KAURI CONSULTATION ROUND THREE INFORMATION BOOKLET

Tell us if we've got the right plan
to protect kauri into the future.

KEEP KAURI STANDING
STOP KAURI DIEBACK DISEASE SPREADING
KIA TOITU HE KAURI

Thank you for taking an interest in the future of kauri. This booklet presents information on our third round of consultation regarding proposals to protect kauri from dieback disease.

The information in this booklet is in three sections. There is also a feedback form with some questions we want your comments on, related to the material in this booklet and on our website. You are also welcome to submit additional comments and ideas outside of the questions on the feedback form.

Please note that this booklet presents an overview of our proposals. Full details of our proposals can be found on our website at:

www.kauridieback.co.nz/consultation

INTRODUCTION

Section one covers the refreshed national strategy for kauri dieback, some background on the earlier round of consultation, and where you can find more information about this consultation round.

THE PLAN AND THE AGENCY

Section two makes up most of the booklet. It outlines some of the key features of our proposal for a National Pest Management Plan for Kauri Dieback, including the rules we plan to introduce to control the spread of kauri dieback. It also discusses the two options we are proposing for the management agency that is required to implement the plan.

SUBMISSIONS

Section three contains information about how to make a submission and where we go next, once the submission process is over.

You can find a link here to a submission form on our website. If you are using this form, note that you must give it a new name and save it onto your own computer before you start typing, otherwise your submission will be lost. Sorry, but submissions cannot be directly entered onto our website.

INTRODUCTION

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KEEP KAURI STANDING
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KIA TOITU HE KAURI

VISION

Ko te kauri he whakaruruhau mō nga Iwi katoa - The kauri is a shelter for all people

Kia toitū te whenua - So that the land endures

Kia toitū te kauri - So that the kauri endures

GOAL

Remove the threat of kauri dieback, so that the mauri and health of New Zealand kauri forests is restored beyond the next 1000 years.

OBJECTIVES

Primary objective:

To reduce the harmful effects of Phytophthora agathidicida (PA) by preventing, where possible, the spread of PA and minimising its impacts on New Zealand's kauri forests, our culture, our communities and economy.

Secondary objectives:

1. Reduce the spread of kauri dieback
2. Maintain kauri dieback–free areas
3. Reduce the impact of kauri dieback within infected sites
4. Locally eliminate kauri dieback within infected sites, where possible
5. Protect iconic kauri trees and stands with special values from kauri dieback.

BACKGROUND

Background to this consultation

In December 2017 the Government announced stronger measures to protect kauri, because of concerns about the increasing spread of kauri dieback disease. It said it believed that more urgent action was needed to support efforts to stop the spread. One of these measures was the development of a national pest management plan (NPMP) for kauri dieback disease under Section 100 of the Biosecurity Act. Many of you in the kaurilands supported this.

Since then, we've been looking at ways we can further strengthen the protection of kauri. That includes refreshing the national kauri dieback strategy, developing the long-term national plan and identifying an agency to implement the plan.

We undertook two consultation rounds in 2018 as part of this work. In round one, we focused on getting your 'big picture' views on the ways we could manage kauri dieback disease. We also asked for your thoughts on what should be included in the national plan to support the work needed to protect kauri.

In round two, we presented your feedback from round one, tested a draft refreshed strategy for protecting kauri, sought feedback on the broad approach the national plan could take, and tested ideas on what the agency could look like and be responsible for.

What we heard

All of us want what's best for kauri.

You told us that you:

- liked the long-term focus of the strategy - much stronger action needs to be taken to protect kauri
- wanted a visionary goal of eradicating the disease
- wanted us to take a 'whole of forest' approach
- wanted action now with appropriate funding and other support
- believed community involvement was vital and Māori had a special role to play
- thought national leadership was needed
- saw a single framework and plan as important to guide local actions
- believed regional bodies could set priorities and coordinate and support local efforts
- wanted a management body to be governed by a representative cross-section of kauriland stakeholders
- thought it was important that progress be reviewed regularly, and there be flexibility to change direction in response to new information
- agreed with the concept of zoning kaurilands to prioritise action, and for controls to be mandatory and apply to people and other possible causes of dieback spread, such as pigs
- thought investment in science was important and use of mātauranga was important too.

