

NRC Update: NDDT 2019: Managing our hills to our harbour

Duncan Kervell: Environmental Services

Department : Deputy Group

Manager/Land Programme Manager



- 1. Issues
- 2. Situation
- 3. What is coming up.
- 4. Assistance and funding

The regional issues

- 1. Erosion and sediment (fresh water to harbour)
- 2. Faecal Pathogens (freshwater): swimming and health.
- 3. Biodiversity (terrestrial /wetland loss)
- 4. Biosecurity: animal/weed/marine and incursions.

Northland Regional Priorities

- 1. Tackling hill country erosion
- 2. Reducing streambank erosion
- 3. Promoting and assisting "Good Farming Practice"
- Helping match land use with land capability
- 5. Maximising reliability of water and

NRC Responsibilities Include:

- Water quality / quantity
- Catchment management
- Land management
- Biosecurity
- Biodiversity



- Farm environment plans
- Catchment plans
- Biodiversity and pest control plans
- Afforestation / planting plans

NRC Work to Date: All Sectors

- 900 Farm environment plans (FEPs) over 175,000 ha
- \$5.6 M grants to farmers provided over 1200 application

Land Team Work to Date: Dairy Sector

- Huge progress
- 250+ Farm environment plans (FEPs) 44,000 ha
- \$1.2M grants provided

Efund Grants by sector since 2012



Lots of work still to do

- Stock exclusion rules (New Regional Plan)
- Central Government: Essential Fresh Water Package Provisions for Rural Sectors: July 2019. Including:

- ✓ Mandatory Farm Environment Plans (FEPs) (Dairy: 550 FEP's remaining in Northland)
- ✓ Stock exclusion regulations (to replace regional
- rules)
- ✓ Intensification
- High risk land-use activities / winter

More Funding Opportunities:

NRC Funding:

- 1. Freshwater Improvement Fund (Northern Wairoa catchment)
- 2. NRC Environment Fund
- 3. Sustainable hill country grants
- 4. Pest control funds

Via: farm specific and tailored advice: \$\$ Funding for planting and hill country soil conservation.

NRC also are supporting One Billion Trees Funding

Afforestation in Northland

Forest and Scrubland Cover = **48%** of Northland (594,686 ha)

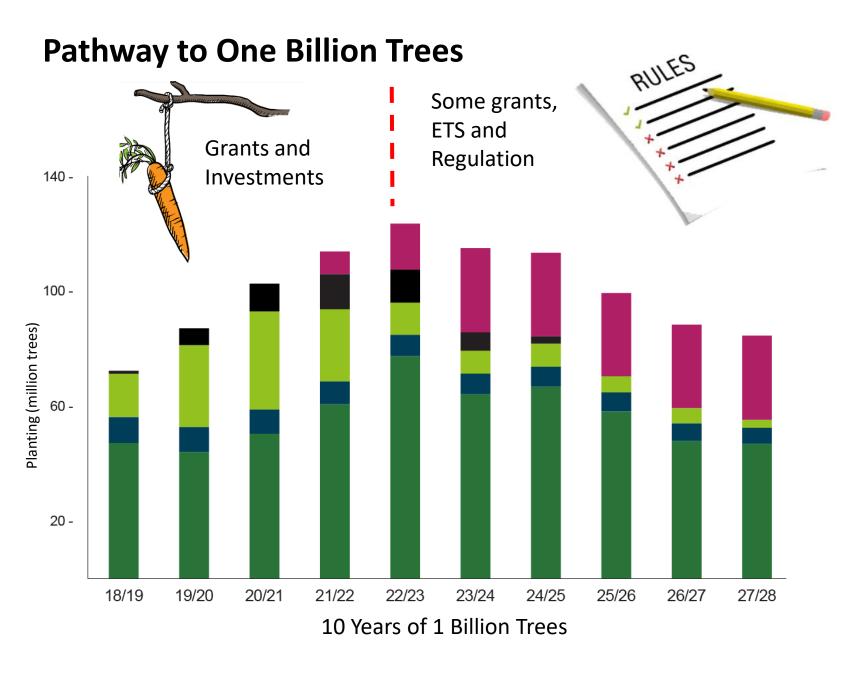
Pasture = **49%** of Northland (616,386 ha)



One Billion Trees Direct Grants

Grant categories

Grant categories			Top-up available/ha	
Category	Size	Base rate/ha	Erosion-prone land OR land with high establishment costs	Fencing
Mixed Native Planting (e.g. mix of native trees & shrubs for ecological restoration)	1ha – 300ha	\$4000	\$500	Up to \$500
Native Regeneration (e.g. retiring land & managing return to native tree cover)	5ha – 300ha	\$1000	\$500	Up to \$500
Mānuka/Kānuka Planting (e.g. for erosion control, plantations, nurse crops, etc.)	5ha – 300ha	\$1800	\$500	NA
Exotic Planting (e.g. planting eucalypts for timber)	5ha – 300ha	\$1500	\$500	NA





Regulatory system incentives

Provide market drivers for tree planting (med-long term)



Expanded direct investment

Joint ventures



Funding schemes

New and existing schemes incentivise planting and regeneration



Baseline native planting

Landowners and communities plant 9-13m native trees annually



Baseline commercial planting

+50m commercial trees planted annually

In Summary:

- Change is coming...via new central government regulations
- There is currently free help, advice and \$\$ out there.
- The journey to Good Farming Practice is a long one
- Get engaged (via Fonterra, Dairy NZ, Northland Regional Council)