



ANNUAL MONITORING REVIEW NORTHLAND, COROMANDEL, WHANGANUI ESTATE

Date: 1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025

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INTRODUCTION

Summit Forest New Zealand Limited (SFNZ) was established in 2013 and has maintained Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) FSC-C112972 certification since Juken New Zealand Limited original assessment in 2008. FSC is an international certification for companies that can demonstrate that they have a good record of environmental management. There are 10 principles covering responsible management of the resource, the environment, people and communities. This annual monitoring review provides a summary of forest operations across our certified estate (Northland, Coromandel and Whanganui) for the past 12 months and is publicly available on the Summit Forests website <https://www.summitforests.co.nz/>.

FOREST DESCRIPTION

ACQUISITIONS

No new acquisitions were completed in the past 12 months.

INVENTORY

In Northland, a review of the clay forests generic yield tables was completed with 75 plots measured across a range of low, medium and high productivity sites. This covered an area of 2,109 hectares. A 2% sample for pre harvest and mid rotation inventory was also completed on Te Paki and Mangataniwha Forests.

In the Coromandel, the 5 yearly lidar measurement was completed. 256 plots were measured across a range of age classes as part of this process to monitor growth and update yield tables.

AGE CLASS DISTRIBUTION

Figure 1 shows the current area by age class distribution for our FSC certified estate.

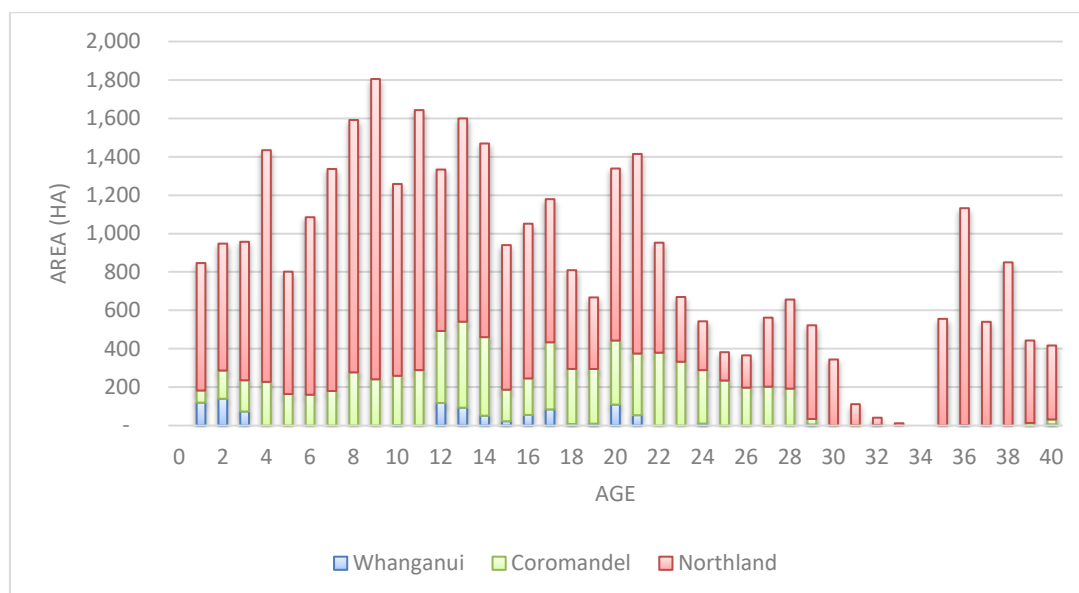


Figure 1 Current area by age class distribution

YIELD RECONCILIATION

In late 2024 Summit Forests undertook an extensive process to align the regional yield tables across the business. This included input from the northland clay forests inventory exercise and consideration of the existing sources of data including past historical reconciliation processes. As a result, reconciliations for FY25 include a mix of both existing and updated yield tables – from FY26, all will be reconciled against the new set.

A total of 852 hectares were included in the reconciliation process for FY2025, with the majority coming from the Northland region. The details of which can be seen in Figure 2 below. All predicted versus actual volumes for forests in Northland are closely aligned. The Whangapoua recovery information to date suggests that the current yield predictions are underestimating true volume, to the degree of ~15%. While this is only based on a small proportion of the overall forest area, it is of note. Updated LiDAR yield tables derived from the latest 5-year measurement are expected to replace these – reconciliation from next year will shed light the accuracy of these new measurements.

Figure 3 provides a summary of the recovery by compartment in our largest forest, Te Hiku. While local variability within compartment is common due to fluctuations in site productivity, the overall average recovery is good. No yield reconciliations were completed in Whanganui as there are no harvesting operations with this region currently in the growth phase of the forestry life cycle.