What the kauri dieback programme has been doing recently

- Track closures - selected tracks across kaurilands have been closed by DOC to help prevent the spread of kauri dieback disease.
- Track upgrades - DOC has re-opened all tracks in Goldie Bush Scenic Reserve, following an extensive track upgrade.
- New Controlled Area Notice on Goldie Bush reserve and tracks.
- Funding increase of $13.75 million over three years from the Strategic Science Investment Fund (SSIF) for research to combat the spread of kauri dieback disease and myrtle rust.
- New road signs in the Coromandel and Northland's Waipoua Forest alerting road users they are entering a 'kauri protection area', and reinforcing the need to clean footwear and equipment when people enter and exit kauri forests.
- Community engagement - the 'Scrub, Spray and Stay' message is being reinforced this summer with a new digital and social media campaign, which uses mobile technology to directly appeal to those visiting kaurilands.
- Northland Regional Council has established a new dedicated three-strong team to protect the region's kauri from dieback disease.
- Auckland Council has increased investment in track development and upgrades, and committed significant long-term funding to deal with kauri dieback.

Round Three proposals and how you can contribute

This booklet contains the key points for the proposed strategy, plan and the management agency required to implement the plan. After this final round of public consultation, the proposals will be reviewed before recommendations are made to the Minister for Biosecurity. This is a valuable opportunity to have a say in shaping the management plan for kauri.

We want your views on how workable you think our proposals are and the options we are providing, the impacts they might have on you and your community, iwi, business or group. We want to know if there are any major issues you believe we have missed, that could significantly affect our proposals. And we'd like your views on the best agency model to manage protection of kauri in the future.

The full proposals and background information are on our website www.kauridieback.co.nz/consultation. Because our proposals have wide-ranging implications, we encourage you to read these documents if you are intending to make a submission.

Timeline

Consultation opens	18 February 2019
Consultation closes	18 March 2019
Community meetings and hui	2 – 12 March 2019

How would these changes improve the outlook for kauri?

The proposals we have developed and the consultation we are undertaking are being done to improve the future for kauri. We think the proposed approach will do that by providing:

- Stronger leadership – central leadership from the management agency, and distributed leadership across the community at regional and local levels
- Greater recognition of treaty partnership and providing for genuine co-governance
- Greater ability to develop national consistency in kauri dieback efforts through the National Pest Management Plan and robust policies, standards, guidance and frameworks
- Access to national funding
- Support for mātauranga and science investment
- Support for resources being directed out to regions and 'flax roots' organisations rather than run centrally
- A boost to local capability through training and liaison and coordination roles based in regions/locally
- Improved sharing of information within and between regions, and to and from the national level
- Alignment with the wider national Biosecurity 2025 strategy – **see www.thisisus.nz**

DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this consultation a kauri forest area is defined an area of uncultivated land that contains or surrounds 1 or more kauri trees, along with all the uncultivated land between such trees. If a kauri tree is at the edge of uncultivated land, the kauri forest area extends to at least 3 times the maximum radius of that tree. It also includes any area of land identified by the management agency in future as an area containing alternate host plants of PA because, although there may not be kauri trees nearby, for the purpose of containing the spread of PA it may be necessary to apply the same controls to these areas as to areas that do have kauri trees.

The agency

An agency must be established to implement the plan. We have two options we are looking for comment on.

The first is a government department to manage the plan and coordinate the response programme. It has not been decided which department would be given the responsibility.

The second option is a separate Crown-owned company with its own board and staff. It would implement the plan and decide the priorities for funding. Similar approaches have been used for other government-funded environment and conservation programmes, for example Predator Free 2050 Limited.

The agency would have a range of powers so it can carry out its role.

See more on page 14

The plan

A National Pest Management Plan will be introduced under the Biosecurity Act.

The proposed plan has new measures, rules and requirements that could affect your access to and use of kauri forests.

It has the possibility of fines or other action if rules are broken.

