

Treeskills Tree Report

prepared for

The Far North District Council



Site Visit to Wendywood Lane, Kerikeri
Conducted 01/09/2020

Overview:

This visual inspection and report was carried out by Roger Gale of Treeskills at the request of Zane Wright. The inspection was done 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: 1st September 2020 at 1400 hours.

Address: Wendywood Lane, 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 New world and Wendywood Lane. The root zone is compromised on the south west by tar seal and helped by a generous berm on the north east alongside Wendywood lane. These trees have declined significantly in the last 15 months. The trees have typical apically dominant crowns with well-balanced forms. This copse is only half the width of the Hawkings crescent copse.

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 necrotic foliage.

Health is variable; with 65% live crown ratio, poor foliage density and needle size. Foliage colour appeared to be poor with signs of necrotic trees. Annual shoot growth is limited and vigour poor. There are a few trees with extensive epicormic growth alongside the sealed area of new World and some have died.



Figure 2: Showing a similar view a year ago.

The decline has been slow but steady. The causes appear to be a mixture of:

- The loss of permeable root run due to the car park being inserted
- Lack of mulch
- Lack of summer rain
- Foot traffic compaction



Figure 3: Showing a popular path.

The stand of trees is a useful and popular accessway through from a playing field and residential area to the shops. To reduce soil compaction a layer of mulch around 10cm minimum depth would help.

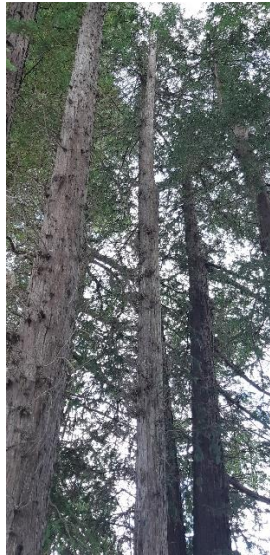


Figure 4: Showing one of two dead trees



Figure 5: Showing the other dead tree

These two trees should be felled before the top falls. They are both the second from the left in figures 4 and 5. They are side by side and roughly where the New world fence ends, and the soccer field begins. They will fall out onto Wendywood lane.



Figure 6: Showing trees where foliage density is poor.

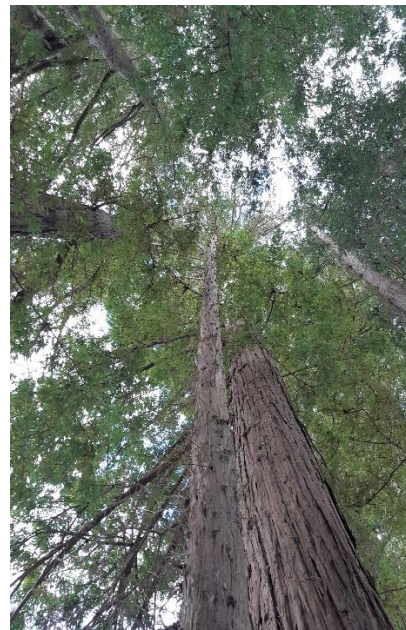


Figure 7: Showing good density and colour.

These trees are very variable with patches of trees showing reasonable health and others showing severe decline. There are perhaps 13 trees in acceptable health, 4 of which are suppressed. There are 14 in poor health, two of which are dead.

Hazards: There is a 10 to 12 diameter branch at the south end hanging around 20 meters up. The declining trees will continue to decline and die unless remedial action is taken. They will then either fall or drop large portions of the tops

Summary:

The Redwood trees at the above address are a significant asset to the community. Removal of these large trees would be a significant expense. Remedial work is recommended to avoid this loss of asset and a large cost.

Works should include:

- Air spade to remove compaction problem
- Application of mulch

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.

Roger Gale
Diploma of Arboriculture (Lincoln)

Treeskills
RD 1 Kaitaia 0481
Ph 09 4093807
Mob 02 1717177
roger@treeskills.co.nz

www.treeskills.co.nz

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.