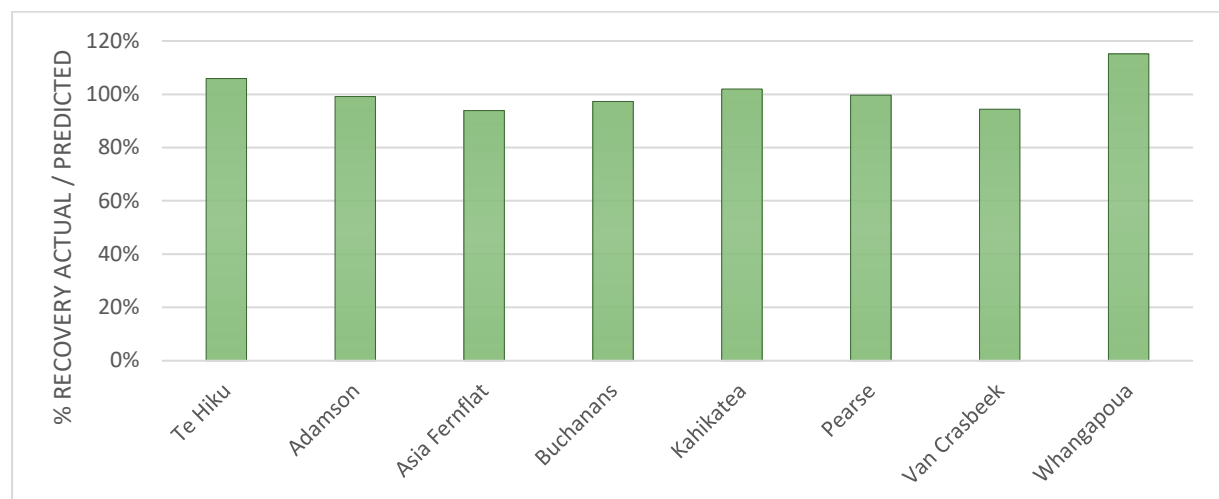


Figure 2 Yield reconciliation by Forest

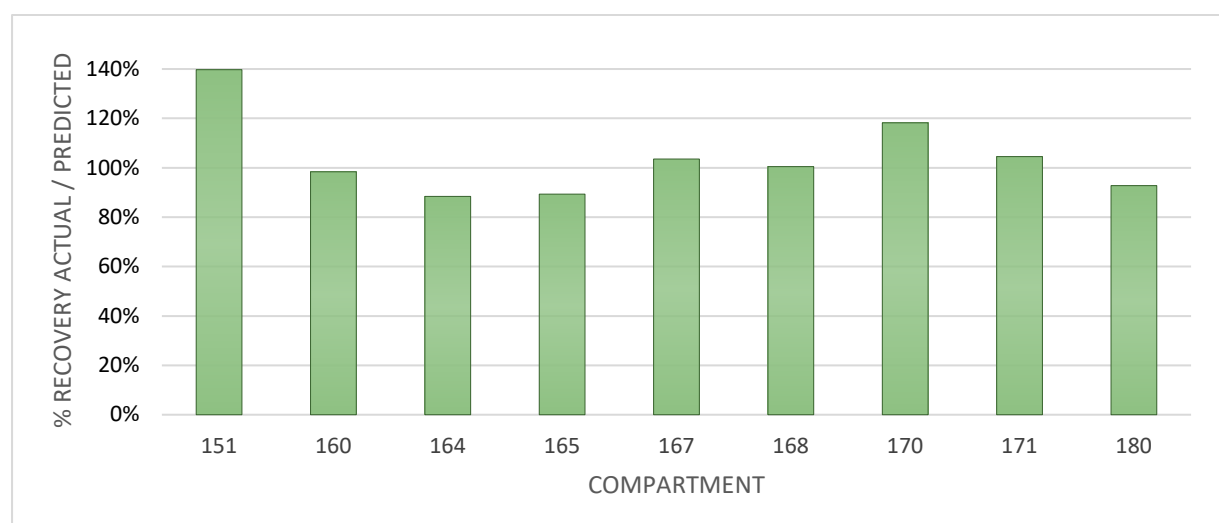


Figure 3 Yield reconciliation by compartment Te Hiku

SOCIAL

PUBLIC FEEDBACK

Summit strives to engage actively with stakeholders in the many communities in which it operates, with particular focus on those directly or indirectly affected by its operations. Prior to commencing harvesting in a new area, SFNZ engages with representatives of the local community so that they are informed of plans and can be involved in developing mitigation strategies for identified concerns. Typically, the groups include forest neighbours, residents on any rural access roads affected by logging traffic, and tangata whenua. SFNZ maintains a stakeholder and public feedback register to monitor and manage issues.

Summit is an active member of industry working groups and other local community environmental working groups. We also work closely with stakeholders including local iwi and the Department of Conservation on environmental projects, such as wetland restoration and pest control.

Coromandel operations hold a community meeting annually at Kuaotunu Hall for members of the public to be informed about operations, both past and planned, and raise any questions they may have. This meeting is publicly advertised.

Both the website and social media is used to share information on the good news stories as well as any public announcements that may be required to be circulated.

Figure 4 shows a summary of the communication types we have received over the past 3 years. There is a wide range of issues being raised with fencing and public road use being the main areas of concern. When any issue arises, we work with those involved to get a positive outcome.

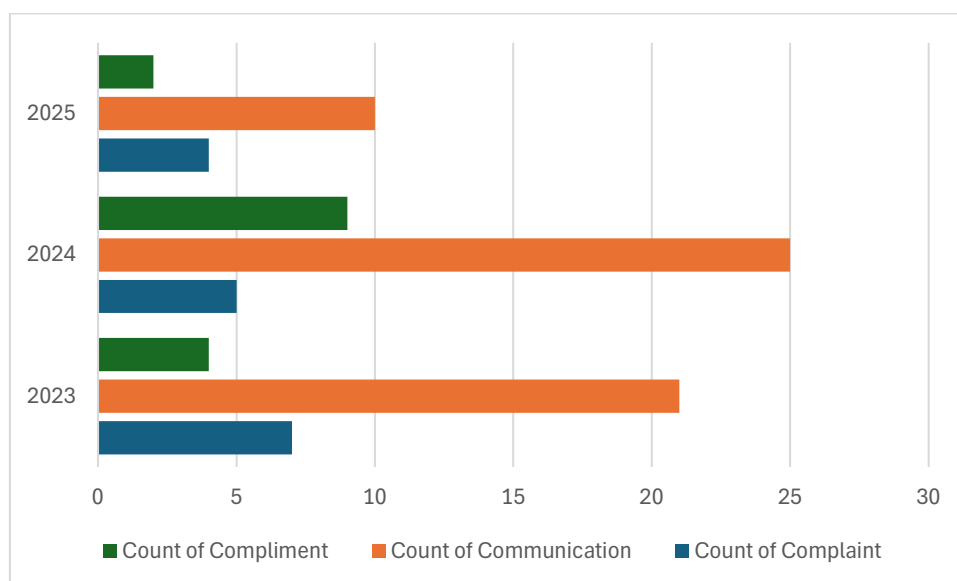


Figure 4 Record of communications, complaints, and complaints from the public

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

At Summit, stakeholder relations are a key priority. Summit is committed to conducting operations in an ethical and socially responsible manner. We acknowledge that our activities can impact the communities and environments in which we operate. We communicate regularly with the affected stakeholders to ensure safety, minimise disruption, and maintain positive community relationships.

In Northland, logging operations have started in Matapia Forest, which will increase heavy vehicle traffic past several primary schools. Therefore, the Northland Wood Council, Holmes Group and Summit Forests New Zealand Limited partnered with Discover Forestry to deliver the “Wood is Good” programme to Ngataki and Pukenui Schools in the Far North. This primary school programme has been developed to teach students about the plantation forest cycle, wood products and safety around large road vehicles. The crucial messaging is: ***Be safe, be seen, make sure drivers can see you.***



Figure 5 Wood is Good visit to Pukenui School.



Figure 6 Blessing Matapia operations.

A blessing ceremony was held at Matapia Forest prior to the commencement of harvest operations, with representatives from Te Hiku iwi, SFNZ, and the harvest crew in attendance. This important occasion acknowledged the spiritual significance of the land and honoured those who have gone before us. It was also an opportunity to seek protection and good fortune for the work ahead and to show respect for mana whenua. The blessing ensured that all involved were spiritually, culturally, and emotionally prepared to proceed in a manner aligned with tikanga Māori.

Summit's third year of partnership with Kaitaia College's Tūranga Kāinga programme at Lake Gem provides a safe space for students to get some hands-on experience as part of their environmental education. Over the three days, students undertake some planting, weed control and recreational track maintenance, while learning about dune lakes, wetland ecosystems, and kaitiakitanga.

Te Hiku Forest is Summit's largest forest in Northland, so Summit hosts quarterly operational meetings with the Te Hiku Collective, who own the land, to keep them informed about operations, health and safety, stakeholder matters, and environmental issues.