We are considering what rules are needed in areas where the organism that causes kauri dieback disease has been detected, or where it could be introduced. The rules would affect how you behave in those areas, including access and work. We could have rules that require the agency to identify zones where PA is present, where it is not present, or where there are particular risks.

The plan also creates compulsory reporting requirements for some property owners.

See more on page 8

THE PLAN

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KEEP KAURI STANDING
STOP KAURI DIEBACK DISEASE SPREADING
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THE PLAN

A National Pest Management Plan for kauri dieback disease will mean a change in the way we direct our efforts to manage the disease. And that could affect you, because we will need to introduce a set of rules relating to how kauri forests are used and managed, and a new agency will be set up to implement the plan with enforcement powers to ensure the plan is effective.

We already use national plans for other pests and diseases including PSA-V impacting kiwifruit (managed by Kiwifruit Vine Health), American foulbrood impacting bee health (managed by Apiculture New Zealand) and bovine TB impacting the livestock sector (managed by OSPRI New Zealand).

The plan is part of the overall strategy for kauri dieback. The aim of the plan is to help strengthen the protection of kauri by creating a consistent approach to its management using a common set of rules that are also enforceable across regions. It aims to unite and enable efforts of local communities, iwi and hāpu, agencies, industry and business, and other non-governmental organisations to take action. And it provides for appropriate consistency and a coordinated approach to management.

The special connection of Māori with the whenua (land) and their role as kaitiaki (guardians, caretakers) of kauri is a critical part of the refreshed strategy and central to the new arrangements we are proposing. This includes co-management at a local level with mana whenua, in line with existing co-management agreements or developing new ones. It will include building capability and/or capacity to co-manage where that is needed. It also acknowledges the importance of mātauranga and rongoā in dealing with kauri dieback.

The proposed plan includes a core set of 'rules'. The rules set clear requirements to restrict the spread of kauri dieback (primarily by restricting soil transfer), but there will be some flexibility on how this is achieved. But it could mean businesses have to undertake new procedures (like cleaning vehicles) when going in and out of kauri forests, or landowners will have to put approved management plans in place for kauri on their property to control the spread of PA.

Visitors to kauri forests might have to clean their shoes, and other things that come in contact with the ground, at official cleaning stations. Failure to comply could result in fines.

Many of the rules this plan is proposing are similar to ones being used by councils and government agencies to control other issues such as animal health, risks to the environment, and public safety. Businesses are already required to make management plans and keep records about things such as health and safety, and provide them to officials if asked. And specified diseases or pests have to be reported by farmers if seen in animals or plants, and changes made to their operations to stop them spreading.

For kauri, Controlled Area Notices already allow landowners or managers, such as councils, to impose access conditions to areas, but they are limited in scope.

The plan brings together a cohesive set of rules that can be used anywhere kauri trees are growing or where there is a risk of PA being spread. These rules would be aimed at protecting kauri alone, rather than trying to cover a lot of biosecurity and environmental issues. It would also give the agency the power to take action against individuals or organisations that are deliberately or negligently endangering kauri by not following the rules.

Why new powers and rules are needed

One of the main ways the disease is spread is through the transfer of PA-contaminated soil by humans. The voluntary approaches we have now have not been effective. So the rules focus on reducing the risk of spreading the disease.

We need better information too. The plan gives the agency the power to gather that information as well as introducing an obligation on all of us to report new observations of kauri dieback. That will help the agency better track the presence of PA and the effectiveness of kauri protection work. They also give the agency power to work with landowners and communities on protective measures, and to intervene to protect kauri in high risk situations. And we need the power to require people to comply. That means the power to impose fines or other penalties where needed. Breaches of these rules could result in infringements of $400, or court imposed fines up to $5000 for individuals and $15,000 for companies.

What will the national plan mean for me?

It could change the way you access kauri forest areas and the way you work in them.

The impact is greatest on people and organisations that own or manage land with kauri forest areas on it. That's because they could have obligations to monitor kauri dieback and prevent it spreading.

It will also affect people who enter or work in kauri forest areas. That's because we want to reduce the risk of infected soil being transferred to uninfected land. So the plan includes new rules around excavation near kauri trees, as well as requiring people to clean soil off their shoes and equipment when leaving kauri forest areas. Breaking these rules could result in prosecution.

