

FOREST FLYER

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY PAN PAC FOREST PRODUCTS LIMITED—FORESTRY & LOGISTICS

JANUARY 2016

PAN PAC
PAN PAC FOREST PRODUCTS LIMITED



WELCOME TO THE FOREST FLYER

PAN PAC DISTRIBUTES THE FLYER EACH YEAR TO ADVISE USERS, NEIGHBOURS AND INTEREST GROUPS OF RECENT HAPPENINGS IN THE FORESTS AND HOW OUR OPERATIONS IN THE COMING YEAR MIGHT AFFECT YOU.

YOUR FEEDBACK IS WELCOME.



NEW LAND PURCHASE

In February 2015 Pan Pac purchased 733 hectares of farmland adjoining our Waipatiki forest. The purchase offered us an exciting opportunity to expand. It is located only 12kms from the Pan Pac mill so it makes for handy wood in the future.

There is a lot of planning that needs to be done prior to the seedlings being planted. The final planning maps included “no plant” zones around roads including maintaining “line of sight” on corners, and off-sets on neighbours fences and around power lines. Also wetlands, small pockets of native remnant forest, and streams were protected with an approximate 5 m “no plant” buffer strip. In all, about 48 hectares were not planted.

In July the planting commenced. A 20 man crew took 8 weeks to plant 685ha – no small feat! Along with the Pinus radiata, 900 manuka and 200 mixed natives have been planted along the Waipatiki stream to enhance the riparian strip.



PLANTING Where it all starts...

This year Pan Pac planted 1,540,000 trees. Planting started in June and had slowed down to a few small areas by November. In the end, about 1850 hectares was planted across all our forests. About 55 people were directly involved with making it happen.

How big is 1850 hectares? 2,650 rugby fields, but that isn't very useful. It works out to be about all of Napier excluding Taradale and Westshore.

Apart from the new land purchase, all the planting was done in areas that were recently harvested. So it is very much about the continuation of a sustainable forestry cycle.

Our planting crews are professionals. Planting is physically demanding and takes a lot of skill to become good at. For example, the planting rows need to be consistently spaced and the trees planted at the correct distance in the row. Imagine doing this on steep country going up and down gullies. Current spacing for the planting is 5m x 2.4m, which results in 833 trees to the hectare.



On average each planter plants by spade 800 trees a day. Apart from trees put in the right location, the ground needs to be adequately cultivated and trees planted at the correct depth and with the correct root alignment.

Why thin out half the trees at age 11?



It would seem to make sense that you would only plant the number of trees that you need to grow a quality forest. However, we normally don't. At the moment we plant 833 trees per hectare, yet we only need between 275 and 400 to go through to harvest. The rest are culled out between 10 and 12 years old. So why?

The answer is a mix of the following reasons:

It is done to improve branch size and tree form of the final trees. The more trees reduce the size and number of branches for easier pruning, or if unpruned, for improved wood quality. The higher stocking also provides mutual protection from the weather and creates competition among trees. This enhances tree height and gives the branch size benefits. Also more trees help suppress understorey vegetation such as gorse to enable easier access for pruning crews.

It is done to make sure there will be enough final trees. Not all trees will survive planting so more trees are planted. Also Pan Pac's experience has shown that areas with low numbers of young trees are more susceptible to damage more by wind, snow, animals and insects.

It is done to reduce variability in the final trees. Not all trees planted are "winners". There is a lot of variation within trees. This could be height, diameter, branching and branch size, and straightness. This is particularly the case with radiata pine. Thinning gives the option to cull out some of the poorer ones.

OPERATIONS IN YOUR AREA

The timing of many of our operations depends on tree age. This is an indicative programme:

Year 1	Planting. Releasing new crop from weeds.
Year 5-11	Pruning and thinning.
Year 27-30	Construction of roads and landings and, one year later, logging and transport of the logs on logging trucks.

In the next 12 months 19 logging crews will work in Pan Pac's Forests—some of these crews may move into private woodlots when conditions are dry.

The main changes expected in our harvesting operations that may affect the public over the next 12 months are:

Esk – Te Pohue	We will be logging in Waitoto Road and Old Taupo Coach Road next year.
Esk – Glenfalls	No harvest operations for several years.
Esk - Pohokura	2 to 3 crews will continue logging for another year. We expect to complete Pohokura early 2017. Up to 24 logging trucks per day on the Pohokura - Waitara Road route.
Gwavas	2 to 3 crews logging most of the year. Logging trucks using Kereru & Gwavas Roads.
Kaweka	2 to 3 crews logging for another 12 months then little logging for 2 years. Up to 24 trucks / day on the Taihape Road.
Mohaka – Anaura	One crew clearfell harvesting from March 2016. One mechanised production thinning crew logging over summer months.
Mohaka – Putere	Up to 6 crews and 48 trucks per day carting out of Putere, Woodland and Te Kahu Rds.
Mohaka – Waipapa	Continue harvesting with 1 to 2 crews.
Tangoio - McKinnon's	1 to 2 crews logging on Aropaoanui Rd. This logging will continue until 2017.
Tangoio - Mill	One crew logging off and on during the next 12 months behind the Mill.