Figure 7 Kaitaia College Tūranga Kāinga students learning about kaitiakitanga at Little Lake Gem.

In the Coromandel, the resource consent for Whangapoua Forest established a schedule of stakeholder meetings that has been followed each year since the consents were granted in 2007. The key meetings are:

- The annual Public Meeting that is held at the Kuaotunu Hall. This year's meeting was attended by around half a dozen people including Summit staff and representatives of Waikato Regional Council. The meeting provided the opportunity to brief those attending on the operations planned for the coming year and address any specific questions such as whether Summit will be planning Eucalypts, why are we not pruning, and what we are doing to control pigs.
- The Kaitiaki Taonga Team (KTT) AGM. This was attended by two Ngati Huarere representatives. The meeting provided an opportunity to brief the KTT on forest operations and for the Archaeologist to provide an update on the current Archaeological Authority and the plan to replace or extend this to 2031.
- Archaeological field visit. This followed on from the KTT AGM and investigated anomalies in the recent LiDAR survey. One of those turned out to be a series of pits that have now been taped off to avoid damage during harvest while the other were not archaeological sites.



Figure 8 Archaeological site inspection

RECREATIONAL USE

Access is allowed in most forests where operational or other restrictions are not in place. SFNZ's website ([Forest Access | Summit Forests](#)) provides information on forest access and the online permit process. Members of the public enjoy the forests for numerous recreational and hunting activities as can be seen in table 1.

Table 1 Summary of the number of permits issued over the past 12 months

Permit Type	Coromandel	Northland	Whanganui	Total
Hunting	145	135	101	381
Deer			95	95
Hunting Other		32		32
Pheasant		2		2
Pig	145	80	4	229
Possum		21	2	23
Recreation		742	6	748
4WD		2		2
Access Other		25		25
Beach		300		300
Dog Walking		32		32
Firewood			6	6
Horse Riding		111		111
Mountain Biking		102		102
Photography		20		20
Recreation Other	20	51		71
Research		37		37
Walking/Running		62		62
Total	165	877	107	1149

Kerikeri Mountain Bike Club operates out of Whitehills Forest in Northland and manages its membership separately. Over 180 members ranging from toddlers who ride shotgun seat on their parents' bikes through to tweens, teens and some passionate 60+ riders utilise the forest regularly. The club has built an extensive network of 29 trails graded to NZ standard, and able to be utilised for secondary school competitions.



Figure 9 Examples of people enjoying recreational use of our forests

RESEARCH

Progressive Catchment harvesting in Whangapoua Forest: NIWA has monitored catchments in the Whangapoua Forest, Coromandel over the past 30 years. They are analysing the impacts on stream visual clarity, temperature, habitat and invertebrates during progressive catchment harvesting. The report is available on request.

Ngā Awa River Restoration Programme: SFNZ represents the forestry industry in the Ngā Awa River Restoration Programme. This is a collaborative research programme co-led by a Doubtless Bay hapū collective and Te Papa Atawhai | Department of Conservation (DOC). Its aim is to support freshwater restoration initiatives in three Doubtless Bay catchments: the Awapoko, Oruru and Oruaiti River sub-catchments. The project covers 55,605 thousand hectares, of which SFNZ owns or manages approximately 1,680 hectares, or 3%. The Ngā Awa programme is focused on co-design and co-leadership with mana whenua. Phase 1 of this project aims to evaluate and develop targeted revegetation options in the Doubtless Bay catchments to support freshwater restoration and enhance resilience to climate change. Management of retired land in SFNZ Adamson Forest is one of the twelve case study sites. SFNZ has retired a 5-hectare strip between Paranui Stream and Hikurangi Road (forest road) that was difficult to harvest. This option involves a minimum-interference management plan. Small light wells will be cleared in the gorse and planted with eco-sourced seedlings to support the site's transition to indigenous cover.



Figure 10: Doubtless Bay Catchment group site visit to Adamson Forest.

Forest Flows Research: SFNZ supported SCION Forest Flows Hui to inform tangata whenua of the forest hydrology research results. This event was held at Ka Uri on 11 September 2024. SFNZ have supported the SCION Forest Flows research programme in Te Hiku Forest for 5 years (September 2019 to September 2024). The Scion-led MBIE-supported programme is working in collaboration with various iwi, national and international universities and institutes. The programme looks at how water moves through catchments and is stored. There are five primary and five secondary catchments across NZ, including the Coal Creek catchment in Te Hiku Forest. New research is needed to replace outdated models and understand the complex processes of how water is distributed, used and circulated in forested catchments. SCION has the support of the Te Hiku Collective to apply for Phase 2 NZ NASA funding to extend the project to look at the hydrology of other land use and develop a “toolbox” for land managers to utilise the knowledge gained. For more information, visit [Forest flows research programme](#).



Figure 11 Forest Flow data logger in Te Hiku Forest

SPONSORSHIP

In the past 12 months Summit Forests has sponsored a range of community-based events and projects, which includes:

- Top Energy regional science and technology fair
- Awanui Senior Men's Rugby Team
- Northland Forestry Awards Gold sponsor of the health and safety award
- Kaitaia Youth Rugby Team
- Breast Cancer NZ
- Sport Northland Kaitaia run/walk event in Te Hiku Forest.
- Support Taipa Marae with a clean-up project of their urupa



Figure 12 Photos from sponsorship events throughout the year

ENVIRONMENTAL

Between April 2024 and March 2025, the New Zealand Government introduced sweeping streamlining reforms to environmental regulation, accelerating resource consents, reversing previous water centralizations, and opening up oil, gas, and mining access. Simultaneously, it initiated a phased replacement of the RMA, new frameworks for climate, fishing sustainability, and national regulatory standards. These indicate a clear pivot toward supporting development and economic growth, albeit sparking significant pushback from environmentalists, iwi, and opposition parties, particularly concerning dilution of environmental protections and Treaty principles.

Part of the RMA reform includes proposed amendments to the National Environmental Standard for Commercial Forestry (NES-CF) to reinstate its original intent of providing nationally consistent rules that provide stability for the industry. The proposed changes include simplifying definitions, removing the need for afforestation and replanting management plans, introducing a slash mobilisation risk assessment, and reducing Council's ability to make more stringent rules without justification. These proposed changes will help restore that intent and recognise the vital role forestry plays in New Zealand's economic and environmental future.

The following summarises environmental activities SFNZ has undertaken over the last 12 months.

IMPROVEMENTS

Environmental improvements are raised if we have been notified of an event or as part of as part our operations supervision. These improvements are documented using Mango, SFNZ's event reporting and management tool.

The table below provides a summary of the environmental incidents in the past 12 months.