Your local and/or regional council also have a range of powers separate from the Biosecurity Act that they could use in the future to introduce additional rules for your area in support of the national plan. These could affect personal, commercial or recreational activities that require permits or resource consents.

Options for zones

Under the rules, the agency will be able to identify parts of kauri forest areas where specific protections are needed because of the high risk of the spread of PA. The management agency can require special measures, such as having a risk management plan and excluding farm stock to be taken in those areas.

But it may be helpful for the community, and for the owners of property, to have a clear idea about which bits of kauri forest are harbouring PA, and which bits are, as far as anyone knows, still free of it. To achieve this, the rules could require the management agency to label every kauri forest area by setting up a system of zoning. Zones would need to be clearly identified and would change over time. An alternative to zones is for the management agency to identify 'high risk' areas that require a management plan.

We also recognised that there are kauri forest areas of particular cultural significance, and we'd want to give these areas the highest possible respect and protection. It's proposed that sanctuaries be established by the management agency.

The rules

The core set of rules we are proposing for the plan are:

1. Obligations to report on kauri dieback on land whenever you detect or suspect kauri dieback
2. Provision of information to the agency to help it manage kauri dieback
3. Restrictions placed on movement of soil and PA host plant material
4. Risk management plans required before carrying out earthworks close to a kauri tree
5. Rules around the movement of kauri and alternative PA host plants and seeds
6. Banning the release of animals like pigs, that could spread PA, into kauri forests
7. Obligations to use approved hygiene stations when they are available
8. Public tracks in kauri forests to meet a minimum national standard within three-years
9. Obligations to carry out hygiene procedures like cleaning after being in a forest but not on a track
10. Obligations to have and implement a kauri dieback management plan if required to do so by the management agency
11. Stock exclusion (eg. through fencing) from kauri forests if required by the management agency
12. Designated zones and/or high risk areas (there are two options for this, depending on whether we have zones or not)
13. Creation of kauri forest sanctuaries.

WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS OF THESE RULES?

Rule	Overview	Who might this affect?
Obligations to report	You must report it to the agency if you identify trees that are exhibiting kauri dieback. This will help the management agency understand where PA is and how it might be spreading, which is critical for it to make informed decisions on managing the disease.	Anyone accessing and working in kauri forests who sees or suspects there is kauri dieback occurring.
Provision of information	You'll have to provide information to the management agency if it asks about the distribution of PA or about the movement of any items that could be carrying PA. This will help the agency understand about the presence of PA but also allow it to act if it thinks there is a particular risk that PA has been spread on things such as equipment or plant material.	Particularly those who have been in kauri forest and have equipment that could have infected soil attached, or those who move plant material around that could be carrying the infection.
Restrictions on movement of soil and PA host plant material into certain areas	You can't move soil or PA host plant material (other than food items and personal effects made of plant material) into an area that the management agency has identified as being particularly at risk, and you have to clean soil off things you are taking into that area. The aim is to stop PA from spreading into areas that don't already have PA.	Those carrying out movements of soil, kauri plant material including roots, and goods and equipment that could contain contaminated soil.
Movement of kauri and alternative PA host plants and seeds	You must be able to ensure that plant material is free of PA before you sell it or move it between premises. This means kauri seeds and plants as well as PA host plants or seeds. This is to prevent kauri dieback being accidentally spread into kauri forests or into gardens or restoration plantings.	Nurseries and gardening outlets, seed collectors, landscape gardeners, environmental groups doing habitat restoration.
Release of animals into wild state	Pigs, deer, goats or cattle are considered a high risk of carrying infected soil on their feet and bodies. They can't be released or encouraged to spread into kauri forests. This strengthens other laws on releases by making them specific to PA.	Hunters, farmers, game tourism operators.
Obligation to use approved hygiene stations	We're trying to build a culture of good forest use and encourage behaviour change around kauri dieback. That means that if there is an approved hygiene station where you visit a kauri forest, you must use it to clean off visible soil and apply sanitiser. It applies to anything that may pick up soil, like footwear, bicycles and other equipment. Approved hygiene stations would be clearly labelled. Failure to clean your gear could mean a $400 fine (similar to those given out at airports for not declaring food).	Anyone visiting kauri forests where they go through an entry or exit point with an approved hygiene station.

