



Managing the business of forestry



Lagoon Hill Forest Public Summary

March 2024

Property summary

Lagoon Hill Forest is located in Tukurumuri, South Wairarapa. Approximately 30 km south east of Martinborough. Lagoon Hill Forest is owned by Kauri Forestry Limited Partnership. Kauri Forestry LP is a joint venture partnership between German owned Glen Silva and NZ owned Craigmere.

Local forestry company Farman Turkington Forestry Limited (FTF) manages the property on behalf of Kauri Forestry LP.

The Forest Resource

Lagoon Hill Forest is a mix of mature, mid-rotation and newly established *Pinus radiata* stands, totalling an area of almost 2,600 hectares. Lagoon Hill Forest also has large areas of native forest, riparian reserves and wetlands.

Predominant land use in the South Wairarapa District comprises of dairy farming and viticulture inland on the flats, with sheep and beef farming and forestry in the hill country. The property surrounding Lagoon Hill is a mixture of sheep and beef farms, production forestry and privately

owned native bush which is mostly used for hunting.

Management Objectives

Management objectives for Lagoon Hill are detailed in the Management Plan, which is updated annually. The management plan for Lagoon Hill is available for viewing at the Farman Turkington Office in Carterton. The main objectives for the next five years are:

1. Log harvesting in the mature stands
2. Construction of roads and landings for the harvest
3. Continue to enhance the Oterei River Riparian Reserve
4. Replant of harvested areas

Log harvesting of the mature crop commenced in late 2022 and will continue until approximately 2028. Lagoon Hill Forest is too small to achieve sustainable harvest, however the wider FTF harvesting operation will provide ongoing employment for harvesting crews once the harvest is completed.

A mixture of swing yarder, ground based and pole hauler crews are being used to harvest the forest.

Species Selection and Silvicultural Regime

Pinus radiata was selected as the species for the commercial crop because it has been grown at Lagoon Hill for the past 30 or more years, and has performed very well. *Pinus radiata* logs are the preferred material for local sawmills to process and also has a proven export market for the logs that the local mills do not process.

The silvicultural strategy is to produce a mix of logs at crop maturity that will be processed by local mills and provide a good return for the forest owner. The mix includes framing timber that has been thinned (thinning to waste), and clearwood timber which has been both thinned and pruned.

Around 420ha was thinned in 2023 and 40ha blanked/restocked after the slips caused by cyclone Gabrielle.

Rationale for Rate of Annual Harvest

The forest is not of a sufficient size that a continuous harvest could take place while keeping a logging crew gainfully employed.

Approximately 137,000 tonnes of wood will be harvested in the next 12 months.

High Conservation Value Forest

No HCV Forest has been identified at Lagoon Hill Forest.

Oterei River Restoration Project

The headwaters of the Oterei River originate within the Lagoon Hill Forest. A large riparian strip, 30 metres and wider in some areas has been planted in native trees and shrubs. This restorative planting should improve stream health and bring back bird species absent from the property.

FTF undertake monitoring programme in this river that involves biannual sampling for MCI, water quality and SEV at four permanent sites, with bird counts conducted at a further 10 sites up the river. We hope to see big improvements in this river over the next couple of years.

Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species

No rare, threatened or endangered species have been observed at Lagoon Hill Forest to date.

Likely RTE species at Lagoon Hill Forest are:

- NZ long-tailed bat and lesser short-tailed bat
- New Zealand Falcon
- Australasian Bittern
- Ngahere Gheko
- Barking Gheko

FTF have worked with Sustainable Wairarapa to investigate the presence of NZ long and short tail bats, but no evidence of the bats was found.

Contractors and staff working at Lagoon Hill will be educated on what rare, threatened or endangered species may be present. Sightings will be recorded and reported on annually.

Stakeholders

Farman Turkington Forestry Ltd maintain strong relationships with the key stakeholders at Lagoon Hill Forest. Key stakeholders include neighbours, access easement holders, and the owners/managers of the Lagoon Hill Station. FTF have developed a stakeholder communication plan to ensure that the planned harvesting does not cause them any unreasonable inconvenience.

At this stage no archaeological sites have been discovered at Lagoon Hill, FTF have developed an accidental discovery protocol in case we discover anything during operations. At present, no customary gathering of food, or anglers access occur at this forest.

Any person affected by the harvesting and afforestation at Lagoon Hill Forest is invited to contact Farman Turkington Forestry to discuss their concerns.

Review of the Management Plan

The effectiveness of the Management Plan is reviewed and updated annually. Changes in technology and regulations, and social or environmental impacts from operations taken into consideration.

Forest Monitoring

The crop is continually monitored to ensure that that it remains healthy and growing strong. The young crop is checked continuously for pest animal damage and planting success is measured with survival plots over summer.

Data from the FMA survey will show if the forest is still growing well. The health of the mature and mid-rotation crop is checked with visual surveys

which are followed up with more in-depth investigation if needed.

The forest is checked for damage after extreme weather events.

Pest Control

Pest control is an essential part of looking after the young plantation at Lagoon Hill Forest.

In 2023 541 deer, 40 hares, and 101 other pest species, such as pigs and possums, were culled.

The effectiveness of the pest control is assessed with pest browsing surveys.

