

## PROJECT UPDATE May 2019

### Harvesting

The Stage 2 harvest of 200 m<sup>3</sup> of farm-tōtara was completed 23 April. The harvest crew took trees from two farm sites near Kawakawa. The team was pleased with how the tree selection aligned with the TIP project's long-term sustainable forest management ideals. Many poorly formed trees were removed from the stands and proved to yield viable timber.

### Milling and drying

The timber was milled by Northpine in Waipu. This was the first time that this commercial sawmill had processed native timber and it proved to be a positive and valuable experience. Northpine provided valuable feedback and enjoyed the challenge of doing something completely different.



One full kiln-load of 25 mm boards was dried successfully at Northpine in the week of 6 May. There was little drying-degrade, and no more than was observed at the smaller laboratory-trial scale.



The 50 mm boards and boards of other dimensions were transported to Scion in Rotorua for air or slower kiln-drying. Several logs were sent to JNL in Kaitiaia for a peeling trial, which went off smoothly.

An early impression of the processing done at commercial scale for the first time in this project/initiative, is that it was a valuable experience all around. All the companies who assisted are keen to be involved with the harvesting, milling and drying scheduled for the Summer of 2019/2020.

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