Table 2 Summary of environmental incidents in the past 12 months

Region	Description	Date	Type
Northland	Truck / roadside vegetation Fire No2 Road Te Hiku Forest marker 23	03/02/2025	Environmental Incident
Northland	Fire in Te Hiku Forest compartment 15	27/03/2025	Environmental Incident
Northland	Dead kiwi discovered in Whitehills Forests	11/08/2024	Environmental Observation / Find

STREAM MONITORING

Summit is committed to ensuring we have a minimal effect on water quality.

Northland: Annual monitoring of significant streams leaving harvest areas is undertaken Pre-harvest, during harvest, and two years post-harvest. A survey based on the NIWA Stream Health Monitoring and Assessment Kit (SHMAK) is used. In addition, harvest supervisors check significant streams weekly during harvest operations and ensure slash management plans are working. No issues were identified during the 2025 monitoring. Clarity results ranged from good (70-90 cm) to excellent (100 cm) using the 100 cm clarity tube. Most sites had small fluctuations when compared to last year's results. Honeymoon showed some disturbance, but this will settle as the new crossing beds in.



Figure 13 Kōura, or freshwater crayfish

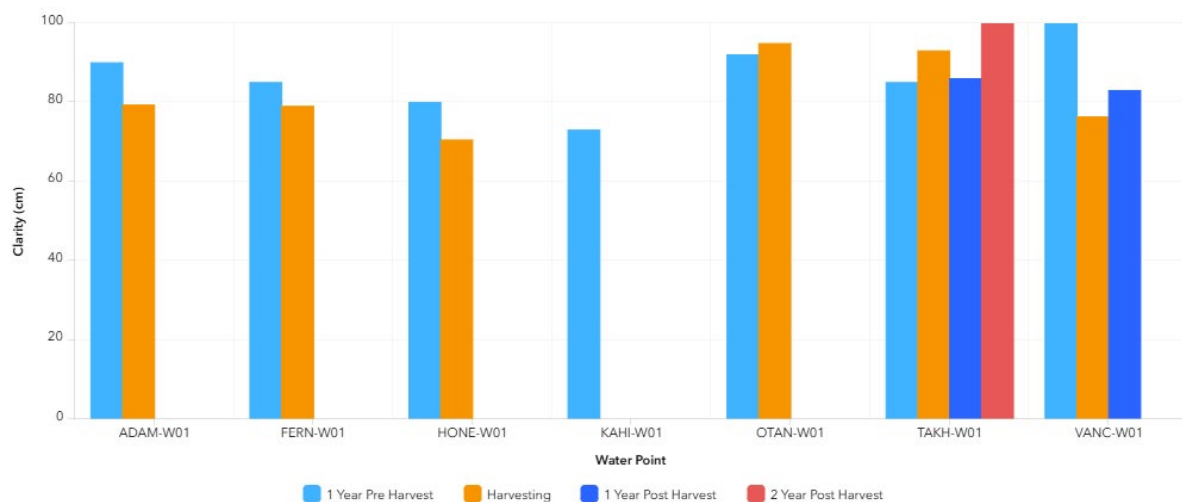


Figure 14 Northland Clarity Monitoring Results

Coromandel: Coromandel stream monitoring is undertaken by NIWA under the resource consent for harvesting. The 30th year of monitoring was completed in 2023. The NIWA report analysing this data was completed in November 2024 and final report is available on request. In this 30th anniversary report, NIWA conducted a high-level stocktake of the full 30-year dataset for each of the 13 currently monitored sites. The focus is on understanding long-term trends in water clarity and temperature, stream morphology, instream vegetation, and benthic invertebrate communities in Whangapoua stream ecosystems. SFNZ is working with NIWA and the Waikato Regional Council on a review of the current monitoring program with a view to bringing it in line with current practices.

At most harvested sites, harvest reduced water clarity in the year after logging adjacent to the study reach. Overall, all large (>50 ha) sites showed decreasing trends in water clarity during the post-harvest monitoring period. This included sites, where the riparian zone of the monitoring reach remained intact but was potentially affected by upstream catchment harvest. The one small (<50 ha) site monitored for water clarity showed a decrease in water clarity immediately after harvest but then maintained stable water clarity values over the rest of the monitoring period.



Figure 15 Coromandel water clarity monitoring

Whanganui: There are no significant streams to monitor in the Whanganui Estate.

THREATENED SPECIES MONITORING

Plantation forests provide great habitat for many indigenous and threatened species. All staff and crew are trained annually in Threatened Species field recognition, reporting and emergency procedures. Sightings are reported in the Observation Survey. RTE locations are marked on Field Maps and reference material provided in the Operations Guide.

Most observations were kiwi probe holes and Matuku (Australasian Bittern) sightings. Some sightings of note included: The thinning crew in Coromandel captured video footage of the Coromandel striped gecko and a member of the public sighting Matapia Gecko (*Dactylocnemis*) in Northland's Te Hiku Forest. As there are no indigenous habitat remnants close by that could be protected as refugia Summit is working through a Lizard Management Plan with the Department of Conservation (DOC) and an Ecological Consultant. The initial site visit to understand the landscape and operations has been undertaken. Once the survey design is complete Taiao Groups and other stakeholders will be contacted to assist with the survey.

A dead kiwi was reported to Summit by the Kerikeri Mountain Bike Club in Whitehills Forest (Northland). The bird was retrieved and taken to DOC for analysis. DOC reported the cause of death as unknown; however, it is likely a dog attack. Summit invests in predator control work in this forest to help protect kiwi, so this finding was very disappointing. Permitted stakeholders were reminded that hunting dogs are to be kiwi avoidance trained, and recreational dogs should be on a lead or left at home.



Figure 16 RTE training with Northland Crew Leaders

Summit monitors kiwi call counts to record presence/absence for operational planning and to monitor kiwi population density in forests with intensive pest control programmes. Dates are chosen by the national Kiwi Recovery Group during the Kiwi mating season (May/June) to coincide with the darker phases of the moon. The results of kiwi call count monitoring in each region are presented in Table 3 below.

Project Kiwi manages monitoring in the Coromandel Forests. Kiwi call count monitoring is undertaken biannually by listening for 6 hours on two consecutive nights.

In Coromandel, one kiwi chick was released between April 2023-March 2024 in Whangapoua Forest as part of the captive rearing programme coordinated by the Project Kiwi Trust. This programme has seen the release of 116 juvenile kiwi into the Whangapoua Forest since 2013 and has directly contributed towards the New Zealand Threat Classification status change for Coromandel brown kiwi from 'Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable' to 'Not Threatened' in nine years. The maintenance of this gain will depend on the continuation of successful conservation programmes that attend to the threat status qualifier of 'Conservation Dependent'.

Monitoring of three kiwi pairs in the Otama Forest in Coromandel during harvest showed at least 30% – 50% of each territory was mature radiata pine forest. The kiwi pairs continued to inhabit and nest in the same territories post-harvest as they did prior to and during harvest.