Oterei River Water Quality and Ecosystem Health

Monitoring of the Oterei includes:

- Freshwater Macroinvertebrates
- Stream Ecological Evaluation
- Fish species from EDNA samples
- Water Quality (Turbidity, Nitrogen, Phosphorus, E.Coli, Suspended Sediment)
- Bird Counts

Baseline testing from the Oterei River was completed in Autumn and Spring 2022. Results show a small diversity of native and introduced birds, an average MCI score of 103, and eDNA shows some diversity of native aquatic life including the redfin bully, shortfin and longfin eels, and inanga species.

The river had an average turbidity of 1.41 NTU, average total nitrogen of 0.67g/m³, and average total phosphorus of 0.027g/m³.

Overall, the river is in average health, with some diversity. Hopefully with time the restoration efforts will bring more bird and fish life to the river.

A comparative set of monitoring will be conducted in 2026, 5 years after the baseline testing. These results will show if the river habitat is improving.

Harvesting

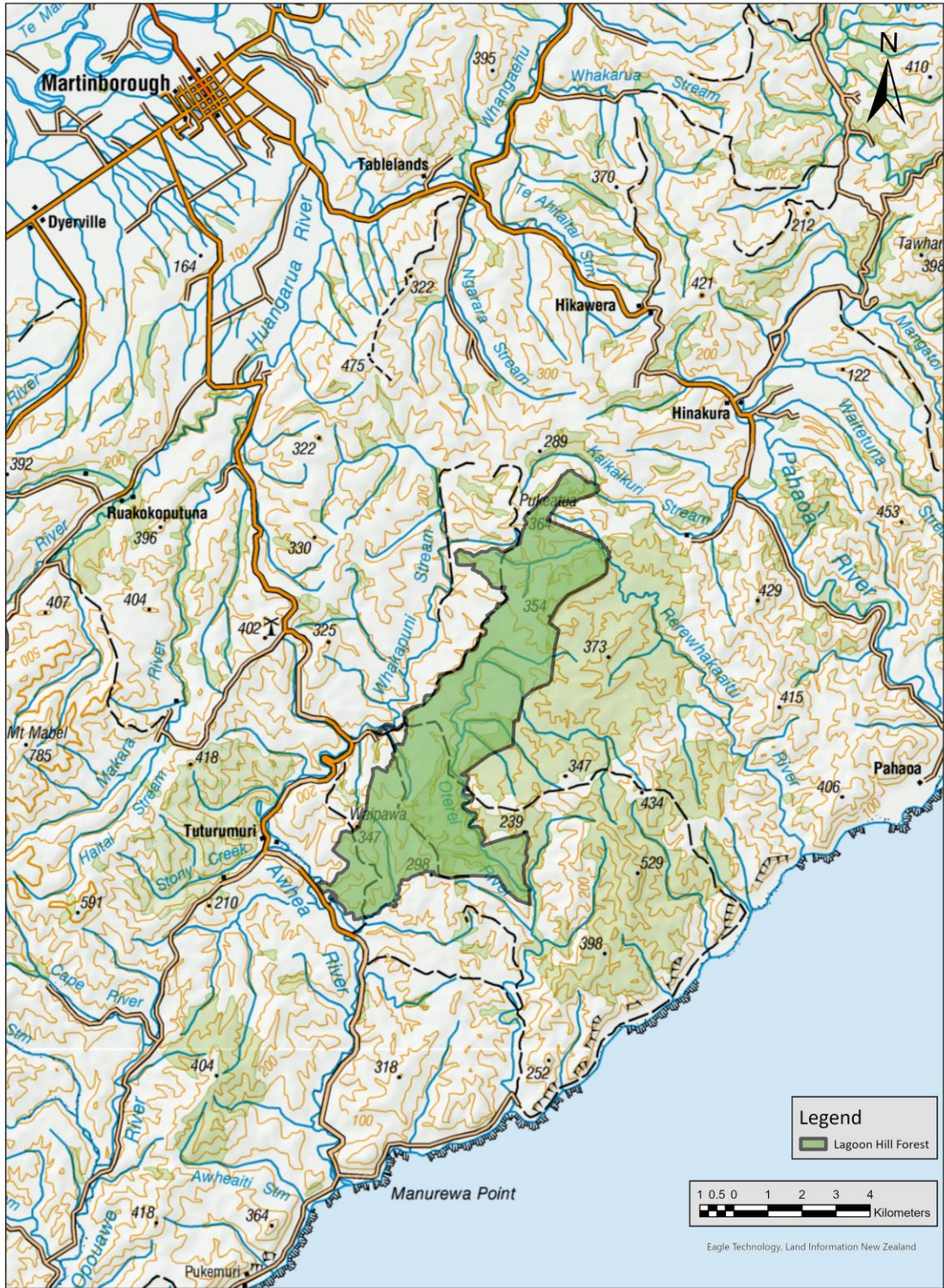
Harvesting will be conducted with a mixture of ground based and cable logging methods. Different methods will be used where most appropriate, with the majority of the forest being harvest with cable methods.

FTF will maintain monthly records of harvesting volumes and products, and will annually compare these results against the Pre-harvest inventory data.

In 2023 over 98,000 tonnes of logs were harvested from the forest.

Corruption

Farman Turkington Forestry Limited is committed to operating with integrity at all times. FTF commits to not offer or receive bribes of any kind or description, and to comply with NZ law at all times. For more information please request to see our corruption policy.



Lagoon Hill Forest

Scale at A3: 1:100,000