

Recovering from Disaster Tim Sandall General Manager - Forests

#### An Integrated Forest Products Company

- Forests: 36,000 ha growing high-quality pruned trees
- Sawmills: 530,000 m<sup>3</sup> lumber emphasis on appearance grade Lumber
- Bleached Chemi Thermo Mechanical Pulpmill: 270,000 adt – board grade
- Biomass boilers: 250,000 GT biomass, 200 GJ of thermal energy
- 13.5 MW electrical generation
- Contributes 6% to Hawkes Bay GDP
- Approximately 3,000 direct, indirect and induced employees
- Converts \$150M of logs into \$450M in value-added products each year



IT



## Lead up to Cyclone Gabrielle

- 12 Months of high rainfall & Cyclone Hale
- Thursday 8 it's on our radar
- Friday 9 Prepare to close Forests
- Sunday 12 Prepare to close sawmill
- Monday 13 Prepare to shut down pulpmill and site
- Approx. 8pm only 6 people on site

Tues 14th Feb 2023	8:20am

Satellite imagery from JMA

## **15 February Whirinaki**



## **On Site Rescue**





## February 2023 Esk Valley



## Pan Pac Workers' Experience





## No words required





## 4.5% of Forest Estate Damaged Mix of Slips, Windthrow and Sediment





## **Culvert Damage**





### \$300+ Million Damage

- \$150M Equipment, buildings & vehicles
- \$100M Business Interuption
- \$47M Tree Crop & Forest Infrastructure
- \$10M Stores & Parts Inventory
- 22 Electrical rooms flooded
- 60% of pulp and Lumber Stock damaged



### **Cyclone Recovery Stats**

- 75,000m3 of silt removed
- 835 culverts built/replaced
- 200+ roads restored
- 700 workers on site per day
- \$10M of equipment purchased/week
- \$500k invested in Whirinaki Resilience
- 38K GT of Export Wood chip
- NO STAFF LOST THEIR JOB



## Plan for Recovery





## Where Do You Start Be Prepared – Crisis Management Team



#### Pan Pac > Crisis Management Response - Templates > CMT Boards

## Crisis Management Response Templates

Name	Status	Date modified
Board 1 - CMT Registration	$\odot$	18/05/2023 8:39 am
👜 Board 2 - CMT PEARL	$\odot$	28/07/2021 6:57 am
👜 Board 3 - CMT Stakeholder Plan	$\odot$	28/07/2021 6:57 am
👜 Board 4 - CMT Fact Board	$\odot$	28/07/2021 6:57 am
👜 Board 5 - CMT Action Board	$\odot$	28/07/2021 6:57 am
👜 Board 6 - Team Fact Board	$\odot$	28/07/2021 6:57 am
👜 Board 7 - Team Action Board	$\odot$	28/07/2021 6:57 am
SITREP PPP-FRM-S136	$\odot$	28/07/2021 8:02 am

## **17 Feb – Four Steps of Recovery Defined**



Phase 1 – Make sites safe

Phase 2

Gain Access

completed early

March

Phase 2 – Gain Access

February 14

Site flooded

Phase 1

Make Site Safe

completed late

February

Phase 3 – Conduct Assessments

Phase 3

Conduct

Assessment

Phase 4

Repair and

Restore

Production

resume.

Phase 4 – Repair and restore Production



### **Project Phoenix was Born**



- Project charter drawn up.
- Clearly defined roles and responsibilities.
- People seconded into roles
- Specialist project managers and flood recovery expertise sought.
- Budgets and timelines drawn-up and constantly monitored and reviewed.

#### Engagement





#### Prior relationships are critical

- Government at a National and Local Level
- Local Regulatory Authorities
- Iwi and Iwi land owners
- Communities



#### **Forests Response**

- Follow the four steps to recovery
- Gave staff and contractors guidance
- Prioritised work based:
  - Make the forests and communities safe
  - Where will be able to stand up operations
  - Make safe access
- Reallocated responsibilities
- Rebuild with increased resilience
- SWELA (Severe Weather Emergency Recovery Legislation Act)
- Silt and Debris recovery task force
- NZFM support
- Offices for staff



