



Sustainable Forestry

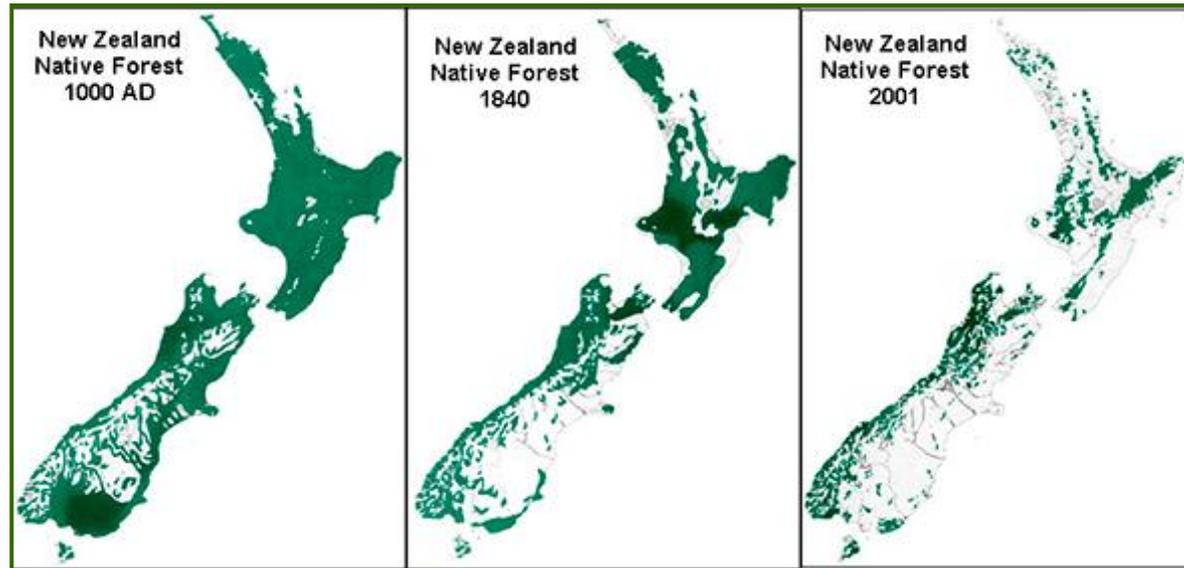
Carbon payments benefit conservation

- Gives farmers a strong incentive to stop forest clearance and pasture development and protect and encourage indigenous regeneration.
- Commits forest owners to grow forests for long term carbon sequestration, conservation, and sustainable management.
- Avoids ecosystem destruction from land clearance and short rotation forestry (typically 28 years in NZ).
- Provides revenue & employment to low income rural communities i.e. within remote areas such as Gisborne & Northland regions.





Land Use History in NZ



- Before human settlement c. 1000 years ago New Zealand was almost entirely covered with primeval forest up to the mountain timberline with an estimated 80% total forest cover.
- Polynesian and European settlers have removed two thirds of the original forest, converting large areas to grassland causing major environmental damage. Today forests cover about 25% of the country.



Environmental Benefits of Forest Recovery

Sustainable Land use

- New Zealand has extremely high levels of soil loss due to erosion. At least 10% of the 12 million hectares currently in pasture is farmed unsustainably due to erosion.
- The Gisborne, Taranaki, and Wanganui/ Manawatu Regions are particularly vulnerable to erosion.
- Conversion of pasture to forest has been demonstrated to reduce erosion by up to 90%.





Environmental Benefits of Forest Recovery

Biodiversity Gains

- Pastoral land has low biodiversity value compared to forests which provide habitat for indigenous wildlife.
- Forests are particularly important for NZ endemic bird species providing food, and safe nesting from introduced predators such as rats and stoats.
- In addition to natural indigenous forests, planted forests become important ecosystems for native fauna and flora over time.





Environmental Benefits of Forest Recovery

Water Quality

- New Zealand's rivers and lakes in farmed catchments suffer major water pollution issues. Establishing forest cover on farmland reduces nutrient run off and improves water quality



Flood Control

- New Zealand has a history of destructive flooding associated with high intensity rain storms and erosion debris choking river channels
- Controlling erosion with forestry significantly reduces risks of flood damage

