

Conducting on-ground pest control in a Kauri forest?

You can help protect Kauri from the PA pathogen that causes kauri dieback disease



Why do we need to protect Kauri?

Kauri are a taonga (treasure) of Aotearoa New Zealand, and the third-largest conifer in the world. Kauri are threatened by a soil-borne pathogen called *Phytophthora agathidicida* (PA), which causes the fatal condition known as kauri dieback disease.

Managing the risk of PA spread during pest control activities in Kauri forests is vital for the future health of these forests. By stopping the PA pathogen from spreading, or being introduced, we can help protect Kauri for future generations.

Pest control options

Aerial pest control is preferred as it reduces the risk of PA spread and introduction. If on-ground pest control is the best - or only - option, ensure you always respect track closures and rāhui (protective restrictions), and follow the principles below.

Here's how to protect Kauri when you're conducting on-ground pest control in a Kauri forest:

Stay out of Kauri forests when the ground is wet.

Consider conducting pest control at the forest's perimeter.

Plan your pest animal control activities or trap lines to avoid Kauri, and place traps well away from Kauri Hygiene Zones (see over).

For existing trap lines, reposition traps away from Kauri when possible, and redirect routes to avoid Kauri Hygiene Zones.

Carry and use a hygiene kit (see over) and use all hygiene stations you come across.*

Arrive clean, stay clean, leave clean. Clean your footwear and all gear that will touch the forest floor, so it is dirt-free before you enter and leave the forest.** Also clean these items when moving between Kauri Hygiene Zones if you cannot avoid them.

Have separate footwear and clothing to wear in Kauri forests – and remove and contain them, or clean them, before moving to another area.

Place dead animals away from Kauri Hygiene Zones to prevent scavenging.

*If you don't use hygiene stations, you could receive an infringement notice and fine, or a criminal conviction, according to rule 9 of the National Plan for the protection of Kauri.

**If you go off-track and don't clean these items, you could receive an infringement notice and fine, or a criminal conviction, according to rule 8 of the National Plan for the protection of Kauri.

Kauri Hygiene Zones

The Kauri Hygiene Zone is the root zone area that extends about three times the radius of a Kauri tree's canopy – see figure 1.

Where there are multiple Kauri growing near each other, their individual Kauri Hygiene Zones (and root systems) interconnect, as illustrated in figure 2. Here, the dotted yellow lines highlight the best way to move through Kauri stands or forests to completely avoid Kauri Hygiene Zones.

Figure 1: Kauri Hygiene Zone - single Kauri

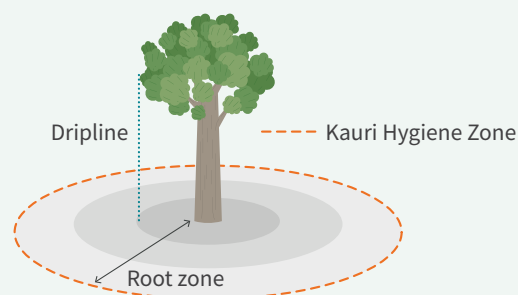
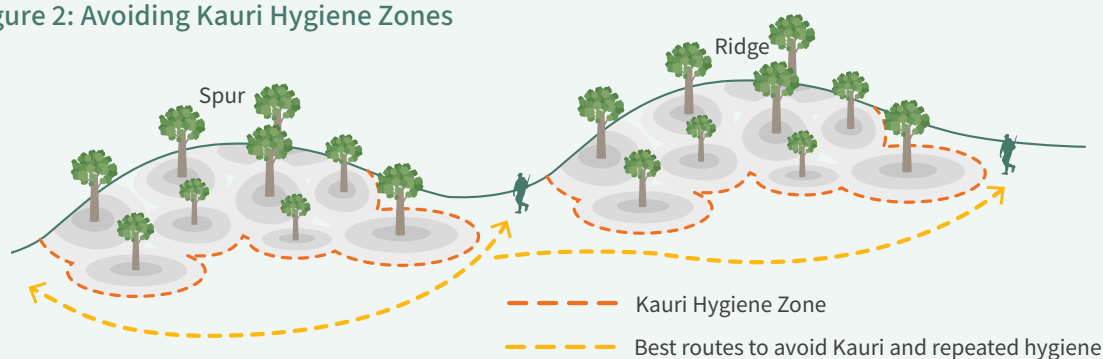


Figure 2: Avoiding Kauri Hygiene Zones



Hygiene kit

When going off-track in a Kauri forest, you should always carry a hygiene kit. The kit should include:

- a stiff-bristled brush to remove all dirt from footwear and gear (essential)
- a spray bottle containing disinfectant (essential)
- a supply of extra disinfectant for the time you are away from your vehicle (essential)

The National Plan for the protection of Kauri

In August 2022, a National Plan was launched to help protect Kauri from the PA pathogen. The National Plan includes 10 rules that apply to anyone who goes into Kauri forests, grows Kauri, or lives or works around Kauri.

For more information, visit www.kauriprotection.co.nz/national-plan

For more information about how to conduct pest control safely in Kauri forests, see the *Kauri Ora: Off-track in Kauri forests guide* at www.kauriprotection.co.nz/resources