## Kaweka – Kuripapango Rd





## Kaweka – Kuripango Rebuilt







### **Gwavas – Wakarara Culvert**





### **Gwavas – Tin Hut Culvert - Before & After**





Contractor SCL won an award for this work

### Gwavas – Allan Rd Culvert, Before & After









## **Gwavas – Dutch Creek Bridge Before**







## Mohaka – Anaura Bridges





## Mohaka – Anaura Bridges Completed







## Where are we today....



- Lumber Operations started in early 2024 currently at 85%
- Pulp Operations started April 2024 Its has been a hard start up; with reliability, electricity and market challenges
- Boilers 100% operational
- Electrical Turbine completion April 2026
- Office rebuild under way completion July 2026
- Stopbank resilience work about to commence, completion July 2026
- Forest Operations
  - Only a handful of project left
  - Have been harvesting at a higher level
- Rebuilding profitability and balance sheet long term







## What are the lessons

- Be prepared....
  - Have strong, demonstrated values and business philosophy
  - Strong shareholder support
  - Strong balance sheet
  - Practiced emergency response
- Put people and community above all else
- Have good relationships built on trust, understanding and openness across all stakeholders and partners
- Always consider how you want to come out of this
- Keep regular comms the good and the bad
- Prioritise & trust your staff and contractors

# So, have we emerged stronger?







## Ka pō, ka ao, ka awatea From within the darkness comes light and a new day

AT I

# Shaping Landscapes – Landslide analysis from Cyclone Gabrielle in Hawke's Bay.

Ashton Eaves PhD – Senior Land Scientist

NZ Institute of Forestry 2025, 27 – 29 June, Napier.

Session 1: Assessing Cyclone Impact on Forest Ecosystems and infrastructure



TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O TE MATAU-A-MĀUI

#### Introduction

- Erosion & sedimentation impacts.
- Farm-scale analysis at Awapapa & Dumgoyne Stations.
- > New modelled spatial data products.





- > Setting the scene:
  - Rainfall estimates.
  - Peak river flows.





#### > Setting the scene:

#### > Hypothetical sediment loads.

Site	Normal Load (t a <sup>-1</sup> )	Load By Catchment Area (t a <sup>-1</sup> ha <sup>-1</sup> )	Cyclone Gabrielle Event Load (t)	Mean Flow (m <sup>3</sup> /s)	Peak Flow (m <sup>3</sup> /s)	CG load as percentage of normal
Aropaoanui River at Aropaoanui *	93,220	6	15,117	4.44	134	16%
Esk River at Waipunga Bridge <sup>+</sup>	115,774	5	737,931	7.05	2,006	637%
Hawea Stream off St Lawrence Road	1,944	1	3,558	0.12	7	183%
Karamu Stream at Floodgates <sup>+</sup>	143,417	3	287,073	4.1	101	200%
Mangakuri River at Nilsson Road	50,896	7	4,184	0.96	30	8%
Mangamaire Stream at Cooks Tooth Rd	45,650	7	27,930	1.3	218	61%
Mangaone River at Rissington <sup>+</sup>	129,999	6	1,964,150	6.64	1,393	1511%
Maraetotara River at Waimarama Road	12,647	2	4,307	1.29	137	34%
Ngaruroro River at Fernhill	1,495,003	8	3,699,683	63.78	5,398	247%
Porangahau River at Saleyards *	942,893	14	184,548	14.81	1,299	20%
Sandy Creek at Papakiri <sup>+</sup>	25,957	13	248,619	0.362	31	958%
Tukituki River at Red Bridge	1,672,278	7	1,362,961	61.48	3,462	82%
Tutaekuri River at Puketapu HBRC Site **	510,915	7	2,159,201	20.24	4,823	423%
Waiau River at Ardkeen	434,790	3	744,996	65.19	1,656	171%
Waikatuku Stream off Harrison Rd	16,617	18	11,441	0.28	15	69%
Waimaunu Stream at Duncans	11,566	7	5,042	0.53	21	44%
Wairoa River at Marumaru*	2,710,186	15	1,412,675	86.35	4,100	52%
TOTAL	8,524,808	187	12,974,589	338.92	24,831	



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> Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research Rapid Assessment of Land Damage (2023):

- > Over 300,000 landslides along the East Coast, each typically comprising 1,000 tonnes of soil.
- ➢ 61% of damage in Hawke's Bay.
- Of that, 63% was in High Producing Grassland & 13% in Exotic Forest.
- Woody vegetation reduced modelled landslide probability by 90%.