Acoustic recorder monitoring is undertaken annually in the Northland Forests. The recorders are set for 6 hours over 5 consecutive nights. Takou Bay and Whitehills are part of an intensive predator control effort to protect ecological values, specifically kiwi. Since monitoring started the call counts in Takou Bay have fluctuated, peaking in 2022 with 6 calls per hour and has drastically dropped over the past two years. The exact reasons are unknown, but reports from Kiwi Coast indicate dog attacks continue to be an issue. Call counts in Whitehills are relatively stable. VanCrasbeek was monitored over harvesting and counts have remained stable. Broadpine 1 and Omakura were monitored for presence/absence.

Table 3 Average Kiwi Calls per hour

Region	Site	2012	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Coromandel	Owera Catchment	2.4	2.0		2.7			3.0	2.3		3.4
Coromandel	Otanguru Catchment	0.1	1.0		2.6			1.0	0.5		0.8
Coromandel	Neighbour		0.8		0.4			0.5	0.3		0.2
Northland	Takou Bay			3.4	2.7	4.3	5.5	3.8	6.0	0.7	0.4
Northland	Whitehills			1.8	1.6	1.5	2.0	2.6	0.9	0.4	1.4
Northland	VanCrasbeek				0.14	0.9	1.7	1.4	1.4	0.8	0.1
Northland	Broadpine1										0.0
Northland	Omakura										0.1

Kauri is under threat from a root rot fungus called *Phytophthora agathidicida* (PA). There is a National PA Pest Management Plan in place to try and protect Kauri from the pathogen. SFNZ was part of an industry working group that had developed guidelines to assist the plantation forestry sector to minimise the risks of spreading PA through forestry operations and activities. SFNZ also supported a presentation to the Northland Forestry Environmental Working Group at Opouteke Forest, looking at the practical application of the plan.



Figure 17 Kauri management signage

PEST CONTROL

Summit undertakes pest control operations to enhance habitat for indigenous species and to protect the crop trees. Recreational hunters help to control feral pig, goat and deer. Tellies from recreational hunting are not reported.

In Northland, Whitehills, Shepherds, Takou Bay, and neighbouring Upokarau Farm are part of a Community Pest Control Area (CPCA) in partnership with Northland Regional Council and Kiwi Coast. The pest control work Summit undertaken supports Kiwi Coast's Mid North High Value Area. A contractor checks traps and bait station's monthly. Other pest control operations are undertaken in other forests as required. Results are entered into TrapNZ.

Feral Horses in Te Hiku Forest have been identified as a threat to health and safety, archaeological sites, and threatened ecosystems. The four iwi of Te Hiku and Summit are working closely on a Strategic Action Plan to maintain their heritage and tourism value while minimising their negative impacts. Horses are mustered and rehomed or selectively culled. Mustered horses go to a trainer in the Bay of Islands. People can register to learn to handle the horses before having the option to adopt.

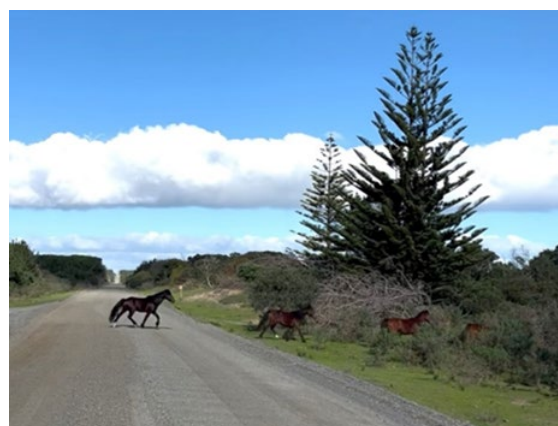


Figure 18 Feral horse issue in Te Hiku Forest

Pest control in the Coromandel Estate is contracted to the Project Kiwi Trust who manage a range of biodiversity projects, including the Biodiversity Block (1,432 hectares) and the Waingaro Wetland (26 hectares). An extensive predator control programme is completed in both areas. Traps are checked 12 times a year and checks are undertaken 5-7 days later. The table below summarises the pest control efforts.

Table 4: Summary of pest control activity

Region	Possums	Rats	Stoats	Weasels	Feral Cats	Wild Rabbits	Hedgehog	Total
Northland	2,156	250	9	30	19	3	10	2,485
Coromandel	1,677	293	50	2	5	1	46	2,074
Whanganui								0

HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE

The Summit estate contains areas that have been classified as High Conservation Values (HCV) under the Forest Stewardship Council Principal 9 assessment. The purpose of HCV assessment is to determine the presence of attributes consistent with any of the six HCVs and options for their maintenance and/or enhancement. To conduct annual monitoring of the identified attribute to assess the effectiveness of maintenance or enhancement measures employed. The six values are species diversity, landscape-level ecosystems and mosaics, ecosystems and habitat, ecosystem services, community needs and cultural values.

Fifteen sites (560 ha) have been identified in Northland Estate, all in Aupouri Ecological District, and one site (26 ha) in Coromandel Estate, Colville Ecological District. All sites are recognized for HCV3 Ecosystems and habitats containing rare, threatened, or endangered ecosystems, habitats, or refugia. No HCVs have been

identified for Whanganui. The sites are all threatened habitat dune lakes, wetlands, remnant kanuka/manuka shrubland, or pohutukawa/broadleaf forest remnants, totalling 586 hectares.

The main threats are competition with invasive weeds including, but not limited to *Acacia longifolia*, Pampas, wild ginger, woolly nightshade, wilding pine, and willow. Browse, predation and competition from animal pests including possums, horses, rabbits, hedgehogs, cats, rats, mustelids and pest fish. Habitat modification, loss or changes in hydrology and climate and fire.

Annual monitoring is undertaken, and the HCV3 value has been maintained or enhanced at all sites. Key enhancement projects include wetland restoration projects at Waingaroa, Te Raite and Little Lake Gem wetlands.

In the Coromandel Summit has continued its involvement in the protection of endangered bird species inhabiting land managed by the company. As part of the Waikato Regional Council's (WRC) Waitekuri Focus Catchment Project showcasing soil conservation projects and wetland restoration, the Waingaro Wetland was highlighted as a significant habitat for the endangered Australasian Bittern/*Matuku-Hūrepo* and other bird species. In November 2024 Ecologist Hamish Kendal (Flightworks/Natural Solutions), together with SFNZ staff conducted a second Bittern survey using a thermal imaging drone. No nest or Bittern were confirmed this time. A listening site was set up for the Waingaro Wetland in June 2024, and a kiwi call has been confirmed. SFNZ has continued to service its ground-based trapping network around the perimeter of this wetland. In addition, the Department of Conservation (DOC) is investigating options to contribute funding for Waingaro Wetland management (willow control).



