckland.⁴ Adding to this by buying adjacent blocks he had acquired 359 hectares by 1945. Over the years, but more particularly from the mid 1940's, Rudolf managed his forest by applying the principles he learnt from reading Hutchins while at the same time developing his own approach. (Figure 1)

Comment [I1]: Photo RH

Until the end of the Second World War he appears to have extracted and sawn timber from his own forest as well as logging and sawing timber for others in the district. However, as time went on he did less outside work and began to concentrate more on his own property. He was not only trying to implement a new concept in forest management but was also working in isolation, outside of the forestry circles of the day, and so would have lived and died a relative unknown had it not been for the Waipoua controversy.

By the end of the First World War Waipoua forest, in the far north, contained one of the few large remaining blocks of mature kauri left in the country. This was due in part to its relative isolation and the fact that it grew in an area of high rainfall which made it less vulnerable to the fires of gum-diggers. In 1920 a student at Auckland University, William McGregor, obtained a contract with the fledgling State Forest Service to investigate the ecology of northern forests and their potential for management to produce kauri timber on a sustainable basis. He did seasonal work for several years in the forest and produced a few interim reports but not a final one because he fell out with the Forest Service when they wanted to reduce the period and value of his contract. What McGregor did do however was to form the opinion that Waipoua should not be milled but, because it was the last forest of its kind on earth, be retained as a National Park. W.R. (Barney) McGregor, who in 1933 became head of the Zoology Department at Auckland University, was from the mid 1940's the most prominent of those fighting to retain Waipoua Forest in its natural state.⁵

Because many people in influential positions, were also of a similar opinion, Waipoua gradually became the focus of New Zealand's first major environmental debate. This had initially begun 20 years earlier when the Government of the

day, led by the Prime Minister Gordon Coates on the northern boundary of whose constituency Waipoua lay, decided to put a road through the forest to give access to the farming lands between the forest and the Hokianga Harbour. Between 1924 and 1928 the debate went on but eventually the road was built right through the forest. There is no evidence to suggest that Rudolf took part in these earlier discussions but he certainly would have been aware of them. Waipoua then became a quiet backwater once more until the Second World War, when timber began to be removed for essential war purposes. There was but muted opposition to this but when the war ended and the removal of timber, mainly dead and dying trees continued the dispute over the future of the forest began in earnest.

By 1944 Rudolf had been observing kauri forests for 30 years and managing his own forest to produce timber for almost 20 years. He had already learnt a great deal and the debate on Waipoua, which began in the latter part of 1944, stirred his enthusiasm to write to the newspapers in defence of the Forest Service and to put forward his own experience and ideas as a counter to the largely emotional but well meaning outpouring of letters, articles and editorials which appeared in the daily press between 1944 and 1952.

The main debate occurred between 1944 and 1948 when letters which relate to the Waipoua controversy appeared in the New Zealand newspapers. Those seen so far total 135 and there are known to be many more. In addition there were at least 50 editorials and 240 articles on the subject. So far material has been found in 27 newspapers and periodicals from Northland to Otago. Of the letters seen 67% opposed management of the forest for timber production, 25% supported and 8% were neutral. Rudolf Hohneck, writing 20 of the supporting letters was the most active pro management supporter.⁶

Rudolf had a few supporters in the great letter writing debate. One of these was H N Kitchingman of Erua and later New Plymouth. Like Rudolf he was self taught in forest botany and ecology and wrote cogently about the issue. In 1944 he commended Rudolf stating that he was "...to be highly commended on the lucid manner in which he has dealt with the subject of forest regeneration."⁷ However those opposed to management of the forest usually had a different perspective. "Old Bushman", who claimed to have studied New Zealand bush for nearly 70 years and also destroyed his share of it, criticized Rudolf's advocacy of thinning as a means of encouraging regeneration and asked the question, "What thinning was done to the splendid forests that flourished for untold centuries in New Zealand and which we destroyed in 100 years?"⁸

These two approaches, evident very early in the debate, epitomised the whole issue. In their own ways both sides of the argument were correct; it is possible to manage New Zealand's natural forests but they will then not be the same as the forest which is left to grow with no intervention by man. Those advocating the retention of Waipoua as a primeval forest early recognized this as their strong

point and their arguments consistently followed the approach that Waipoua was the last of the mature kauri forests and must be protected in its entirety. The Forest Service and their supporters did not see a place for such forests, continuing to insist that they could manage the mature kauri forests and even going so far as to state that there was no value in them being locked up as "tree cemeteries".⁹ McGregor, continually attacking this approach, was more effective in rallying public support. He did not waver from this tactic and never seemed to debate the issues with those who were writing letters and editorials, preferring to preach his message from the high moral ground.

An important feature largely absent from the debate was a lucid discussion on the ecology of the forest, although it was touched upon indirectly by Professor Chapman and one of his staff in the Botany Department of Auckland University, Dr L Milliner.¹⁰ This is somewhat surprising since the concept of ecology had been around since the late 1880's and the study of ecosystems had begun with Tansley¹¹ in 1935. As well Leonard Cockayne had touched on the subject as early as 1910 in his book "New Zealand Plants and their Story".¹² What was quite obvious was that Rudolf, although he wrote about ecological matters, was for the most part ignorant of the ecological processes taking place in the forest and was very Victorian in his thinking; taking the approach that man must organize nature. In one of his early letters he wrote:

*The idle bush is an unorganized society of living plants and living creatures, Creatures like deer and grubs are forest enemies. Man is the necessary policeman. Among the living plants courts of justice are needed. Man is the necessary judge. The king kauri is often a cruel tyrant. With rotten heart and seedless head he will cling to office for a thousand years and crush back the forest children. The headman's axe is needed there. Many plants and trees work like busy bees and their work is good to see. Many are drones and should be cast without.*¹³

His opinion, that there was no value in unmanaged forest, was strongly challenged by many who wrote letters in support of Waipoua being left in its virgin state, asking the obvious question, "How then has Waipoua maintained itself for thousands of years".¹⁴

Despite his lack of ecological knowledge Rudolf had, during many years working in the forest, absorbed the lessons of the forest; he came to understand how the regenerative process worked and this became the key to his success. However to him regeneration had two meanings, the dominant and earlier of which was the physical application of silvicultural techniques to restore a forest from a degraded condition. Only later did he come to realize that regeneration is an ecological process involving aspects such as natural disturbance of the canopy and forest floor which increases light, so allowing seed to germinate and seedlings to grow.