Rule	Overview	Who might this affect?
Open tracks to meet minimum requirements within three-years	The movement of people is closely linked to the spread of PA. Well designed paths and tracks minimise the risk of spreading infected soil. Any kauri forest track open to the public will have to meet set standards within three years. These include signage and hygiene facilities, be free of muddy track surfaces close to a kauri tree and run off doesn't affect kauri trees. The rule applies to public tracks on public, private and other types of land, and includes walking tracks, cycle tracks, unsealed roads and 4WD tracks. The standards would include a requirement to install kauri hygiene stations on tracks.	Landowners and occupiers with public access through their kauri forest including councils, DOC, private park owners, tourism operators, farmers and iwi.
Obligation to carry out hygiene for off-track users	If you've gone off an approved track you will have to clean soil and other material off your gear, your animals and your vehicles, when entering or leaving kauri forest, even if there is no cleaning station available. This is needed because going off approved trails is high risk and you could be in close contact with kauri roots, meaning contaminated soil could be transferred on you or your equipment. The agency will work with affected groups to develop advice on what cleaning chemicals should be used and good cleaning techniques.	Hunters, commercial operators, foresters, mountain bikers, trampers, community groups, iwi, trail bike and 4WD drivers.
Approved risk management plans required before carrying out earthworks close to a kauri tree	Applies to any earthworks within three times the maximum radius of the canopy dripline of a kauri tree. Earthworks means the disturbance of land by excavating, blasting, moving, depositing and any associated compacting of soil or rock, excluding mineral prospecting. A detailed plan is needed including where kauri are, the risks of PA spread and the methods you will use to isolate them from those risks. An annual report is also required.	Anyone who is carrying out soil excavations within the specified distance of any kauri tree, whether that tree is on your property or not. Includes homeowners, tradespeople and contractors, utilities companies, groups carrying out environmental or track work.
Obligation to have and implement a kauri dieback management plan if the management agency requires it	Some areas and/or properties are at high risk of spreading, or being infected with, kauri dieback. They might be required to develop a management plan. Plans must be approved by the national agency and will include measures to reduce any risks identified.	Land occupiers and owners, both public and private, whose land is identified as 'high risk' or are in high risk areas.

Rule	Overview	Who might this affect?
Stock exclusion if required by management agency	The management agency may require people with properties at high risk of spreading or becoming infected with PA to keep stock out of their kauri forest. If you are required to do something such as build a new fence, you might be entitled to some form of compensation.	Farmers, landowners and occupiers of properties the agency identifies as being high risk.
Management agency to designate zones and/or high risk areas	This rule is about designating different parts of kauri forest areas in ways that indicate something about their PA status. This could be useful for administrative, educational or presentational purposes, and different legal rules may apply to different types of area. There are two options, and we could have either of them, or neither of them, without affecting the other rules. Option A would require the management agency to designate all kauri forests as one of two zones. The zones would distinguish between areas in which PA has been detected and those where it has not. Option B would require the management agency to identify 'high risk' areas. These may be high risk because they are a potential source of infection, or because they are currently free of PA but are at high risk of becoming infected.	Farmers, landowners and occupiers of properties with kauri forest on them.
If an area designated as a sanctuary, it will have to be managed under a kauri dieback management plan and all stock must be excluded.	Some areas of special value might be designated as 'sanctuaries' by the management agency. These will require specific management plans, approved by the agency, to control kauri dieback risks and to protect the special values of the sanctuary. Stock will have to be excluded from these areas.	The owners and occupiers of kauri forest designated as a sanctuary. This could be on public or private land.

We've also drafted an Impact Assessment that describes the impacts that the proposed NPMP and its rules might have on you and your activities in and around kauri forests. It's available on our website. If we have missed out any groups or impacts, please let us know at KauriConsultation@mpi.govt.nz

COMPENSATION ISSUES

One consequence of the proposed rules to protect kauri is that some in our community could suffer direct financial losses. People who suffer losses as a result of government action are sometimes eligible for compensation, but not always. But there are issues we need to consider about how we fund compensation and the impact that might have on work to protect kauri.

