

View across Puketi State Forest and the Waipapa valley from Pirau ridge. The kauris in the foreground are in a production zone.

Photo Guy Salmon

The carnivorous kauri snail (*Paraphanta busbyi var. busbyi*) is another special inhabitant of Northland's native forests. Surprisingly this species is unprotected and deserves to be added to the list of fully protected species.

Photo Hugh Best







Kauri forests are our richest, most diverse native forests. They have important biological values worthy of preservation. They are also vital for soil and water protection. Many of Northland's rivers rise amidst kauri forest and are used lower down for irrigation for horticulture.

Photo Hugh Best

Nearly 7,000 hectares of virgin kauri forest was set alight and totally destroyed. The loss was estimated at over 1.5 million cubic metres of kauri which even in 1887 was valued at four million dollars.

Another fire killed Kairarau, the largest kauri ever measured, which was 2½ times larger than Tane Mahuta, the giant of Waipoua.

Despite the magnificent conservation campaign spearheaded by Professor Barney MacGregor in 1948 which resulted in the establishment of the Waipoua sanctuary, destructive kauri logging practices continued elsewhere. In the early 1970's there was a public outcry against the logging of mature kauri in Warawara State Forest in Northland and in Manaia State Forest in the Coromandel. Large areas of kauri were still being clearfelled and there was great concern for the few

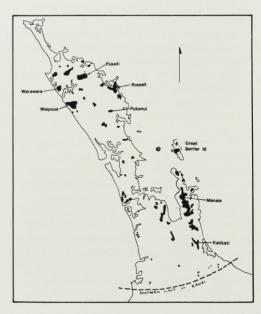
remaining mature kauri stands and the future of kauri as a species.

## The 1973 Government Kauri Policy

In 1973, the Government adopted a Kauri Policy, which aimed to preserve and protect kauri, by reservation and through appropriate forestry management. New scientific reserves were established.

However, eastern Northland, south Auckland and Great Barrier Island still have inadequate kauri forest reserves and many of the existing reserves don't meet the Forest Service's own scientific reserve guidelines (Geden, 1983).

The 1973 policy proposed to acquire "substantial areas of kauri regeneration". This was never carried out (Sale, 1979), and this aspect has been further down-played in the 1983 Kauri Review. Large-scale land



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