

SEVEN OAKS PROPOSED SUBDIVISION`2025

RM240388-389 RM20011BC

Laurie Burdett 202 Mapara Road, R.D.5 Taupo

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment further.

1. Density Too High

I accept that the site is screened by the reserves from the Main Kinloch village. So my concern re density is now about how it can cause a reduction in set back from the reserve areas.

2. Reserve Protection .

Recommended Consent conditions

35. d,f,g,and h. I endorse these conditions

a. I note that these conditions may be difficult to enforce as in the Taupo District towns and villages, tree destruction by the self entitled continues. When the Lisland Subdivision was developed, around 30 well established kahikatea were poisoned or cut down in the Whangamata reserve near the lake. (Information attached)

b. I endorse the early construction of the substantial pool type fence and that no access to the reserve will be allowed.

However this was not the case for the earlier stage where there is now at least four formed tracks onto the reserve, complete with signage, and in spite of this access over the fence occurs as well. Also the tree cover has been thinned to the extent that the subdivision is clearly visible. Previously it was difficult to see that there was farmland beyond the vegetation cover.

c. Therefore the fence needs to be different from the one shown which would only challenge a small child. Also the top of the fence needs protruding uprights like the one shown. (attached).

Viewed from the Kinloch to Kawakawa bay bike and walking track



3. Set Back from the Reserve Boundaries.

I accept that the 10m setback for lot 64 may be difficult.

I consider that lots 50 to 53 should also have 10m setbacks from the Otaketake Reserve.

4. Reserves Okaia and Otaketake.

I note the ecological report on these reserves and suggest the person concerned is not familiar with them.

The Okaia North of Kaihikatea Drive has extensive informal tracks. South of the Drive there is a bridle track and a bait route closer to the Subdivision. There are some exotic trees in the Okaia Reserve and less in the Otaketake.

Of special note is the presence of dactylanthus along the lake edge of the reserves. I suspect there may be suitable habitat for them higher up the Otaketake reserve on the Eastern side.

5. Dactylanthus (Information attached)

This plant is rare and endangered and we are privileged to have it in our area.

(Sometimes the best protection is to not talk about them.)

Along with DOC there is a lady in Kinloch who keeps an eye on them and their protective cages. Some years ago she asked for help and I joined her on an excursion into the thicket and up and down small cliffs. Most of them are recorded on GPS but I have found some extras.

Apart from predators, human and otherwise, they die if the host tree dies. I am concerned for their ongoing survival as the loss of trees in the area is becoming more apparent and the aforementioned thicket is reducing.

They are an important food source for bats and likewise bats pollinate and thus spread them.

Dactylanthus Doc reserve Kinloch, 07.03.25.



Requested adjustments to consent conditions

- 1. The fence adjoining the reserves, as well as existing conditions, should not have a smooth top surface or rail.**
- 2. The lots adjoining the Otaketake Reserve should all have a 10 M setback. This is as well as those already mentioned in the conditions.**
- 3. There should be no future access from the subdivision into the reserves, especially the Otaketake reserve.**

Laurie Burdett 22.08.25

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Kinloch's poisoned native trees an act of 'eco-terrorism'

**By Laurilee McMichael**

Editor · Taupo & Turangi Weekender · 12 Dec, 2018 01:57 PM · 2 mins to read

The deliberate poisoning of 30 to 40 native trees at a Kinloch reserve has been labelled "eco-terrorism".

Kinloch Community Association president Belinda Walker said the community was outraged.

The dying kahikatea trees in the Whangamata Stream Scenic Reserve were discovered by weed contractor Peter Marshall last month while doing weed control with Kinloch locals.

Closer investigation showed drill marks in the trees' trunks. He said he had reported the vandalism to the Department of Conservation.

Marshall said locals told him there had been a request to have the trees removed.

DOC said in a statement there was speculation the trees had been killed so that they would not grow tall enough to obstruct views from nearby properties.

Marshall, who has been involved in restoring the reserve, once pasture, since the late 1980s, said it was "heartbreaking" to see the work undone. Only kahikatea trees were found to have been poisoned.

The kahikatea were between 6m and 7m tall but can grow to 55m.

It is an offence under the Reserves Act 1977 to cut or destroy trees and bush without a permit, and while many other trees and shrubs have been illegally cut and trimmed in the DOC reserve, this latest act is the worst since the reserve came under DOC management in 1987. Other trees in the reserve have been severely pruned to allow lake views.

Walker said it was "massively, massively disappointing" to see the trees, more than 30 years old, slowly dying and she asked that anybody with information about who may be responsible contact Dave Lumley at DOC.