We want your feedback on whether compensation should be paid as a general principle for losses due to kauri dieback activities, and also what you think we should be paying compensation for?

What is compensation?

Generally, the Biosecurity Act allows for compensation to be paid if someone suffers a loss as a result of particular activities carried out to manage a pest, or if restrictions are imposed on the movement or disposal of a person's goods if it meets certain criteria. An example is paying compensation because we require you to withhold a product from sale because we've determined there is a direct biosecurity threat. But a national pest management plan can amend or alter this general rule.

In the context of kauri dieback, the loss could be from not being able to use, access or dispose of your land because a management plan for the area imposes restrictions, or because you have to restrict where stock can go. Or you might have a loss because you can't operate your business as you usually do for similar reasons.

Funding compensation

Usually compensation for biosecurity is partly funded by imposing levies on an industry. For example, farmers are paying levies on cattle to help fund compensation for losses, where animals have to be slaughtered to contain the disease M Bovis.

This is not an option for kauri because there is no significant commercial activity around it. That means any compensation payments would have to come out of funds intended for the wider kauri dieback programme. So every dollar spent on compensation potentially means one dollar less available for dieback control or prevention activities.

What isn't compensation?

It does not include such things as funding work that you might be required to do under the new rules, such as upgrading a track or building a fence. In these cases there is the possibility that the management agency might fund some of this work. But that funding would not be under the 'compensation' banner. Being required to carry out work also doesn't entitle you to compensation, even if it costs you money.

Read more about the plan, the rules and how they will apply in the National Pest Management Plan for Kauri Dieback proposal on our website.

THE AGENCY

The Biosecurity Act says the Minister must appoint an agency to implement an NPMP, but is open on the type of agency and how it will operate. This allows agencies to be developed that are appropriate to the biosecurity threat New Zealand might face. We've identified two options that we want feedback on – a government department or Crown owned company.

What will the agency do?

The agency (regardless of the option chosen), will be responsible for implementing the national plan and delivering on the national kauri dieback strategy. Identifying an agency to manage a pest is not a new approach. Kiwifruit Vine Health, Apiculture New Zealand, and OSPRI New Zealand are three agencies currently managing separate national pest management plans.

The agency is not intended to centralise local decisions and powers over local activities. Its role is to lead and support programmes of work that can complement work being done by local and regional authorities, landowners and iwi. It can deliver efficiency gains by ensuring work is taking place at the right level and with the right incentives, in a way that encourages regional and local flexibility, and provide a consistent national reporting framework.

It can also create an improved profile for kauri dieback activities (e.g. through enhanced and consistent branding across regions), and an improved platform for other funding streams such as philanthropic and non-government funding. It can coordinate the creation of tools and structures that will lead to a more engaged and skilled community and volunteer base, such as nationally accredited courses.

Regional and local leadership in kauri dieback programmes, and much of the responsibility for delivering frontline dieback education, activities and enforcement will continue to be the responsibility of local authorities. As well as having local knowledge and resources, they have access to a suite of other powers that can be used in support of kauri dieback programmes.

Main functions

The main functions of the management agency will be to:

- Provide national direction and consistency in kauri dieback response, including developing standards and guidance that can be used across kaurilands
- Manage the review and funding of approved kauri protection programmes or initiatives
- Support the development of knowledge and tools that can be used to protect kauri, including funding science and mātauranga
- Define and administer areas that need to be managed under management plans, have stock excluded, or have other special measures imposed (and possibly identify different zones or high risk areas, or designate sanctuaries)
- Monitor and report on the progress of protection activities and the spread of kauri dieback disease
- Develop, lead and fund cross-regional or national activities to protect kauri, such as broad-based pest control or surveillance. Most activities will otherwise be done by communities and organisations at the local and regional level
- Develop rules and lead their implementation and enforcement
- Lead national awareness, education and advocacy campaigns to protect kauri from dieback disease
- Build capability with the community and organisations responsible for managing kauri, through things like training and information sharing
- Coordinate the collection and storage of information, for example in a national database of research, standards, activities, and groups doing work.

