



Department of Conservation *Te Papa Atawhai*

Title: Track Closures due to risk of Kauri Dieback

Kia ora koutou,

Tracks to be closed:

3 tracks are planned to be permanently closed to the public from the **31st of January 2019**

The Whangaparapara Peak and Whangaparapara Pack tracks will be closed

The Old Lady Track will have a partial section of the track closed (eastern side of the lookout to the adjoining track) and the remaining sections of the track will be upgraded.

Key messages

- As there is currently no proven cure or treatment for Kauri dieback, we can only save kauri by stopping the disease from spreading.
- Stay out of closed areas - Humans are the number one way in which the disease is spread. By accessing closed areas, you put the kauri at risk.
- Closing a track is an effective response to stopping the spread of the disease
- Reasons behind the closures were primarily related to the exposure to kauri root systems and the high risk of soil transfer, along with the low visitor numbers and the cost of track upgrades.
- There are plenty of other tracks and recreational activities in the near vicinity
- Protecting kauri on DOC tracks is the key focus of the Project, consideration was given to maintaining recreation opportunities wherever possible.
- High use tracks, for example sections of the Aotea Track, have already been upgraded to allow them to remain open, as long as people stick to the tracks.

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KEEP KAURI STANDING
STOP KAURI DIEBACK DISEASE SPREADING **KIA TOITU HE KAURI**