Figure 19 Australasian Bittern survey, Waingaro Wetland

The second year of planting at the Te Raite Wetland Revegetation project in 2024 was completed in Te Hiku Forest, Northland was a success. The Far North Forestry planting crew planted 3,240 eco-sourced seedlings, with additional ngaio and towai seedlings donated by the Bushland Trust. The 63-hectare site, which includes approximately 20 hectares of dry area, was retired from production after harvest due to the ecological importance of the wetland and operational challenges. The revegetation plan involves planting five hectares annually over four years. This year's area was pre-spray treated using drone technology in a trial to assess its benefits in sensitive environments. Although drone spraying costs about twice as much as helicopter spraying, it offers better precision near sensitive boundaries due to its lower height and reduced rotor interference.



Figure 20 Second year of Te Raite Wetland Revegetation planting.

SFNZ fourteenth annual Arbor Day planting day at Little Gem Lake saw 1,400 eco-sourced seedlings planted by keen members of the local community. Summit staff were joined by 140 Paparore School students, teachers and whanau, Bushland Trust, Department of Conservation, Fish and Game, and Ngai Takoto in a community working bee at the special Northland site. The revegetation project not only helps Lake Gem but also benefits all the wetlands in the area, especially Lake Ngatu. The trees planted will help provide safe habitat for our native birds and add more filtration for the groundwater flowing into the Lake.



Figure 21: High Conservation Value restoration project - Annual community Arbor Day planting at Lake Gem

INDIGENOUS RESERVE AREAS

Five-year monitoring was completed for the Northland Estate. SFNZ has undertaken an ecological assessment that is representative of each ecological district and has established permanent sample plots in them. This information is stored in LRM with a unique site number. The greatest threat to these areas is from invasive animal, plant pests, fire and climate change.

Most 2024 General Site Conditions were 'Good' with Puketi being 'Excellent'. Puketi's result was based on the lack of pests (plant and animal) and the abundance of seedlings. The previous poor site condition scores were related to possum damage, weeds, and illegal rubbish dumping. SFNZ has invested in possum control using Eco-land technology in numerous forests based on forest health observation of crop damage. No browse damage was observed in the indigenous reserve areas. SFNZ will continue with possum control as required. There was no illegal dumping at the monitoring sites. Roadside spraying is important for access and the

reduction of fire risk, but it also helps reduce weeds spreading along road corridors. The Operational team is working through a roadside spraying schedule to align with the budget. Wild ginger is an issue across Northland. There has been no progress on research into a biological control. The *Tradescandia* infestation has reduced vigour because of the biological leaf beetle that the Northland Regional Council has introduced.

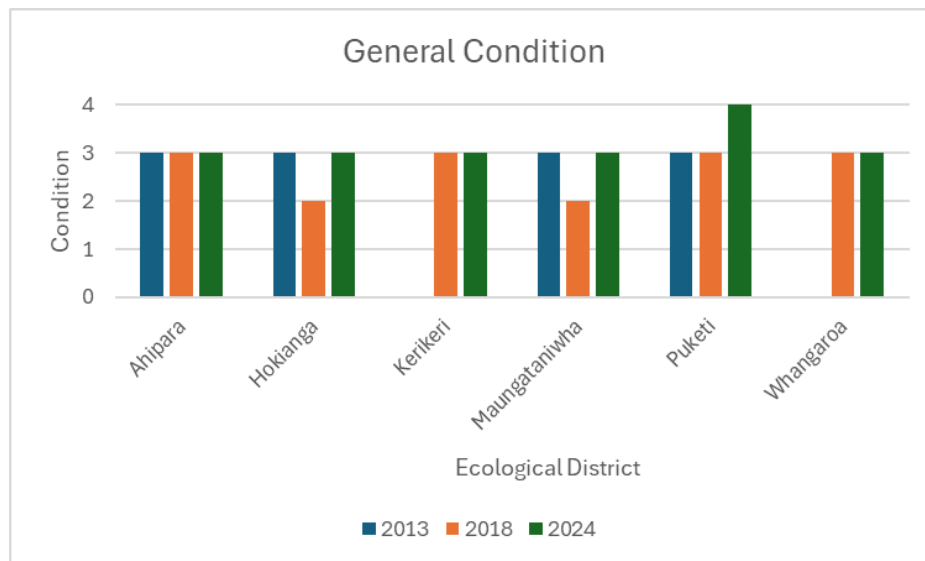


Figure 22 Indigenous Reserve 5 yearly monitoring results

Scoring is based on the monitoring indicators outlined in Handford, P (2000). *Native Forest Monitoring: A guide for forest owners and managers* which includes Birds, Canopy condition, understory, ground cover, nearby native forest, invasive flora / fauna, fencing and human impact. 0 – being poor condition and 4 being excellent condition.

HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELLBEING

The following summarises the main metrics SFNZ monitors as part of its Health, Safety, and Wellbeing programme for the period 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025.

INCIDENTS AND INJURIES

There was a total of 151 incidents reported in the year ending 31st of March 2025 which was up on the previous year's 131 reported incidents. The following table breaks down those reports by the type and number of incidents that had the potential for a life altering injury or fatality (high potential).

Table 5 Nature and number of incidents

Nature of Incident	Year ending 31 March 2025		Notes
	Number of Incidents	Number of high potential events	
Harm Incident	12	-	
Property Incident	80	6	Manual felling striking a powerline, machine and forest fires, 3 no injury driving incidents, and log striking a shovelling machine
Near Miss	34	3	2 manual felling incidents and a log yard incident.
Unsafe Act	13	2	Walking under a suspended load and a traffic management incident.
Unsafe Condition	3	-	
Report Only	9	-	
TOTAL	151	11	

Note: One incident was notified to WorkSafe; a driver leapt from a moving truck and sustained injuries that required hospitalisation.

AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS.

255 operational audits along with 1575 supervisory visits were carried over the year. These audits and operational checks resulted in 105 positive observations and 100 improvement opportunities. The following table provides the number of audits and average audit score by operational audit.

Table 6 Average audit score by operational audit

Type of Audit	Number Audits	Average of Percentage
General Site Operational Audit - Forestry V1	9	96.6
General Site Operational Audit - Harvesting V8	9	95.0
Operational Audit - Fire Suppression and Hot Works V5	15	90.7
Operational Audit - Loading V10	20	97.9
Operational Audit - Manual Breaking-out and Back-line shifting V3	9	98.1
Operational Audit - Manual Planting V1	3	93.7
Operational Audit - Manual Tree Felling V3	15	99.6
Operational Audit - Manual Waste Thinning V1	8	96.3
Operational Audit - Mechanical Waste Thinning V2	2	100
Operational Audit - Mechanised Felling/ Winch Assist v3	10	97.3
Operational Audit - Mechanised Processing V4	11	98.3
Operational Audit – Shovelling V8	17	97.1
Operational Audit - Roding V10	7	94.2

Operational Audit - Transport V5	22	98.5
Operational Hauler Audit V4	4	96.1
Ops Staff Vehicle and Fire Equipment Check	49	98.7
Prequalification and Systems Audit V5	16	99.0
Plant/Equipment/Machinery – new to an SFNZ forest	0	
Grand Total / Average	255	97.63

All instances of material non-compliance identified in an audit or field visit is either addressed before the audit or the improvement opportunity is closed, or a separate improvement is raised.