Rudolf's early view of the northern forests was that outlined in the quotation above. This view did not just apply to the cutover forest he was managing at Mangatawhiri but also to forests like Waipoua, which was not just a mature to over-mature forest of dense kauri but also contained large areas of other forest types and scrubland; in his opinion less than 5% of the forest was stocked with kauri, much of which was hollow and badly crowded. What he never appeared to realize however was that there are important differences between the ecology and regenerative processes of the mature kauri forest in parts of Waipoua and young forests regenerating through a tea tree nurse or a newly cutover forest similar to much of his own. This meant that the arguments he applied to the Waipoua debate were those he was learning at Mangatawhiri and, as we now know, may not have been applicable at Waipoua. And the seeming lack of knowledge of kauri forest ecology at the time meant that none of the university trained people contributing to the debate –Chapman, Milliner, McGregor etc- never appear to have commented on this issue.¹⁵

In his letters Rudolf explained the regenerative processes he was applying at Mangatawhiri. He had observed very early on that nature tends to work in patches; areas of productive timber trees being scattered amongst those with little or no value. To extend these areas of productive forest he began to remove rotten and unproductive trees and felled some of the larger trees for timber as well as thinning out smaller trees to give those remaining more space. Trees identified as good seed producers were left. The overall aim was to get sunlight to the tops of the smaller trees and seedlings and to give these space to develop. (Figures 2, 3 & 4) Wherever possible he broke up the soil and mixed soil and litter to provide a good seed bed, attempting always to encourage the establishment of seedlings on non-productive areas. Where seedlings became too dense he would dig up and replant some in places where there were none. Once seedlings were well established in an area, the seed trees could be removed for timber. He also recognized the importance of nurse plants in the regeneration process stating that, *"Our best fellow worker in the bush is pretty little tea tree, gentle nursemaid to seedling kings."* In essence his philosophy was that disturbance, thinning and the removal of large trees benefits the forest; for the remaining trees grow faster and regeneration is more abundant.¹⁶

Comment [12]: Photos of bush in 1986 and Herald photo 1946

It is not known whether Rudolf ever kept written records relating to tree growth and if he did these have not been located. He did however know that mature untended kauri forests have no annual increment, that growth of larger trees is very slow and that small kauris in the shade were little better than broom-sticks after 100 years. Management however improves growth rate with all trees growing faster as do the smaller shrubs, ferns and mosses. He worked on the basis that every hectare of forest should carry several thousand seedlings but by the time these had reached the size of large poles there would be space for only 500, and as trees of 75 cm diameter only 250. When saplings were given full access to light and space he found height growth to be some 60 to 90 cm annually with diameter increments about 6.3 mm. Larger poles had diameter

increments of over one cm.¹⁷ These growth rates are quite possible but to achieve them he would have thinned quite heavily in the early stages.

In one of his earlier letters he advocated managing forests on the strip system but there is no clear evidence that he actually did this and it is possible that he was simply repeating something he had read in a forestry text. (Note that although Hutchins mentions strip felling he does not go into the detail given by Rudolf.) However the text of the letter is worth reproducing because of the clarity with which he outlined the system.

For a ten year programme any patch of bush is divided into 10 strips, each one a chain wide. Strip No. 2 is attended to in the first year. Trees dead, hollow or over crowded are carefully removed. The timber and wood salvaged pays improvement costs. Sufficient young trees are left correctly spaced. The wild bush on either side casts seed on a good bed. That season may see this strip nearly stocked with young and seedling trees. To fill empty spaces crowded seedlings are dug out and reset. Thus we affect a wonderful and costless change. Gone are the deer that ravaged the bush unseen. Gone are the rotten wood homes of the grubs that kill, on autumn days, the green beech trees, so weakened with their crop of flower and seed.

Strip No.4 is put in order the second year. In five years five alternate strips show five thriving stages. In nine years only one neglected strip is left, calling plainly for the helpful artistic hand of man. The grubs still linger there and the annual growth equals the annual decay. The inspiring contrast are the other nine strips, all a dense forest of perfect young trees of ever increasing value. The pattern given above can be widely varied if desired.¹⁸

It is likely that Rudolf did use the above process but modified it to an irregular patch system in order to fit with the very broken terrain of his forest. Combined with this was his concept of contour roading. Early on he realized that to successfully work his forest great care needed to be taken with access tracks and initially his tracks were built along the main ridges and spurs. However this could not give access to all of the forest so he began to contour track the forest from about 1945. The objective was to build terraced tracks along the contour about 50 metres apart which, as well as giving access to the forest, reduced erosion by controlling down slope runoff and provided firebreaks for times of drought. (Figure 5) Thus by combining both natural features and his contour tracks, he was able to effectively divide the forest into workable areas.¹⁹

Comment [A3]: Fig 5 is air photo of 1961 which shows the contours tracks clearly

What then did Rudolf harvest from his forest which enabled him to employ at least one man most of the time and make a living? During the early years, most of which encompassed the depression, it is suspected that this would have been difficult and it seems that during this time he was based on the coast of the Firth of Thames, several miles north of Kaiaua.²⁰ Here he had a sawmill and seems to have been extracting timber from the bush adjacent to this mill. It is probable that

while he operated this mill he also spent some time at Mangatawhiri working on improving the forest as outlined above. At some stage, probably about 1944, he moved the mill nearer to his property to a site on the Mangatangi Road ²¹ and began to live permanently at "Kauri Gardens", as he came to call his forest. When wartime demands began to increase the value of his products, he probably worked there fulltime; but just what did he produce? According to published letters and reports and the recollections of relatives and colleagues, he sold anything that would provide a return; garden stakes, handles, turnery timber, mouldings, firewood, pit props and fencing material as well as sawn timber and saw logs.²²

As the needs of the military increased he found a ready market for firewood from both mill slabs and tea tree at the nearby Military camps, especially Papakura. In earlier years good kauri timber appears to have been sold as logs to Henderson and Pollards mill in Auckland but after 1951, when Seacraft Ltd established a small mill on their property at Mangatawhiri, most of his timber seems to have been milled there; his own small mill having ceased operation some time before. (Figure 6) Most of the good kauri that he cut went to boat building and furniture manufacture while totara, generally cut from small trees about 70 cm diameter, was sold to a Papakura joinery factory.²³