#### Table 1. Area of landslide scars in different land covers, by territorial authority (km<sup>2</sup>)

Damage zone	Broadleaved Indigenous Hardwoods	Exotic Forest	Forest - Harvested	High Producing Exotic Grassland	Indigenous Forest	Low Producing Grassland	Mānuka and/or Kānuka	Other	Total
Carterton District	0.04	0.15	0.13	1.11	0.02	0.04	0.10	0.09	1.66
Central Hawke's Bay District	0.23	0.48	0.25	27.54	0.17	0.32	0.34	0.93	30.25
Gisborne District	1.78	14.36	7.21	20.84	0.53	2.40	2.70	3.30	53.13
Hastings District	1.79	12.06	7.77	46.77	0.81	4.64	6.25	2.47	82.56
Masterton District	0.13	0.99	1.24	7.75	0.03	0.21	0.32	0.21	10.88
Tararua District	0.09	0.60	0.51	17.66	0.06	0.55	0.55	0.32	20.34
Wairoa District	0.99	5.26	1.95	10.97	0.36	1.02	1.45	1.15	23.15
Tota	I 5.04	33.90	19.07	132.64	1.98	9.17	11.71	8.47	221.97

#### GNS Landslide mapping:

- Mapped > 85,000 landslide points and debris trails in Hawke's Bay to date.
- 10,366 occurring in plantation forests (13.47%), or 123 ha.
- Significant amount of pastoral farmland impacted compared to exotic forestry and native vegetation.





- Sediment deposition mapping:
  - HBRC collected sub-regional aerial imagery to assess the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle at 10 cm resolution.
  - Mapped the 2D spatial extent of the sedimentation.
  - In total, 26,465 ha were mapped to varying confidence.


Sediment deposition mapping:
 Total area of deposition by confidence.





- Sediment deposition mapping:
  - Total area of deposition by land use and confidence.
  - Biased by plantations generally on steeper land in Hawke's Bay.



- Sediment deposition mapping:
  - Total area of deposition by catchment with the corresponding percentage of the catchment area covered.



- NIWA Esk Valley Particle Size Distribution Analysis:
  - Maximum deposition depth from cores was 300 cm.
  - Predominant sediment particle size through main catchment is very fine to fine sand.
  - Predominant sediment particle size at Whirinaki is silt / clay.



- Linden Estate vineyard suffocating in sediment - right
- House relocation (650 m) bottom





- Case study Northern Wairoa catchment comparing Awapapa and Dumgoyne Stations.
  - 30% of Awapapa planted in trees following Cyclone Bola & Giselle.
  - Dumgoyne recently purchased with more undulating land and few trees.
  - > 1233 slips mapped over 534 ha.
  - Weighting and normalising slips to farm area and slope.
  - Regression analysis confirmed statistical significance at this scale for soil, slope and vegetation against slip area.



- Awapapa Station below
- Dumgoyne Station right







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#### Comparing Awapapa and Dumgoyne Stations





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Comparing Awapapa and Dumgoyne Stations vegetation cover reduced slips by 67% on Awapapa compared with Dumgoyne.







MWLR – HBRC LiDAR Partnership Project Maximising the benefit of the LiDAR (2020) collection.





➢ Improving understanding and management of erosion with LiDAR.

➢ Vegetation mapping.

LiDAR | Hawke's Bay Regional Council

https://www.hbrc.govt.nz/services/maps-and-gis/lidar





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## >Improving understanding and management of erosion with LiDAR:

- > Helping catchment advisors identify erosion-prone land and target
- ➢ poplar pole planting and riparian planting.
- > Inform forestry companies of landslide susceptibility during harvest and
- connectivity to waterways of sediment.







### Improving understanding and management of erosion with LiDAR:

> Upgrade regional SedNetNZ erosion and sediment load modelling.