Woodlots	We are currently harvesting several woodlots in the Hawkes Bay region.
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Where logging operations may affect individuals or communities, we will contact them by means of letters, flyers or meetings.

Wairoa College Careers Day

Last year's workforce survey highlighted that we have an aging workforce. Back in 2002 about 20 percent of workers were under 20, now it is just 4 percent. This result is mirrored in other forestry company surveys. As a sector we need to do something about it. The problem won't solve itself.

Over the year Pan Pac and the Hawke's Bay Forestry Group, which represents Hawke's Bay forestry companies, has started to build relationships with secondary schools. The most advanced is with Wairoa College.

The Hawke's Bay Forestry Group was one of group of organisations that participated in the Wairoa College Careers Day. It was great to be a part of this and it was excellent to see the school is focussed on developing pathways to employment. Within the next five years there will be a large increase in harvesting of forests in the Wairoa region. It would be great to get young Wairoa locals involved in our industry. We recognise the best workers are potentially those that live local.

The Hawke's Bay Forestry Group wants to continue to actively support the school in developing forestry as a career path. It is not just about planting and pruning. The sector employs engineers, marketers, truck drivers, mechanics, planners, accountants, electricians and many other fields. Pan Pac has a diverse range of skills amongst the approximate 850 employees and contractors.



INTRODUCING KEVIN HINTON



Kevin is a recent addition to our staff and is our Health and Safety Advisor. Kevin has spent the last 8 years in H & S leadership roles in construction companies like Fletchers and Eberts. Prior to that, Kevin had about 25 years in the NZ Army in both uniform and civilian roles.

Kevin believes H & S is important because people matter the most. "Everyone deserves to go home in the same condition they came to work! Because people are the most important asset in a business it makes perfect sense to protect the asset."

Kevin's key safety message is that "safety is everyone's responsibility – you make the difference. Don't be afraid to speak up or stop someone doing the wrong thing and watch out for your mates."

HEALTH AND SAFETY ACCORD

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Health & Safety Accord

Our Vision is...

"WORKING TOGETHER TO PROTECT EACH OTHER FROM HARM"



We believe that...

- all harm is preventable.
- health and safety is as important as the environment, quality, profit and productivity.
- we are all responsible for our own safety and for the safety of others and will follow all safety rules, procedures and practices.
- all workers must be competent, or supervised until trained for the task they are performing.
- we must continually review methods, procedures and technologies to improve safety.
- all tasks must be done safely or not at all.

As part of the Forestry and Logistics team we are committed to support this vision and take personal responsibility and accountability for our actions. I will uphold the core values of respect, integrity, reliability and courage (kia kaha) and will also ensure that my team is committed to the principles of this Vision.

Brian Pritchard	Bruce Evaris	Gavin Wright	Dagon Wise	Sheldon Ellis	Kevin Hinton
Brett Gilmore	Ed Saathof	Vanessa White	Ross Dobbie	Chris Delaney	Brent McNabb
Neil Blunden	Stephen Leadley	Moyd Jones	Brent Marshall	Paul Teddy	Paul Dornan
Allan Joule	Paul Cudby	Graeme Dalzell	Sue Stone	Steve Smith	Andrew Frame
Bruce Bates	Ben Sanders	Bill Henderson	Peter Reid	Sean Wright	Gerald Haynes
Bryce Wright	Dave Coe	Carole Allan	Nick Van Haandel	Robyn Graham	Jane Sullivan
Ivy Gao	Kelsi Hamilton				

FOREST ACCESS

Pan Pac's forests are used by many people for recreation. Forest access is controlled through a permit system for safety reasons.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Esk & Tangoio

Peter Reid 06 831 0100 021 900 172

Gwavas

Bryce Wright 06 856 5508 0274 464 907

Kaweka

Dave Coe 06 874 2882 0274 464 908

Mohaka

Gerald Haynes 06 837 6848 0274 464 906

Forestry & Logistics Office

06 835 9260

Mill Site

06 831 0100

YOUR COMMENT - WE WELCOME FEEDBACK!

Do we have your correct address and contact details?

Would you like to receive this electronically please contact

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