Comment [14]: Photo of mill

He also had a very accurate idea of the productivity of his forest and how much it was worth. In one of his letters he estimated that the current value of unmanaged and poorly stocked forest was £1.0.0 per acre but that it could be increased over time to the point where it became worth 50 times that amount. A forest in full production he estimated to be capable of returning an annual income of £10 per acre in perpetuity. If we assume the annual increment of this forest to be 12m³ / hectare (an increment easily achieved) when adjusted to 2006 values it becomes \$1664 per hectare or \$139 per m³. This is probably lower than the present day value of kauri timber from trees up to about 70 cm diameter but the present scarcity value of the wood has pushed prices higher.²⁴

POSTSCRIPT

Rudolf Hohneck was a man ahead of his time, at least as far as New Zealand is concerned, and because of this was sometimes seen by those of his time as an eccentric. In a history of the Buckingham family, who still farm in the Mangatawhiri valley below Kauri Gardens, we read;

I must mention ... [people] ...we considered characters in my younger time. One was an old chap by the name of Hoehnek (sic). He was a German by birth and he was a kauri farmer...he owned a thousand acres of kauri bush up the top of the valley. He really was a character...whether he was before his time or after his time I do not know. But he loved his bush, his kauri, and there was some beautiful kauri up on those hills... He was very friendly with our family both before the war and after... he used to come down because he loved a good meal now and then. He used to go through when you

*couldn't get across the creek... there was no bridge across the river then. He was quite clever, he was well read and he loved his trees but he's really perhaps only a character, but we considered him very eccentric... He was a little weird, but a kind, friendly, nice man who lived alone hidden in the bush, particularly during World War 2.*²⁵

Others, who perhaps had a greater appreciation of what Rudolf was doing, saw him somewhat differently. Lindsay Poole, later to become Director General of the NZ Forest Service, visited the operation as a student in the late 1920's and was impressed with Rudolf's ability to make effective use of very small logs, cutting kauri thinnings down to a 6 inch small end diameter. This was something not seen in those days when wastage in the native timber industry was still common and Lindsay considered this to be the reason for Rudolf's success.²⁶

In 1952 the Auckland Botanical Society were impressed during a visit to Kauri Gardens and in an article headed "An insight into forest farming –visit to Mr R Hohneck's bush" they wrote: -

*The Botanical Society's sojourn at Mr Hohneck's Forest Farm at Pokeno was enjoyable, refreshing, and an interesting light was thrown upon the economic disposal of the bush. Here we witnessed an honest and, in fact, most successful endeavour to utilize native timber and at the same time conserve the forest.*²⁷

It is perhaps a little soon to pass definitive judgement on Rudolf Hohneck, for New Zealand has only recently begun to break out of its *Pinus radiata* straightjacket and begin to accept that forestry is more than just large scale, clear-cut monocultures. More years will need to pass until we can be sure, but a trend to manage at least some of our forests according to Continuous Cover principles is beginning. If this continues and grows it is expected that his place as one of those who led the process to more enlightened forest practice, will be confirmed.

¹ Epitaph on Rudolf Hohneck's grave stone at Pokeno Presbyterian Church

² D E Hutchins, *New Zealand Forestry. Part 1: Kauri forests and forests of the North and forest management*. (Wellington, Government Printer, 1919)

³ Information from naturalization papers, *Archives New Zealand, Ia 20/1/2491 Hohneck, Rudolf*; Rex Blumhardt and Ernie Hohneck nephews (Pers. Comm.)

⁴ It is not certain when timber was originally extracted from the forest later owned by Rudolf Hohneck but it was probably between 1900 and 1914.

⁵ Appendices to the Journal of the House of Representatives C3. 1921 to 1925: Letter McGregor to Hon. O Hawken, 18 June 1928, and letter Solicitor General to McGregor, 9 July 1928. Both M/S 1198. Box 6. F35; Auckland War Memorial Museum Library: John Morton, *McGregor, William Roy 1894 – 1977* (Dictionary of New Zealand Biography, www.dnz.govt.nz/dnzb/).

⁶ Most of these letters were also published in a booklet "*The Waipoua Argument by Ron Hohneck. Franklin Times Print, Pukekohe*" but because copies of this are very rare the basic references given here are to newspaper publication dates. Note that he often signed his name Ron Hohneck, especially during the war.

⁷ Harry Kitchingman in Letters to the Editor, New Zealand Herald 26 September 1944. He wrote at least seven letters to newspapers about Waipoua. A farmer, he lived mostly in Taranaki and had a lifelong interest in botany, especially the Eucalypti. (Family History notes provided by Rev. H Kitchingman) As his letters show Harry Kitchingman was also very knowledgeable on matters relating to the New Zealand bush and its potential for management.

⁸ 'Old Bushman' in Letters to Editor, New Zealand Herald, 6 October 1944.

⁹ Annual Report of the Director of Forestry for the year ended 31 March 1948; In Appendices to the Journal of the House of Representatives of New Zealand: Vol 3 C3, 22. (Government Printer, Wellington, 1948.)

¹⁰ L Milliner quoted in New Zealand Herald 20 December 1946: V J Chapman in articles in New Zealand Herald 9, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15 January 1947:

¹¹ A G Tansley The use and abuse of vegetational concepts and terms. (*Ecology* 16 (3), 1935. 284 – 307)

¹² L Cockayne. *New Zealand plants and their story*. (Wellington New Zealand, Government Printer. 1910)

¹³ R Hohneck in Letters to Editor, New Zealand New Zealand Herald 2 February 1945

¹⁴ J Bassett in Letters to Editor, New Zealand Herald 23 January 1945

¹⁵ R Hohneck in Letters to Editor, New Zealand Herald 4 November 1946: L Milliner quoted in New Zealand Herald 20 December 1946: V J Chapman in articles in New Zealand Herald 9, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15 January 1947: McGregor Many articles in New Zealand newspapers between 1944 and 1952.