	Previous SedNetNZ		LiDAR SedNetNZ	
Estimated sediment loads delivered to the stream network	Suspended sediment load (Mt yr <sup>-1</sup> )	Percentage contribution to total load	Suspended sediment load (Mt yr <sup>-1</sup> )	Percentage contribution to total load
Shallow landslide erosion	4.9	66	5.4	64
Surface erosion	1.5	19	1.7	19
Riverbank erosion	0.70	9	1.0	12
Gully erosion	0.13	2	0.15	2
Earthflow erosion	0.27	4	0.27	3
Total load delivered to the stream network	7.5		8.5	
Total net load delivered to the coast	7.2		8.0	



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### Improving understanding and management of erosion with LiDAR:

> Improve the spatial representation of the stream network and watersheds (LiDAR DEM in

blue vs. REC2 in red).





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### Improving understanding and management of erosion with LiDAR:

➢ Regional-scale shallow landslide susceptibility and waterway connectivity modelling.



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## ➤Vegetation mapping:

> Digital models of canopy height (CHM), surface (DSM), ground (DEM) and modelled daylight/

➤ shadow at very high resolution, i.e. 30 cm pixel size.

**DEM + Hillshade** 







#### Daylight/shadow



## ➤Vegetation mapping:

> Specific spatial vegetation layers: individual trees, forests, tree canopy, short vegetation,

> shelter belts, pine/exotic forest. Exploratory analysis.

**Individual trees** 







Pine forest





![](_page_53_Picture_1.jpeg)

\_ \_ \_

## **New Products: Forestry Catchment Planner**

Landslide susceptibility
 Melton Ratios
 Catchment Management Units
 Coup sizes
 Risk reduction

Forestry Catchment Planner

![](_page_54_Figure_3.jpeg)

## **New Products: Forestry Catchment Planner**

Created under the National Science Challenge: Our Land And Water ➢ Partners:

![](_page_55_Picture_2.jpeg)

HAW **REGIONAL COUNCIL** TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O TE MATAU-A-MĀUI

CHRISTCHURCH NEW ZEALAND

![](_page_56_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_57_Figure_0.jpeg)

## New Products: GNS Landslide Probability Grids

HIRDs rainfall model.
Various Annual Return Intervals.
With or without climate change.

![](_page_58_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_58_Picture_3.jpeg)

## New Products: GNS Landslide Probability Grids

## ➤Scenarios:

- RIL\_Probability\_EasternNI\_TotalSusceptibilityModel\_v1\_HBRC\_resupply.gdb
  - RILProb\_HIRDS\_ARI50
  - ▷ 🕮 RILProb\_HIRDS\_ARI100
  - RILProb\_HIRDS\_ARI250
  - RILProb\_HIRDS\_CC\_ARI50
  - ▷ 🕮 RILProb\_HIRDS\_CC\_ARI100
  - ▷ 🗰 RILProb\_HIRDS\_CC\_ARI250
  - ▷ I RILProb\_UpQ\_HIRDS\_ARI50
  - RILProb\_UpQ\_HIRDS\_ARI100
  - RILProb\_UpQ\_HIRDS\_ARI250
  - RILProb\_UpQ\_HIRDS\_CC\_ARI50
  - RILProb\_UpQ\_HIRDS\_CC\_ARI100
  - RILProb\_UpQ\_HIRDS\_CC\_ARI250

![](_page_59_Picture_15.jpeg)

RILProb\_HIRDS\_CC\_ARI100
 Value

0.999221

8.90639e-05

![](_page_60_Picture_0.jpeg)

Dr Ashton Eaves ashton.eaves@hbrc.govt.nz 0272779360

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![](_page_61_Picture_0.jpeg)

# THE EFFECTS OF CYCLONE GABRIELLE IN THE CENTRAL NORTH ISLAND

![](_page_62_Picture_0.jpeg)

# PREPARATION FOR THE CYCLONE

• Warnings that a significant weather system was on its way a week prior to the cyclone arrival. Past experience told us strong winds from East/South-East likely to be damaging to forests in the Taupo-Turangi area

13

20

14

21

28

22

- Adverse weather warning sent out to crews Friday advising them to monitor weather conditions and to follow standard safety protocols including parking machines away from standing trees over the weekend
- The track of the cyclone was monitored over the weekend. By Sunday afternoon it looked highly likely to arrive in the area late Monday or early Tuesday
- Decision made Sunday afternoon to suspend all forest access on Monday. Staff and forest workers all notified.
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February was uneventful in the forests. Forecast for Tuesday reviewed, and decision made to suspend forest access until further notice, with a review midday Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>