AGENCY OPTIONS

Since round two of consultation, we have considered a number of agency models to find one that suits the unique challenges kauri dieback brings. The Biosecurity Act says we have four broad options - a government department, a regional council, a territorial authority or a body corporate.

Because kauri dieback affects a number of regions, a regional council or territorial authority was not appropriate for the agency. We also looked at a number of company options but a key limitation is funding, as most dieback funding is likely to come from government, any new agency needs to comply with central government standards of accountability and transparency. That ruled out some company models such as that used for OSPRI, which is managing bovine tuberculosis, as it is a commercial enterprise where industry funds a significant part of the costs. Commercial funding is not an option for kauri, as kauri forests do not create enough direct revenue that can be levied.

This has resulted in two viable options for an agency – a government department and a not-for-profit company.

A government department

The first is appointing an existing government department as the agency. While MPI currently coordinates the kauri dieback programme, that does not mean it would be the department appointed.

Putting the agency into an existing government department would be quick and comparatively low risk. It would be responsible to the relevant minister for its performance.

If the departmental model is chosen, it would likely have an independent external 'voice' through the establishment of a stakeholder advisory group. People would be appointed to this group based on their skills and representation. Appointments would be by the Minister on the advice of the department's chief executive.

The group would that would have access to the programme's papers and provide advice to the department, bringing independent views to the table. It could also report directly to the Minister, providing independent advice and raising issues of concern. But it would be advisory only. It would not make decisions on priorities or investment decisions, and the agency would not be required to take its advice.

A not-for-profit company

The second is option is forming a new not-for-profit Crown-owned company that becomes responsible for implementing the plan and strategy. This is similar to the company Predator Free 2050 Limited, which funds predator reduction projects.

Under this proposal, the company would have government ministers as shareholders and they would appoint the company's board in line with usual government practice. Stakeholder input could be established by a stakeholder council or group that is appointed by the board. This group could report to the board and provide advice on investment decisions of the company. Members of the stakeholder group could be selected on a skills and/or representational basis.

Being a company means it could have a more flexible or commercial approach to its business. It might be able to take up partnership opportunities more easily than a government department could. Having the agency as a company may provide more options in terms of its location.

HOW WOULD THE AGENCY WORK WITH REGIONS AND COMMUNITIES?

A key part of the agency's work will focus on supporting the regions and their communities, because that is where much of the practical work to protect kauri will take place.

That work includes such things such as planning activities, monitoring kauri dieback, working with mana whenua, testing new protection techniques, education and enforcement, applying mātauranga, direct treatments, stock exclusion, track upgrades/closures, track ambassadors etc.

The principle the agency is expected to operate under is that delivery will be at the most localised level that is logically possible, and by those best placed to do the work.

Another principle is that landowners/occupiers/managers will have primary responsibility for managing the work needed, in line with their land management responsibilities.

Treaty partnership is at the heart of new arrangements for the protection of kauri. This includes co-management at a local level with mana whenua in line with existing co-management agreements or developing new ones. It will include building capability and/or capacity to co-manage will get national and regional support to grow their capability to co-manage where needed. Mana whenua will have a key role to play in identifying opportunities for and applying mātauranga and rongoā. While the national plan will drive the overall programme for protecting kauri, at the regional level there is likely to be more investment in planning and coordinating activities to ensure work is prioritised and targeted to meet the needs of kauri in the area. The agency is likely to contract regions or communities to carry out agreed programmes, and they will need to report back on progress.

The agency would work with regions, councils, mana whenua, communities and landowners on a regional plan that complements the national plan. Regional steering committees could provide oversight and implementation. Regional plans could also be broken down into management units so that areas with communities of interest (such as a rohe or a distinct geography) could have specific plans suited to their conditions.

Regional coordinators could also be appointed to work with the committee to implement and manage the plan. These could be funded by the national agency. They would liaise with iwi, landowners and community groups to drive and support local activities, share knowledge, and ensure coordination.