¹⁶ R Hohneck in Letters to Editor, New Zealand Herald 17 Sept 1944; 2 Feb & 8 Aug 1945; 18 Apr & 4 Nov 1946: and in Letters to Editor, Auckland Star 24 Feb 1947; 7 Aug 1948

¹⁷ R Hohneck in Letters to Editor, New Zealand Herald 10 Oct 1946: and in Letters to Editor, Auckland Star 24 Feb, 16 July, 12 Aug & 17 Sep 1947

¹⁸ R Hohneck in Letters to Editor, New Zealand Herald 8 August 1945

¹⁹ R Hohneck in Letters to Editor, New Zealand Herald 6 March & article about his forest in New Zealand Herald 18 Dec 1946

²⁰ Section 4B1C1 Block V Oreore SD. NZ Forest Service Sawmill History Register. Archives New Zealand file BBAX 1584 1a

²¹ Section 8 Wharekawa No. 2 Block. Block XII Opaheke SD. NZ Forest Service Sawmill History Register. Archives New Zealand file BBAX 1584 1a

²² R Hohneck in Letters to the Editor, NZ Herald 7 Sep 1944 and Personal comments from Doug Hohneck (nephew) and Roy Parker (sawmill, Mangatawhiri)

²³ Information from Roy Parker, sawmill, Mangatawhiri and nephew Doug Hohneck. The factory was probably Richardson's Joinery.

²⁴ R Hohneck in Letters to Editor, Auckland Star 16 July 1947 and 12 August 1947

²⁵ C K Buckingham & K Mickle, *History of Buckingham*. An unpublished m/s, recorded verbatim from oral records, held by members of the Buckingham family, Mangatawhiri

²⁶ Pers. comment and letter from Lindsay Poole 29 April 1996. Lindsay Poole was Director General of the NZ Forest Service from 1961 - 1971

²⁷ Auckland Botanical Society Quarterly Newsletter 10 (1) Dec. 1952.

Acknowledgements:

I am indebted to Jean Tregidga (Rudolf's granddaughter), Rex Blumhardt and Doug Hohneck (nephews), Roy Parsons, Rev. Henry Kitchingman, Kate Buckingham, Lindsay Poole and staff of Archives New Zealand for their assistance and the loan of photographs.

It is interesting to note how accurately he predicted forest values, stating in 1947 that a properly managed forest in full production would earn in perpetuity £10 per acre annually. When this sum is adjusted to today's values (2005) it becomes \$3213 per hectare or \$230 per m³ -assuming an annual increment of 14 m³. This is astonishingly close to the present day value of kauri timber from trees up to ca. 70 cm diameter. Sadly, when Rudolph Hohneck died in 1956 at the relatively young age of 62, he left behind a forest being managed under a system which was just beginning to show real promise. But there was no one to carry on his work and he had left no management directions for the future. Over the next few years some of the forest was logged and parts were later sold. One of his grand daughters, who owns most of his original forest, wishes to rekindle his philosophy and manage the forest following the principles now legally enshrined in the Forests Amendment Act of 1993; so carrying on the work begun by Rudolph almost 80 years ago. Building on the strong base that he left and taking advantage of more recent research and experience this forest can be rapidly rebuilt to a useful and productive unit.

Ian Barton

24 January 2006

5/ A few poems by Rudolf Hohnes daughter

RUDOLPH HOHNECK - 1

His life had crashed in ruins
but he arose again,
seeking perpetual harvest.
in the forests of hill and plain.

He dreamed of perpetual native bush,
my visionary dad.

That would provide with money
and with beauty would make glad..

The hard working bushman
who too long had wandered,
because our forest heritage
had hopelessly been squandered.

And the woman, young and old,
who are happy there.

And the little ones who love,
the bush so free and fair.

And the city folk who seek
a little peace and rest.

In the native forest,
for an hour a day, a week.

Forgetting not the tourists
who come to our shore.

The bush is a blessing

to the rich and to the poor.

He dreamed of level forest roads

where ran the wild pig tracks.

And of pleasant family homes

where stood split-paling shacks.

Even of eventual castles

As his forebears, once did own.

In an old land (and even in New Zealand

Castles are not quite unknown)

And as he dreamed, he worked,

as hard as any man,

that ever worked for him,

harder than most men can.

And like me, he does believe

We should plant the kauri trees,

far and wide for the centuries.

That folk of the future may not grieve,

"Where? Oh, where are the kauri trees.

Forty miles on I alight and say,

"Thank you for the lift today"

But silently I say "Thank you

for also having that vision true".

"A thousand years the kauri grows,
A thousand years my planning flows.
More, sometimes will the kauri grow.
As count of annual rings will show"
So my father used to say,
While on earth he had his day,
"And we who work among the kauri
for joy and for our bread.

A thousand years at very least,
we must plan ahead".

RUDOLF HOHNECK – 2

Spring and Summer,
Autumn and Winter,
Year after year
He planned and he toiled,
in the sun and the shade.

Once a certain department
questioned his frugal ways.
He answered them by sending,
An autobiography ending,
“and I indulge not in holidays”
It was only half a page
and he wrote it in his middle age.

Every forest camp he made
Was like a league of nations.
Each was equal to the other,
those workers of the nations.

They were ‘Kauri Bushmen’
That was their proud name.
For the boss and for the men
conditions were the same.
The Maori and the Pakeha,
both New Zealand born.

Working, living side by side
through the sun and storm.
and many folk from overseas
who came to him for work.
Most of them were workers
Very few did shirk.

Once my father carried two,
Timber jacks to the top of the hill.
After him came a Dane,
shouldering a jack, just one.
Angry, panting and puffing still
Down the Dane the one jack flung.
With "----- first time ! and the last"

NEW ZEALAND BUSH DAPHNE - PART 1

Lovely bush Daphne, with sweetest scent
Is one of the gifts that God has sent.

As a five- year old I found a bower
adorned with many a Daphne ~~bower~~ ^{flower}.

A secret place none other knew,
in a bush named Waikaheru.

And here I spent minutes and hours
gazing in wonder, smelling the flowers.

Meditating in my own way,
on many a peaceful, happy day.

Part 2

My parents said," 'We must leave this place"
Oh! How the tears ran down my face.
For the giant kauris, and the Daphne too,
And the singing streams of Waikaheru.

A girl aged seven, I had loved my home
And never guessed I would have to roam,
from bush to bush, from farm to farm.
From town to town, through good and harm,
longing always for a home,

many a hard-working year to roam.

Other kauris I saw, heard other streams,

Still Waikaheru haunted my dreams.

But at Waikaheru sheep were to graze,

where among wild Daphne I'd stood in amaze.

The song of the bellbirds would no more inspire.

For the birds and their young had been burned up in fire.

I heard all the Kauris had gone to the mills.

I never could bear to look again on those hills..

Fragment.

I love to hear a million leaves

rustling in the breeze.

I love to wander up and down,

Wander where I please.

I see stately kauris,

I hear singing streams,

I smell bush Daphne

Sweet as in my dreams

Here God's peace can alight on

the world weary to inspire.