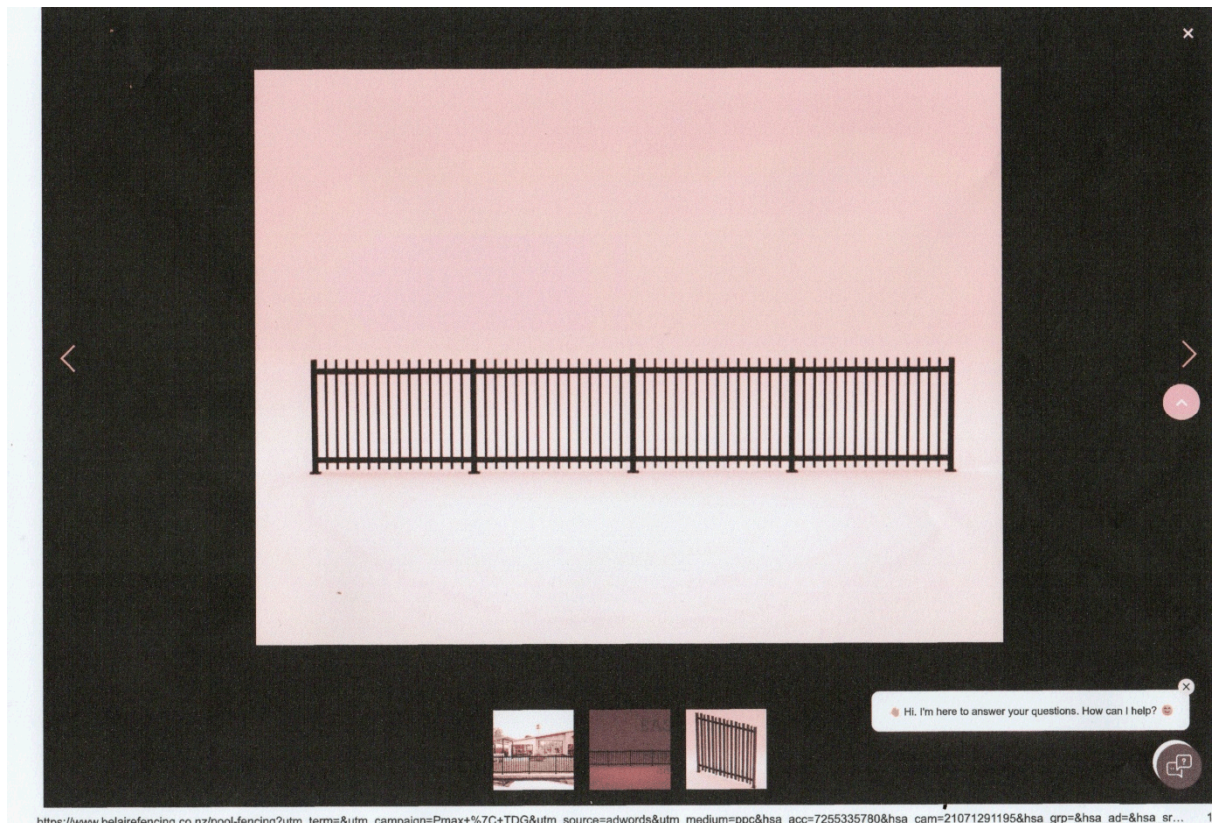
"If by some miracle anything is known, then it could be a police investigation," she says.

In 2013 a spate of tree poisonings occurred at Kinloch, with a number of trees on council land dying. The poisoner was eventually caught in the act and prosecuted.

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Type of pool fence.

Facts

Dactylanthus (Dactylanthus taylorii) is a highly unusual plant, and holds a special place in New Zealand's indigenous flora as the only fully parasitic flowering plant and the southern most member of its mainly tropical family.

This fascinating plant grows as a root-like stem attached to the root of a host tree. In response to dactylanthus, the host root moulds into the shape of a fluted wooden rose, which gives the plant its previous common name of wood rose. It is through this placenta-like attachment that dactylanthus draws all its nutrients.

The Maori name for dactylanthus is "pua o te reinga," meaning 'flower of the underworld,' and alludes to the way its flowers emerge from below ground.

Dactylanthus is currently regarded as being Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable and is a priority threatened species for the Department of Conservation.

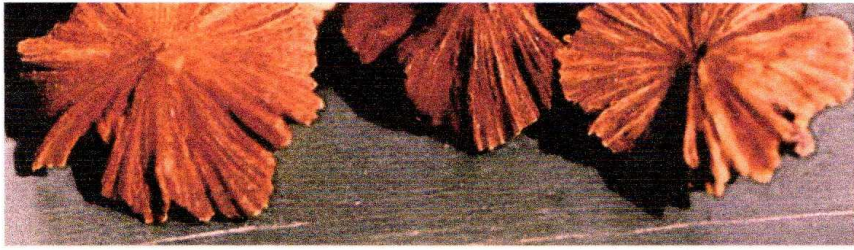


Dactylanthus taylori in flower



Male *Dactylanthus taylori*,
Waitaanga





Dactylanthus taylori - known as wood rose

Interesting dactylanthus ecology

- Has no green leaves or roots of its own.
- Has a strong scent, which is useful for attracting pollinators.
- Is pollinated by the short-tailed bat.
- Has separate male and female plants.

Habitat

Dactylanthus occurs in widely scattered sites. It prefers damp but well drained places, and is often found growing at the head of small streams. It lives where trees form a dense, leafy canopy and the ground is well covered in tall forest, or marginal shrub land. It is normally found on flat sites, but is sometimes found on vertical rock faces where roots are exposed.

Population and range

Since dactylanthus grows underground it is impossible to know the number of plants that exist. However, the distribution and number of plants has declined recently, and there are likely to be only a few thousand remaining.

Dactylanthus has always been a difficult plant to find, and has never been considered common. Dactylanthus is found from Northland to Wairarapa, with the largest populations in East Cape and the central plateau. There is also a small population on Little Barrier Island.

Unfortunately collectors are still digging up the plant, but the practice is discouraged and seems to be declining.

Threats

Threats to this very special plant and the reasons for its decline include:

- Browsing by animals, especially possums, rats and pigs.
- Habitat depletion: site destruction and modification.
- Collectors: digging of the plant for wood rose and selling of wood roses.
- Decrease in pollination: there are declining numbers of pollinators and seed dispersing animals, due to the effect of introduced animals.

DOC's work