WELLBEING.

SFNZ runs three programmes to support contractor wellbeing; Drug and Alcohol monitoring, an annual wellbeing calendar, and a rewards and recognition programme.

Drugs and Alcohol Monitoring: This programme is run in collaboration with our contractors. A total of 411 random tests were carried out across our operations that identified 17 non-negative tests along with 1 refusal.

Annual Wellbeing Calendar: This provides monthly initiatives that our contractors can utilise in their ToolBox meetings. The following table sets out the 2024/25 calendar.

Table 7 Wellbeing Calendar

<p>September – Mahuru Spring is time to check in with ourselves and others as part of Mental Health Awareness Week – time to get purple. It is also a time to think about those that struggle to breathe easy with Breathe Better September and Asthma Foundation NZ</p>	<p>October – Whiringa-ā-nuku Go Pink for a Day for Breast Cancer Awareness Month and improving your Health Literacy.</p>	<p>November – Whiringa-ā-rangi November is time for November and men's health month. Grow a mo or simply join in fun and raise funds for men's health.</p>
<p>December – Hakihea Christmas is a time to reflect on the year that has been and spend time with families and friends. It is also a time for giving. This year let's give to those in need – join your colleagues and support a Christmas Charity. Here are some ideas; Christmas Box, Foster Hope NZ, GiftsForKids, Ronald McDonald House</p>	<p>January – Kohi-tātea We are well into summer. Time to remind the Team to get their skin checked, especially if working outside. Share these sun protection and SunSmart resources.</p>	<p>February – Hui-tanguru The days are getting shorter. Time to get your Team up and moving while we still have great summer weather. Join in the Summit Forest Step Challenge and see which team is quickest to reach the goal (more information to follow).</p>
<p>March – Poutū-te-rangi March 8 is International Womensday Day – lets #AccelerateAction. Let's also use March 15 and World Sleep Day to highlight the importance of sleep in keeping everyone healthy and safe.</p>	<p>April – Paenga-whāwhā April is a time for family. Make a plan to do something with you family over Easter weekend. April 28 is World Day for Safety and Health at Work. What will you do to remember those who didn't make it home and/or make your workplace safer?</p>	<p>May – Haratua Promote the benefits of being smokefree with World Smokefree Day. Use these smokefree resources to help people quit. Let's make May Women's Health month and do something to support all of the women in our lives.</p>
<p>June – Pipiri June is a busy month. It's Men's Health Month and time to see What's Your Score is. It's also Bowel Cancer Awareness Month and there is Blood Donor Week and Arbor Day (June 5).</p>	<p>July – Hōngongoi It is Dry July. Get your Team to Drink Test and then see who can go dry for July.</p>	<p>August – Here-turi-kōkā Winter's nearly over! Time to get moving again. Pull out those Sit Less, Move More resources from February to help get your Team up and moving. How about getting the Team to commit to a Fun Run like the Summit Forests Kaitiaki Run/Walk. August 25 is also Daffodil Day. Support the Cancer Society by donating to this very worthy cause.</p>

Rewards and Recognition Programme. This initiative is to recognise the contractors for the good work they do and to help promote good practice across all of our operations. At the start of each month, the month's focus is drawn from a list of 12 focus areas and assessed as part of the month's supervisory visits. The month's

award winner is announced at the following month's Contractors Meeting and is presented to the winner/s later that month by a Summit staff member.

The following are some of the areas where awards have been given:

No	Type	Observations/focus for the award
1	Environmental	Good post-harvest rehab clean cut over, tracking covered, rubbish removed. Endangered species reporting, water management, areas of native vegetation protected
2	H&S System	Best visitor induction, living system embraced by crew
3	Best Practice	Tree Faller (manual or mechanised), loader operator etc
4	Most improved Systems Management	Tailgate discussions, detailed management plans
5	Quality control	Internal quality and external mill results. Cut plans up to date, on site, and being followed.
6	Health and Safety Champion	Person or crew leading by example
7	Communication	Use of RT's and mobile phones, ability to be contacted, responsiveness, general communication skills.
8	Stand in the gap observation	Seeing bad practice and stepping in to correct it. Commitment to look after yourself and others. Doing the right thing.
9	Roading excellent	Built to spec, good water controls etc. Working to plan and budget
10	SBO's	Completed with good feedback
11	Training	National certificates, good internal training observations and training notes
12	Cartage Best Practice	Observation of a truck driver doing his job well. Good communication with the loader driver, checks log before leaving the skid, well secured load.

FORESTRY

OPERATIONS SUMMARY

In Northland there are two silviculture contractors working full time due to the scale of the current thinning programme. Te Hiku has two mechanised waste thinning operations working year-round and there are also two manual thinning crews working out on the steeper sites with one of these crews working year round while the other goes planting in winter. Maintaining a consistent and skilled workforce is an on-going challenge for our silviculture operations. Having a more diverse contractor base is helping spread the workload to ensure operations are completed in a timely manner and at the required standard.

In Coromandel there is a small 5 men crew working year-round thinning and planting in the winter. The scale of the work suits having just the one contractor. 2025 will see a planting programme after no planting in 2024 as a result of the harvesting operations paused for a couple of years.

Whanganui has had limited operations over the past 12 months. Aerial releasing was undertaken in Sicelys and McNabbs Forest to manage invasive weeds competing with the tree crop.

Tables 9, 10 and 11 provide a breakdown for the main forestry activities by region over the past 12 months.

Table 8 Re-establishment completed in the 2024/2025 financial year

Region	Area (ha)
Northland	927
Coromandel	0
Whanganui	13.1
Total	940.1

Table 9 Thinning completed in the 2024/2025 financial year

Region	Area (ha)
Northland	1,335
Coromandel	278
Whanganui	0
Total	1,613

Table 10 Fertiliser application in the 2024/2025 financial year

Region	Area (ha)
Northland	330
Coromandel	0
Whanganui	0
Total	330

CHEMICAL USE

SFNZ has undertaken Environmental, Social Risk Assessments (ESRA) on all chemicals it uses in accordance with FSC Pesticides Policy (FSC-POL-30-001 V3-0) and FSC List of Highly Hazardous Pesticides (FSC-POL-30-001a).

The pest 'problem' is quantified and if action is required the least toxic option is considered first. Where possible the least amount of chemical is used to achieve a satisfactory result. Results of operations are monitored.