Those in whom spirit
shines brighter than fire.

Oh! I am glad,
My children now find,
Wild Daphne blossoms
by the scent on the wind.

And some day I may have,
Grandchildren who'll love
New Zealand bush Daphne
that gift from above.

THE PLANE AND THE HILLS. 1952

The long straight road in the sunlight

Gleams like a silver streak.

Afar on the dark blue skyline

Is many a bush clad peak.

Luscious is the level land

But rather I would be

Up in the wild and lofty hills

with many a mighty tree.

6

N. Z. April 1955
HERALD

OBITUARY

Mr R. Hohneck

Mr Rudolph Hohneck has died at his home, Kauri Gardens, at Mangatawhiri, at the age of 62. Born at Berkeley, California, he came to New Zealand with his parents in 1899 to settle at Whangamomona. In 1905 the family took up farming in North Auckland and at the age of 17 Mr Hohneck engaged in kauri climbing, an occupation he followed until 1920.

Moving to Mangatawhiri in 1925, Mr Hohneck took up sawmilling and purchased 1000 acres of worked-out kauri forest land, where he studied the regeneration of native timbers. By studying and practising European methods of forest farming he showed that New Zealand timbers would develop more readily than was previously believed. He gave much of the benefit of his experience to the State Forest Service.

Mr Hohneck was actively engaged in his work until the time of his death. He is survived by one daughter and a stepson.

THE WAIPOUA ARGUMENT



Rudolf^{by} *Hohneck*
(known as)
RON HOHNECK

PRICE: ONE SHILLING

I. Hohnneck,
"HONNECK KAURI GARDI"
BOX 2419, C.P.O.
WAIPOUA AUCKL

KAURI FOREST

by

RON HONNECK

These Letters were published by
the Auckland Daily Papers dur-
ing the years 1944 to 1948.

A Fine Kauri

By selective extraction of superfluous and dead trees, Mr Hohneck argues that the fire menace is almost removed, for the remaining green timber would not burn on its own. He also advocates the burial of dead twigs, bark flakings and other rubbish at the base of trees as a fire prevention measure.

To provide better access, to allow greater light and cultivation, and to act as firebreaks, Mr Hohneck is embarking on a scheme of terracing and roading the hills at contour levels about two chains apart. Loading banks 4ft. high will be provided on the higher sides of the roads. This work, he claims, will also prevent erosion by making it impossible for flood torrents to run uninterrupted down the hill-sides.

While these measures are directly concerned with improving the commercial value of the bush, Mr Hohneck says they will provide a more attractive area both for the scientific observer and for the ordinary sightseer. By systematic thinning of the trees and by roading, the bush will become more accessible to all.

Only one large kauri was left in the forest by the original millers, and this has been carefully preserved and protected by Mr Hohneck. Known locally as King Kauri, the tree is a 2000-years-old specimen with a 30ft. circumference.

scenic value of the bush will have been improved immeasurably. It will contain healthier and better specimens of all varieties represented and they will be more accessible to those who wish to inspect them. A genuine lover of trees, Mr Hohneck hopes, in the future to share this feature of his bush with all who are interested.

Thinning the Forest

Mr Hohneck's philosophy is that the forest is for man to use, and that from intelligent use, nothing but good can result. Describing himself as a bush farmer, he seeks to profit materially by using the products of the forest in whatever way is possible. Ninety per cent of his work among the trees has been with the axe. But he claims to have used the axe judiciously to the benefit of the trees remaining. Careful selection he regards as the secret of successful forest management.

Consequently, Mr Honeck sees nothing wrong in cutting out dead, diseased or mature trees, or trees that are growing too closely together. The removal of these trees lets in the sunlight and encourages more vigorous and healthy growth among the rest. There are many places within his bush where old trees have been cut out and young saplings are thriving. This is particularly well illustrated with kauri trees.

He believes it is essential to remove diseased trees because the destructive grubs and beetles they contain will otherwise spread to healthy trees. Illustrating this, he points to a number of birches which have died or are dying through the depredations of a small beetle. In this connection, he considers that, should a portion of Waipoua Forest be reserved in its natural state, a certain minimum of attention is essential to prevent the spread of disease.

REGENERATION OF OUR FORESTS

Sir,—As a forest-farmer who has been engaged for nearly 20 years in saving, developing and regenerating parts of our kauri forests I was troubled to read that Mr S. W. Smith, M.P., advocates that "there should be a law to stipulate the size of a log that could be cut." Foresters would be dismayed at the passing of such a law as it would take from them the necessary power to thin their forests. Just as carrots and turnips grow too closely together and need thinning, so do trees constantly need thinning. The most essential tool to develop our native forests properly is the axe intelligently used. The regeneration cycle being applied to some of our native forests is roughly as follows:—The removal of rotten trees and trees that are forest weeds. While leaving temporarily certain seed trees, other large trees are removed and smaller trees thinned out to secure correct spacing. The aim is to let in the sun to the tree-tops, to encourage natural re-seeding and to give small trees light and space to develop. Every original tree, after serving the purpose of re-seedling, may be finally removed because silviculturally there is no further need for these in the rapidly developing forest well stocked with young trees. One large tree would check and stunt hundreds of young tree.

Certain trees of special grandeur are saved for their scenic and historical value in an ideal setting free from fire and other dangers. By the time all the original trees are removed there are so many young trees that they require constant thinning and provide valuable forest products, such as garden stakes, handle wood, firewood, turnery timber, m. log props, fencing

timber, and much else. It is obvious that any law preventing the cutting of small trees would be a death blow to the correct silvicultural regeneration of our precious forests.

Pokeno. RUDOLF HOHNECK.

(N.Z. Herald, Dec., 1946.)

BUSH CULTURE

SCIENTIFIC METHODS

USE AT WAIPOUA URGED

Scientific management of all forests, whether they be for commercial or scenic purposes, is strongly advocated by Mr R. Hohneck, of Kaiaua, Firth of Thames, who has been following this practice on bush property at Mangatawhiri, near Pokeno, for 20 years. He claims that, on his experience, the treatment proposed by the State Forest Service for Waipoua Forest will eventually be in the best interests of the area from all points of view.

Mr Hohneck's property consists of 900 acres of rugged hill country. About 550 acres were purchased 20 years ago for £3 an acre. It is almost entirely bush land that was worked over about the beginning of the century for kauri and other milling timber. It is now well stocked with kauri saplings and smaller plants, totara, tanekaha, rimu, black birch and white and scrub manuka.

