



Above: Forest & Bird representatives had been assured that no logging would take place on the Rotoiti block before a meeting between the Society and Tasman Forestry staff. However, on the Monday morning the chainsaws ran for several hours before protests halted them. Photo: Colin Adams

Opposite: A vigil was set up outside the Rotoiti block. Fortunately, and to Tasman's credit, the block was granted a prompt reprieve.

Top: Up to 10 pair of kokako are dependent on the Rotoiti block, using it and other small forest areas in the vicinity. When estimates of the kokako's population range as low as 1600, it is obvious the endangered bird requires all of the little forest which remains. Photo: Rogan Colbourne

New Zealand Forest Products has already responded by placing a moratorium on the Tram Road block at Matahina. However, Forest Products are also guilty of wholesale clearance of their own so-called "reserves" and other forest adjoining the Kaimai-Mamaku Forest Park. It is clear that, until these reserves have legal backing, they are reserves in name only.

Public opinion has hardened against forest destruction to the extent that, in the words of the *New Zealand Herald* editorial following the Rotoiti protest: "Nobody today can clearfell native forest and get away with it." 🦜