![](_page_63_Picture_0.jpeg)

# CYCLONE GABRIELLE ARRIVES

- Cyclone Gabrielle arrived in the CNI in the early hours of Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023
- Peak wind gusts at local weather stations were:
  - Taupo 128km/hr
  - Turangi 170km/hr
  - Rotoaira 125km/hr
- Period of most severe wind was 4 hours – 2.00am to 6.00am, then gradual easing over next 12 hours

![](_page_63_Figure_8.jpeg)

![](_page_63_Figure_9.jpeg)

![](_page_64_Picture_0.jpeg)

## THE IMMEDIATE AFTERMATH

- Obvious from daybreak on Tuesday the damage to the forests was widespread and significant
- Need to develop a Response Plan
- Local communities adversely affected no power, trees across State Highways
- Scale and extent of the windthrow was going to be the challenge & not the windthrow itself
- Significant resources were going to be required
- Recognised need to put greater emphasis on Health and Safety due to nature & scale of work & bringing in new contractors
- Time How long have we got how long will it take????

![](_page_65_Picture_0.jpeg)

## COMMUNICATION

Engagement with stakeholders in the first few days a key focus

- Forest owners updates on extent of damage, plans for salvage operation
- Contractors Return to work timing and safety protocols
- Neighbours Recording and addressing issues where trees had affected neighbouring properties
- Councils NES-CF windthrow salvage notifications for entire forests
- Powerline companies Making plans to move harvesting gear around to open up access to powerlines
- 3<sup>rd</sup> party forest users Forests closed for all non-essential activities until safety assessments made
- Communication with neighbours and communities were very important throughout salvage operations

![](_page_66_Picture_0.jpeg)

## ASSESSING THE DAMAGE

- Staff were out inspecting forests Tuesday morning very limited access inside the forests
- Photos from helicopters doing powerline survey work started coming through mid-morning
- Satellite imagery first images available Tuesday afternoon
- Aerial surveys to confirm the extent of the damage from Wednesday onwards
- Reports from further a field suggested local forests only forests where significant windthrow had occurred

![](_page_66_Picture_7.jpeg)

# QUANTIFYING THE DAMAGE

- As quality satellite imagery became available a mapping exercise was done to identify damaged areas & predominant terrain type affected.
- Limited ability to ground-truth. Drone and aircraft only way to see most of the forests
- Initially rough enough was good enough – high level area & volume estimates – refined over time
- Approximately 6,700 hectares damaged, 3.3 million m<sup>3</sup> to salvage

![](_page_67_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_68_Picture_0.jpeg)

# PLANNING THE SALVAGE

- Planning for the salvage began right away
- Clear objectives were defined:
  - 1. Get it done goal of being finished by the end of June 2024
  - 2. Do everything safely no compromises
  - 3. Minimise value loss for forest owners
- A response plan was developed and communicated to forest owners

![](_page_68_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_69_Picture_0.jpeg)

## PRIORITISING THE RESPONSE

- Public safety closing forest access, erecting signage, clearing roads and roadsides
- Open access for the provision of key services (electricity)
- Value Loss Mitigation Commence salvage in older pruned stands (existing crews)
- Minimise Loss Commence salvage in accessible areas where large volumes can be recovered quickly
- Determining Supply Chain Capability & Capacity
- Alternative supply chain and market strategies