Improving Trees

The remaining 350 acres is mostly scrub land that was burned out some years ago. Mr Hohneck bought it about 1940 at 14s an acre. In both areas, especially on bare patches, he is introducing a limited number of exotics, including wattle and eucalyptus.

As the result of the policy he is pursuing, Mr Hohneck estimates that in a few years' time the entire area from a commercial point of view, will have increased many times in value an acre. At the same time he says the

WAIPOUA

Mr Alan S. Fuller says "If the close-knit community of plants in the forest is disturbed some of the species may die out." In my kauri forest, which I have been cultivating for many years, I successfully disturb the community of the trees to the great benefit of all, and not one has died out. All my trees, large and small, such as kauri, tanekaha, beech, rimu, etc., grow much faster and more abundantly than when they were neglected. Every species of shrub, vine, fern and mossy plant thrives unharmed, with a new-found glory happily and permanently associated with humanity. Mr Skinner faithfully defends this close-knit community which exists between the bush and people who are gathering seeds, growing little kauris and preparing to plant beside the ancient giants. Mr McGregor may now object, having changed his mind since 1926, but never is it "nay" that I hear the wild woods say to those who work, where evils lurk, among the trees.

Pokeno.

RON HOHNECK.

CULTIVATION OF NATIVE BUSH

Sir,—Mr Bassett objects to the weather being let into the bush. The weather is mother's milk to native trees. They thrive on the sunlight and the rain. He says I cannot know the great kauri forests. Every week of 30 years, north and south, I have worked among these giant trees. He says Nature maintained Waipoua for 4000 years. Man will make Waipoua maintain society with an enormous annual crop of forest produce. On about 10,000 acres of Waipoua kauri forest are about 80,000,000 ft. of kauri, Nature's product of 4000 years. Foresters can grow that much timber on 800 acres in one century instead of 40 centuries. Good little patches are all that Nature achieves alone. Nature cannot harvest the crop, but leaves it rot in the bush. Great forests, ordinary bush, and even tea-tree borderlands are the places to cultivate native bush.

The idle bush in an unorganised society of living plants and living creatures. Creatures like deer and grubs are forest enemies. Man is the necessary policeman. Among the living plants courts of justice are needed. Man is the necessary judge. The king kauri is often a cruel tyrant. With rotten heart and seedless head he will cling to office for a thousand years and crush back the forest children. The headman's axe is needed there. Many plants and trees work like busy bees and their work is good to see. Many are drones and should be cast without. Our best fellow-worker in the bush is pretty little tea-tree, gentle nursemaid to seedling kings.

Pokeno.

RUDOLF HOHNECK.

FOREST FARMING

Sir,— With the advent of Arbor Day, may I explain the principles of a glorious European system that has been adapted to our native bush. For a ten-year programme any patch of bush is divided into ten strips each one chain wide. Strip No. 2 is attended to in the first year. Trees dead, hollow or over-crowded are carefully removed. The timber and wood salvaged pays improvement costs. Sufficient young trees are left correctly spaced. The wild bush on either side casts seed on a good bed. That season may see this strip nearly stocked with young and seedling trees. To fill empty spaces crowded seedlings are dug out and reset. Thus we effect a wonderful, costless change. Gone are the deer that ravaged the bush unseen. Gone are the rotten-wood homes of the grubs that kill, on autumn days, the green beech trees, so weakened with their crop of flower and seed.

Strip No. 4 is put in order in the second year. In five years five alternate strips show five thriving stages. In nine years only one neglected strip is left, calling plainly for the helpful, artistic hand of man. The grubs still linger there and the annual growth equals the annual decay. In inspiring contrast are the other nine strips, all a dense forest of perfect young trees of ever-increasing value. The pattern given above can be widely varied if desired.

Today on millions of acres of idle bush timber slowly grows, but quickly rots on the very spots where soldiers and their friends can find abundant work **obtaining timber for** homes and developing fruitful forest-farms.

Pokeno RUDOLF HOHNECK.

CULTIVATED BUSH

Sir,—As Mr Cozens wrongly declares that my "scheme of bush culture is primarily one for profit" it becomes necessary for me to explain. Thirty years ago it was my youth's ambition to grow all over the rocky ranges of no-man's land the steel-grey columns of our majestic kauri. I wanted to help to settle thousands of families where wild animals were seizing the unusual land, but I knew not yet how to start.

Then there arrived the famous forester, David Hutchins, who had spent his life cultivating the native bushes of Africa and India. The Government published a valuable book he wrote showing exactly why and how we should cultivate Waipoua and other native bushes.

Twenty years ago, to apply his teaching of cutting and cultivating, I bought some hundreds of acres of cut-over, half-burned bush at Mangatawhiri. Close by lay 3000 acres of green kauri bushland. It was a scenic reserve, but had been settled by goats, pigs and opossums. My scheme was to prove and demonstrate the greater beauty and the higher value to society of my cultivated bush compared to the adjacent, idle, unused bush.

Among my sick and hollow trees I read Hutchins' lessons over and over again. He taught me how to use the axe and the spade. He taught me how to help the bush from chaos to order, from sickness to health, from poverty to plenty, and every year I proved his lessons true. My scheme is to defend the foresters of New Zealand.

Pokeno. RON HOHNECK.

BUSH HUSBANDRY

Sir,—“L'Allegro” repeats the false accusation against our Forest Service by calling its splendid work “the con-ests under the guise of scientific man-tinued despoliation of the kauri for-agement.” Neglected kauri forests suffer from natural evils and the greatest has always been the thick lay-ers of dry leaves, twigs and resin lying around ever ready to carry fires. An-other natural evil is the excessive shade of big crowded trees. Young kauris, starting on this dry rubbish, become hopelessly stunted. After a century's growth they may be no bigger than a walking stick.

When these seedlings are dug out and transplanted close together a few yards away among the blackberry and fern, on freshly-loosened clay soil and with light on their leaves they grow two or three feet higher every year. They pile on layers of annual wood over 0.25in. thick. As the years pass the spreading trees need more space and improvement cuttings provide many logs. In 100 years there would be about 100 tall trees each about 3ft. thick on every acre. In 300 years continual thinning would leave a dozen or so kauri giants each about 10ft. thick crowding over every steep and rocky acre.

This husbandry of the bush is like the husbandry of the farm, the or-
chard and the garden. A few active people are busy calling this forest husbandry a crime.