MAKE A SUBMISSION

3

KEEP KAURI STANDING
STOP KAURI DIEBACK DISEASE SPREADING
KIA TOITU HE KAURI

WHERE TO NEXT?

Once consultation is complete, recommendations on the proposals will be made to Cabinet through the Minister for Biosecurity.

The next stage will be the establishment of the agency to implement the plan. The agency will have a range of tasks to undertake before it is fully up and running, and the model chosen will affect how long that will take. It will likely then begin the work to implement the plan, such as identifying kauri forest areas, prioritising areas for protection or treatment, funding protection work, and drafting or coordinating standards. Some of the standards and guidelines have already been developed and some others are under development. We expect the agency will have ongoing engagement with communities as part of its work. Meanwhile, practical protection work that is being undertaken by iwi, communities and councils will continue as usual.

How do I respond?

This booklet is only an outline of the main points of the proposals. The full proposals and background information are on our website: www.kauridieback.co.nz/consultation. We encourage you to review these documents if you are intending to make a submission.

We've provided a comment sheet that can be removed from the booklet for you to send to us. If you run out of room feel free to attach extra paper.

An electronic submission form can be downloaded from our website. Please ensure you follow the instructions on the website to ensure your comments are saved. Forms should be attached to an email and sent to us at KauriConsultation@mpi.govt.nz.

If you prefer to write your submission on a separate document, it would help us with our collation of submissions if you linked your comments to the relevant question numbers on our comment sheet.

Please send your written submissions to:

Attention: Roger Smith
Chair of Kauri Dieback Programme Governance Group
Kauri dieback disease consultation
PO Box 2526
Wellington 6140.

We are also running a series of hui and community meetings around the kaurilands in March. Please see our website for details on locations and times.

Consultation closes on 18 March 2019.

KEEP KAURI STANDING
STOP KAURI DIEBACK DISEASE SPREADING
KIA TOITU HE KAURI

FEEDBACK FORM

HAVE YOUR SAY

Consultation three: proposals to protect kauri from dieback disease
Homai tō kōrero mō te kauri. Have your say on the future of kauri.

Submissions must be received no later than 5pm 18 March 2019.

Your details:

Name of submitter or contact person:

Organisation (if applicable):

Email or contact address:

Submissions are public information

Any submission you make becomes public information. Anyone can ask for copies of submissions under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). Our policy is to withhold names and any identifying information when responding to requests. However, any decision we make to withhold information can be reviewed by the Ombudsman, who may require the information to be released.

Submission:

1. Do you think the proposed national plan will help better protect kauri from dieback disease?

1a. Do the rules proposed make sense and do you think they will be easy for people to comply with? Are there additional rules that we need or have we gone too far?

1b. If people follow the rules, do you think that will reduce the spread of kauri dieback?

1c. What changes to the rules could we make so they work better to prevent kauri dieback spreading?

1d. Are there any major issues we have missed that we need to consider before the plan is finalised?

1e. Should the agency be required to zone all kauri forest areas by identifying which areas are infected with Phytophthora Agathidicida (PA) and which are not (as far as this is known)? Or should the agency just identify areas of 'high risk'?

1f. Should the agency be able to designate areas as sanctuaries?

1g. Have we missed out any significant groups of kauri forest users or impacts the National Pest Management Plan for Kauri Dieback (NPMP) may have on them in our draft Impact Assessment table (available on the website)?

2. Should compensation for activities required under the NPMP be available? If yes, what activities should be compensated and under what circumstances?

3. Which of the two options proposed for a national agency (government department or not-for-profit company) do you think will be best for the future of kauri, and why?

3a. Are there other things you think the agency needs to do?

3b. What kind of community input should there be in the agency?

3c. What kind of people should be on any advisory or governance boards with what kind of backgrounds or experience?

Once you have completed this form

Email to: KauriConsultation@mpi.govt.nz

Or put your submission in the feedback box at hui or post it (see page 18 of consultation booklet for postal addresss)

You can sign up for news updates from the Kauri Dieback Programme at www.kauridieback.co.nz and go to 'News and updates'.