Table 12 shows a breakdown of chemical used by active ingredient for the 2024/25 financial year across each region.

Table 11 Chemicals used by active ingredient by region

Region	Northland	Coromandel	Whanganui	Total
Area (ha)	1,562.1	144.0	55.0	1,761.1
Glyphosate	4,248.0	368.1		4,616.1
Terbuthylazine			100.5	100.5
Metsulfuron	146.0			146.0
Picloram	591.0	12.0	3.0	606.0
Triclopyr	979.0	36.1	5.2	1,020.2
Hexazinone				-
Haloxypop-R methyl			1.0	1.0
Dichlorophenoxyacetic				-
Clopyraid	210.0		14.5	224.5
® p-mentha-1,8-diene				-
Total	6,174.0	416.2	124.1	6,714.4

HARVESTING/ENGINEERING

The 2024/2025 saw harvesting operations re-start again in the Coromandel with Rosewarne Cable Loggers winner the tender package that was put to market in late 2023. Operations commenced in January 2024, and the crew settled in quickly and have produced consistently ever since hitting the daily production target of 250t per day. With a wood supply agreement in place with Claymark in Thames to take S40 and S30 from Whangapoua forest, this gives the region stability with 40% of the annual cut currently being sold to Claymark.

We are in the process of reviewing resource / production capacity from Whangapoua forest based on the estate model. At this stage, we are expecting to increase produced capacity from one crew to two early to mid-2026 depending on whether the Claymark mill in Kopu start taking a smaller SED sawlog. Trial work is on-going and capital investment will be required before this will happen.



Figure 23 RCL 83 working in Whangapoua Forest using a tandem Falcon carriage

In Northland, 8% more was harvested than the budgeted volume. This was a good result considering some of the market challenges over the past two years. With a large mixed age class estate, this gives us options with the current harvesting capacity of three hauler crews, one road-line ground-based crew, and two dedicated ground-based crews. Approximately 20% of our annual harvesting programme is currently in external managed sales where we are working on behalf of various landowners.

We have a strong forward infrastructure position with 12-18 months of built infrastructure ahead of the hauler crews. This allow us to be flexible in responding to changing market requirements while supporting our existing crews.

NES-CF NOTIFICATIONS

There were a range of operations notified in the past 12 months which included harvesting, earthworks, quarrying and permanent stream crossings.

The respective regional councils visit the operations annually and, to date, no significant issues have identified, and all operates were signed off with full compliance.

Table 13 provides a summary of all the current notified activities across the regions.

Table 12 Summary of current notified NES-CF activities

Status	Event	Detail	Next Due
Open	Harvesting	SCL10 Te Hiku REF240327775 - Harvesting	2025-08-30
Open	Harvesting	CKH5 Te Hiku C5 REF250318881 - Harvesting	2025-10-31
Open	Harvesting	Mold 12 Te Hiku REF250137423 - Harvesting	2025-06-13
Open	Harvesting, Earthworks, River Crossing	Mold 14 Otangaroa REF230137211 - Harvest, Earthworks, River Crossing	2027-06-30
Open	Harvesting, Earthworks	Mold 7 Honeymoon - Harvesting and Earthworks	2026-10-30
Open	Earthworks	Buchanans REF231062195 - Earthworks	2025-05-23
Open	Harvesting	Buch Roadline Harvest current old REF240132507	2025-05-30
Open	Quarry	Asia Fern Flat - REF231227457 Quarrying	2026-12-18
Open	Harvest, Earthworks, Stream Crossing	Kahikatea Roadline Harvest, Earthworks and Stream Crossing REF240838289	2025-06-13
Open	Quarry	Kahikatea REF250345750 - Quarry	2026-05-31
Open	Harvesting	Lloyd 8 Adamson REF240935041 - Harvest	2026-09-30
Open	Harvesting	CKH 5 External (Crewther and Norman) REF250231876 - Harvesting	2025-05-30
Open	Harvesting, Matapia	Mold 12 Matapia REF250312934 - Earthworks and Harvesting	2027-12-17
Open	Road Maintenance	Whangapoua Forest AUTH205853.01.01 Earthworks	2025-06-04

RESOURCE CONSENTS

There are seven current resource consents across our operations which includes four in Northland and three in Coromandel.

For the first time in Northland a resource consent was required for harvesting on orange erosion susceptibility zoned land as we could not meet the permitted activity requirements for slash. This slash requirement is a result of the changes made to the NES-CF in late 2023 post cyclone Gabrielle.

The active harvesting consent on red zoned land in Te Hiku is due to be completed in late April and will be surrendered in June.

In the Coromandel we continue to operate under the current consent for harvesting which is due to expire in the next two years. During this time, we will be reviewing our regulatory options with the possibility of working under the NES-CF rather than under a consent.

Table 14 provides a summary of each of the consents we hold.

During the past 12 months there was no non-compliance identified in the annual monitoring visits associated with these activities by the respective regional councils.

Table 13 Current resource consents

Status	Event	Detail	Next Due
Open	Event (Resource Consent)	Te Hiku Resource Consent	2025-10-30
Open	Event (Resource Consent)	Consent for Crew 10 Red Zone Land	2025-10-30
Open	Event (Resource Consent)	AUT.046083.01.01: Honeymoon Forest Earthworks RC	2029-11-30
Open	Event (Resource Consent)	Slash Consent Honeymoon AUT.046225.(01 & 02).01	2030-01-31
Open	Event (Resource Consent)	Whangapoua Catchment and slope harvesting AUTH10664.01.04	2027-05-10
Open	Event (Resource Consent)	Whangapoua - Harvesting over waterways AUTH110662.01.04	2027-05-10
Open	Event (Resource Consent)	Whangapoua - Culvert/permanent stream crossings AUTH110661.01.04	2027-05-10

PRODUCTION

Tables 15, 16 and 17 provides a break of the volume harvested by region, markets supplied, and area harvested over the past 12 months.

Table 14 Budget vs actual volume harvested

Type	Budget Northland	Actual Northland	Budget Coromandel	Actual Coromandel	Budget Whanganui	Actual Whanganui
FSC	363,645	341,075	61,000	62,351	0	0
Non FSC	28,895	84,329	0	0	0	0
Total	392,540	425,404	61,000	62,351	0	0

Table 15 Summary of the volume supplied by market

	Northland		Coromandel		Whanganui	
Type	Domestic (t)	Export (t)	Domestic (t)	Export (t)	Domestic (t)	Export (t)
FSC	259,362	81,713	27,406	34,944	0	0
Non FSC	62,311	22,018	0	0	0	0
Total	321,673	103,731	27,406	34,944	0	0

Table 16 Area harvested by region

Type	Northland (ha)	Coromandel (ha)	Whanganui (ha)
FSC	767.6	108.5	0
Non FSC	168.4	0	0
Total	936.0	108.5	0