Pokeno. RON HOHNECK.

FIRE PROOFING THE FORESTS

Sir,—Some notice has been taken of the advantage of the intensive culti-
vation of our native bush. Incidental to the permanent annual output of timber, fencing materials and firewood, has been the automatic, costless effect of making these parts of the bush fire-proof. Green trees and shrubs, do not burn unless surrounded by a litter of dry rubbish like dead trees, twigs and leaves.

In routine forest cultivation work the thinning out of certain trees, the cutting of fallen branches into wood and, above all, the extensive use of angle-dozers for making terraced, seed-bed roads, all contribute to mak-
ing harmful fires impossible. The ter-
racing machines mix dry twigs and leaves with the soil, and humus is made for young trees. If the dry rubbish cannot be buried it is burned in little heaps in winter and enriches the soil. Where busy workmen tramp the soil and horses, bullocks and tractors splash the winter mud, barriers are made to stop, on windy summer days, the fiery enemy of the forest. During this drought, while fires rage over great areas of neglected bush and plantation, the trees are growing safe and fast where the litter has been sold or used or burned. The precious terraced roads that stopped erosion during storms now make fires impossible.

If more of our idle bush had, like this, a settled forest-farmer on every hundred acres, his daily, year work would make the forests so clean and verdant that fires would find no tinder here.

Pokeno. RON HOHNECK.

FIRE-PROOFING OUR FORESTS

Sir,—Mr Rawson wonders if I "have even seen any really virgin native bush." I wondered, 30 years ago, if the firestick which I saw being used far and wide from Wellington to the North Cape, could be replaced by the tools of intelligent forestry. I have advised the disposal of rubbish lying in certain parts of our forests because I had climbed the kauri to strip away the rotten vines, and I had buried the tinder beneath my trees 20 years ago. Safer still, we made the bush with highways and byways from end to end. We combed the forest lanes of dead and crowded trees and we saved the best for seed. The more we dug and reaped and pruned the more our trees and blossoms grew. In our work to improve their sylvan home, and in our need to pay our way, we often trod upon pretty shrubs and ferns, but they learned to live upon the bank beside the path. Now they seem to bow and wave whenever their guardians pass.

Winding out around the rugged ridge and in around the gorge lies the level, flattened terrace showing the latest and the best of all our ways to stop erosion from above and fires from all around. Upon the freshly loosened soil, beginning with the goodly help machines and men can give, there starts upon their useful life the tiny seedling trees that sprouted yesterday.

Pokeno.

RON HOHNECK.

WAIPOUA FOREST

Sir,—Thirty years ago Waipoua was a national park like that proposed by Mr McGregor and others today. The Lands Department paid a man to keep human beings away. The forest was preserved for wild pigs, being used and enjoyed by them alone, I crawled along their tracks for miles through supple-jacks and cutty-grass, across hundreds of acres of inflammable "pukau," over thousands of rotting, fallen trees. I found that less than 5 per cent of Waipoua's area was stocked with kauri and much of that was hollow and badly crowded.

The bush needed to be thinned and the seed-bed soil prepared all ready for helpful autumn storms. Every square yard called out for the magic touch of tender human hands. I saw woodland sites for a thousand homes and work unending for a thousand men. In all that useless, lonely bush no man reaped the dying trees nor helped the little kauris starving for the light.

Facts like these led to Waipoua being rightly handed over to the trained foresters of the Forest Service. Part of their duties was to turn out ever-increasing supplies of cheaper timber, to help spread kauri far and wide, to metal hundreds of miles of forest roads and to charm botanical tourists with a complete display of our glorious flora. In defence of these plans ex-soldiers write from Waipoua today. I hope that self-named "forest protectors" will not drive them from their homes.

Pokeno.

RON HOHNECK.

CULTIVATED BUSH

Sir,—Mr Milliner asks: "Where, if Mr Hohneck's policy were followed, would be the profusion of tree ferns, ground ferns and delicate filmy ferns, where the tangle of lianes and other climbers, the hosts of perching plants and how would survive the many delicate shade-demanding plants of the undergrowth and forest floor?"

May I assure Mr Milliner that all these are still there, only more abundant, more healthy and more beautiful than ever, simply because they still have every natural advantage besides the intelligent and sympathetic help of man. They lose only the disease, the decay, the stagnation, the pitiful poverty of the uncultivated bush.

With proper forest cultivation mosses grow like velvet pads upon the level paths, kidney ferns and all their cousins cling upon the terraced banks, and multitudes of pungas spread their fronds beside the tracks, while mighty trees reach across above the forest roads. In damper plots supplejacks add a dozen knots a year where the kauri scorns to grow. Clematis vines lay out their flowers across the firewood copse and rata vines still climb the timber trees.

All work—cutting, pruning, digging, planting and sowing—is done to improve the health and beauty of the bush. All timber trees, firewood, shrubs and ferns become so superabundant that necessary cultural cutting supplies starving cities with cheaper timber, wood and transplants. Fortunately this intensive practice of beautifying the wild woods repays with valuable regular revenue, thereby sustaining and extending this glorious work.

Pokeno.

RON HOHNECK.

FOREST SERVICE POLICY AT WAIPOUA DEFENDED

Sir,—Mr Frost objects to me defending the scientific way the Forest Service is improving our great National Kauri Park. In 1924 the conservator, Mr Campbell, and the brilliant forest engineer, Mr A. R. Entrican, discussed with me their future plans for Waipoua. We wanted to find out how to grow countless millions of little kauri trees to flourish through the centuries ahead. The giant trees were bearing every April heavy crops of fertile seed, all falling to waste on thick layers of dry rubbish and rotten logs. With axes, they hoped to heal the scars on the big trees and to deal with the deadly grubs. With tractors they planned to protect the forest with many roads and to loosen the soil so that the kauri giants could produce thousands of seedlings every year on every acre. These tiny kauri, starting properly on nursery soil, were intended to interplant other areas of Waipoua where kauri never grew. To save, for other bushes, the finest seed, they consulted me about the cheapest way to collect the cones from the straightest, tallest trees. Their duty it was to improve the scenic beauty and to display the botanical glories of Waipoua. They saw that hundreds of families should be settled on Waipoua's lonely hills and that every soul was need to help them build a glorious park with their axes and their pretty woodland homes. A generation ago our trained forest leaders knew that they could turn a sick, stagnant expensive bush into a healthy, thriving, wealthy park yielding through the ages ahead enormous crops of seeds, plants and surplus timber. Today men, women and children are thrilled to see the growing results of plans like those designed to

teach our people how to make every bush and every park rich and beautiful. The few men who call this good work "wanton destruction" are now planning to get Parliament to make it forever unlawful to cultivate young kauri trees at Waipoua.

