

Treeskills Tree Report

prepared for

The Far North District Council



Site Visit to Hawkins Street, Kerikeri
Conducted 21/03/2019

Overview:

This visual inspection and report was carried out by Roger Gale of Treeskills at the request of Zane Wright. The inspection was done both from ground level. This report has been carried out to ascertain check for health and safety issues.

Photographs are attached to illustrate points of note.

Any questions or queries please contact the author directly.

Date/time of Inspection: 21st March 2019 at 1300 hours.

Address: Hawkins crescent, Kerikeri.

Tree Species: Redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*.)

Height: 35m (approx.) **Circumference:** 3000mm to 850mm **Crown Spread:** 10m (approx)

Weather conditions: sunny/overcast

General Health:

This double row of trees is planted between Kerikeri retirement village and housing around Hawkins crescent. Overall it is a healthy stand of trees although some are inevitably suppressed and others more dominant. The trees have typical apically dominant crowns with well-balanced forms.

Tree Characteristics and Health:

The form of the crowns have minor asymmetry, with large dominant limbs in their lower canopies where their site allows.



Figure 1: Showing heavy limbs over crescent.

Health is good; with 85% live crown ratio, normal foliage density and needle size. Foliage colour appeared to be normal with no sign of chlorotic or necrotic. Annual shoot growth is acceptable and vigour good.

Wound wood development is fair to average.

A common cause of concern with redwoods in the north of New Zealand is internal borer and decay at ground level. This is not a significant concern here as the weaker trees have been removed and their stumps show no sign of decay.



Figure 2: Showing a typical healthy.

The roots in stands of Redwood are typically well-entangled and often show root-grafting. The likelihood of any one tree falling outwards from the stand - the tree's roots would have to separate from those of the other trees which is very unlikely.

In this particular situation, one large Redwood has fallen into the stand. This is likely due to root damage caused by earthworks associated with the construction of the immediately adjacent driveway and concrete-floored garage



Figure 3: Showing the failed root plate.



Figure 4: Showing the charred bark.

People have been setting small fires in this stand. This is an aesthetic problem as well as a small risk of fire spreading to adjacent houses. This is not a problem for the redwoods as they are fire resistant.

Hazards: The most likely cause of damage or hazard from these trees root plate failure as happened in this stand especially if the tree fell out of the stand instead of within it. I did not see any other compromised root plates that could lead to this occurrence.

Summary:

The Redwood trees at the above address are generally of good health and sound form. There were no evident signs of disease or structural defects within the crowns which would be a cause of concern during a storm. The ongoing monitoring of these large trees on an annual basis is recommended. If the retirement village wanted more light a crown lift in that area would help.

The root zone has mostly been maintained by natural needle fall, however a generous layer of mulch on bare areas would significantly increase root health and vigour.

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Disclaimer: The tree referred to in this report is a living entity and is therefore subject to natural processes, and changes to its environment caused by human's activities and by exceptional weather conditions. The inspection undertaken relies on the visual attributes of tree health and structure which can be ascertained from a visual inspection. Hidden defects which are not readily visible may not be detected. The condition and safety of the tree inspected cannot be guaranteed beyond what can be reasonably assessed from the procedures used. It is recommended that all significant trees are regularly inspected. Treeskills can advise on the suitable frequency of these inspections.