Pokeno RON HOHNECK.

KAURI CULTURE

Sir,—Mr Harding now says that "we have both helped to destroy forests." Twenty years ago I started to cultivate and demonstrate at Pokeno, in a kauri bush where a timber company and summer fires had left the remnants of a forest sick with disease and decay. I planned to show our wandering bushmen that they could also build their home upon the idle, rocky hills and cultivate the bush for profit and for joy. Multitudes of native trees now grow for me high above the black or hollow stumps to help the forest teachers prove that Waipoua should have the help of a thousand human hands. Mr Harding says that "when a tree reaches the sunlight it does not grow; it spreads." I ask him to think of what must happen when the seedling trees are interplanted so closely together that they cannot spread too much. Every spring my forest clump reaches higher, in even style, a foot or so, while down below, on columns tall, straight and clean, every tree grows thicker, half an inch for every year. When I gave the good sunlight to stunted, helpless trees Mother Nature thanked me with a helping hand because I had cleared away an ancient curse, and, both together, we have built better than I knew.

RON HOHNECK.

est park where everyone may see how to heal the wounds of kauri giants and how to help the little trees grow big and rich for little children who will build mighty kauri forests better far than old New Zealand ever knew. Such are the aims and the joys of Arbor Day.

RON HOHNECK.

FOREST CONSERVATION

Sir,—Jack Harding says that whenever he worked bush he "caused . . . complete destruction." The Maori name of one of my bushmen is Hohepa Wiremu. Yesterday he worked with an axe, a saw and a spade. He prepared to cut down a beech tree killed by grubs that breed only in rotten wood. Two little kauri trees grew just where he had to swing his axe. One had suffered for a century from the heavy shade, so it was only a few feet high. Hohepa gently bent it well aside and tied it safely there while he felled the dead beech tree. The other little kauri was a seedling of the year 1945. It grew too close, being only a foot away. He dug it out and replanted it a dozen feet away. There it had ferns and moss to shade its roots and the warm sunlight upon its leaves, to make it surely grow 100ft. high and 30in. thick in 100 years. At Waipoua ex-soldiers are being schooled and sent out over New Zealand to teach our bushmen these simple ways to make our forests great. No justification can be found for the attempt by the "protectors" to force the Government to close down this forestry school, which has been needed so much ever since an English queen began to rule this Maori land.

Pokeno.

RON HOHNECK.

WAIPOUA

Sir,—Dr. Archery is fair enough to admit that scientific forestry should be applied to every bush, but he still excepts Waipoua. Giving two reasons, he again demands that the Forest Service be evicted at once. Firstly, he proposes to turn them out because he fears that in a hundred years' time their grandchildren may cut down the regenerated kauri when it reaches a diameter of 30 inches. Mr Skinner had remarked that some of the kauri should be cut at 30 inches and that has been made the excuse for a new-found fear. In starting kauri there is room for thousands of seedlings per acre. After fifty years of proper care there is only space for about 200, and the sales of surplus trees have added wealth to the beauty of the bush. At the age of 100 years there would be root space and head room for only 100 trees because each would be 30 inches thick. Then the forest would be very rich, earning in perpetuity about £10 per acre per year. Always increasing in size, always spreading along the range, these historical giants will bear fertile seed for thousands of years and I assure Mr Thomas that that is why I began to grow them at Pokeno 20 years ago. Dr. Archery's second reason is his astounding statement that Waipoua is the "last natural primeval kauri forest." Primeval kauri grows neglected on thousands of bush-clad ridges from the Bay of Plenty northwards to Kaitiaki. The Little Barrier Island, Trounson Park and great numbers of scenic reserves, large and small, all have kauri badly needing the forester's healing growing art. In all these enormous areas the Forest Service has no legal right and now we meet again the evil scheme to drive them from Waipoua as well.

RON HOHNECK.

WAIPOUA

Sir,—For over 20 years the Forest Service has studied the accumulated knowledge of centuries of world forestry to find out how to make Waipoua the kauri wonderland of the world. Nearly every year The Journal of Forestry has published the experiments and conclusions of forest experts upon this technical matter. They found out that to grow quickly millions of healthy kauris the seedlings need loose soil and ample light. During recent years bushmen, sawmillers, tree-growers, farmers and others have learnt that the thinning out of certain old and crowded trees is the first necessary step toward cultivating and developing beautiful, profitable forests of quick growing native trees. Fifty years ago the export of butter started an era of rising prosperity. Today the intensive cultivation of kauri and other native bush is starting an era of bushland settlement with a rising abundance of cheaper native timbers. Blows being struck against the growing of young kauri trees close beside the big ones at Waipoua are also blows struck against the cultivation of native trees in their natural home all over New Zealand.

RON HOHNECK.

FORESTS AND MAN

Sir,—Isabel M. Cluett asks: "Were the virgin forests . . . diseased, sickly, over-crowded and stunted or dying for the want of the ministering hand?" Certainly, they always suffered all that kind and more besides. For millions of years the stagnant bush merely existed, often better, often worse. Every year some overbearing trees grew bigger, and every year some rotted with disease and decay. Long ago great forests of black birch grew from Auckland to the North Cape, but all these were destroyed by grubs and only a few trees remain at Rangiahua. Elsewhere ministering hands, with axe and spade, are fighting the beech woods' ancient foes. Forests of totara, rotten with "Kaikok," were common ages ago. Kauri grew often around a rotten heart, just as it does at Waipoua today. Little kauri starting beneath the oppressive shade grew no bigger than a broomstick in 100 years. They were over-crowded with dozens of trees struggling for centuries to gain possession of a few square feet of hardened soil. Millions of acres of natural bush still stand like that, a land a poverty, valued in our Courts at a pitiful £1 per acre. Ministering hands are proving that its real value is about 50 times as much. All the idle bush has continued to occupy land but yields no increase every year. Something earning nothing becomes something without respect. The non-paying bush could not be welcome long, so poverty and tragedy have sadly marched together. Our foresters are especially trained for the duty of attacking the natural evils and the natural poverty of our forests. They are teaching bushmen how to wisely use the axe, and both are proud to see the sylvan glories grow. At Waipoua they are making a model for-