Company Name	NZFM			
Date of Cyclone Gabrielle Wind Event	14/02/2023			
Project Lead - GM	Project Start:		14/02/2023	
TASK	ASSIGNED TO	PROGRESS	START	END
Engagement				
Engagement with Clients	GM & SMT	100%	14/02/2023	23/06/20
Engagement with Contractors	Ops Managers	100%	14/02/2023	23/06/20
Engagement with Third Parties	GM & SMT	100%	14/02/2023	23/06/20
Damage Assessment			1.1.2	
Determine Extent of Damage	SMT	100%	14/02/2023	17/02/20
Map Scale of Damage - Area Assessment - High Level	PM	100%	14/02/2023	23/02/20
Map Scale of Damage - Volume Assessment - High Level	PM	100%	17/02/2023	3/03/202
Refine Damage Assessment - Stand Level Assessments	PM	100%	27/02/2023	29/04/20
Assign Stand Level Salvage Priorities - Value Loss Mitigation	PM	100%	14/02/2023	29/04/20
Prioritising Response				
Public safety - closing forest access, erecting signage, clearing roads and roadsides	Ops Managers	95%	14/02/2023	5/03/202
Open access for the provision of key services (electricity)	Ops Managers	90%	15/02/2023	12/03/20
Value Loss Mitigation - Commence salvage in older pruned stands (existing crews)	HM	50%	15/02/2023	26/04/20
Minimise Loss - Commence salvage in accessible areas where large volumes can be recovered quickly	НМ	50%	15/02/2023	26/04/20
Determining Supply Chain Capability & Capacity	SMT	80%	17/02/2023	19/03/20
Alternative supply chain and market strategies	SMT/External	50%	1/05/2023	30/06/20
Key Constraints				
Maintain customer relationships - approach customers to discuss necessary changes	S&M Manager	90%	15/02/2023	26/04/20
Secure additional harvesting capacity	HM	60%	17/02/2023	30/04/20
Secure additional trucking capacity	S&L Manager	40%	17/02/2023	30/04/20
Secure additional management capacity	GM	60%	17/02/2023	31/03/20
Explore wharf additional storage capacity	S&M Manager	85%	17/02/2023	19/03/20
Log Markets				
Work with customers to develop log grades and supply profiles	S&M Manager	50%	17/02/2023	26/04/20
Explore options of increasing proportion of "at wharf gate' sales	S&M Manager	80%	17/02/2023	26/04/20
Financial				
Work with clients to develop budgets/forecasts	SMT	10%	19/03/2023	31/03/20
Work with NZFM board to develop budget/forecast	GM	0%	19/03/2023	31/03/20
Existing Tree Crop Considerations				
Determine acceptable level of damage in young tree crops - liquidate vs retain	PM/FM	0%	6/03/2023	5/05/202
Longer Term Implications				
Update Estate Models Evaluate Implications on Long Term Woodflows	PM	10%	6/03/2023	30/05/20
Replant Considerations	FO/PM/FM	5%	6/03/2023	30/06/20
Risks				
Log Markets				
Capacity - other forest owners taking their harvesting & trucking crews back				
Description and even the state of the state				

![](_page_70_Picture_0.jpeg)

# **RETURNING TO WORK**

- Silvi crews in unaffected forests back to work once areas checked – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> onwards
- Harvesting and engineering crews redirected to road opening work from afternoon of Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> – prioritized arterial roads, powerline access, and threats to public safety – damaged and leaning trees near public roads in particular

![](_page_70_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_71_Picture_0.jpeg)

# GETTING THE SALVAGE UNDERWAY

- Started with existing crews diverted to damaged stands. Most didn't have to move to do this
- Some challenges were obvious right from the start
  - More resources needed to scale up operations harvesting crews, trucks, supervisors, admin staff
  - Engagement with customers can't salvage what you can't sell
  - Timing important more crews without more trucking capacity not that useful
- Had to plan the order of stands to salvage.
  - Operational and environmental constraints
  - Equitable resource allocation across forests


### ORDER OF PRIORITY

- A model was built incorporating all salvage areas to minimise value loss
- Had to make assumptions about downgrading of logs over time assumed pruned quality would deteriorate over 6 months to the point where there was no premium over A Grade
- Minimum monthly volume requirements for each forest as a way of spreading crews out managing operational constraint of too many crews in one area
- Some environmental constraints to contend with areas not suitable for winter harvesting, timing of operations near residential neighbours et



### HARVESTING CREWS

- Quickly established some minimum standards for additional crews
  - Fully mechanized
  - SafeTree (or equivalent) certification
  - History of good environmental performance
- First crews came from Hawkes Bay and Tairawhiti, unable to work in their home forests
- Full NZFM induction and H&S audit by independent contractor on arrival
- As market conditions deteriorated over the course of 2023, more capacity became available
- Wide range of commitment periods. Some available for set timeframes, others keen to stay until the end
- Peaked at 41 crews during 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2023.
  - Several operating with two shifts



#### N.Z. FOREST MANAGERS

## TRUCKS

- Trucking capacity most likely limiting factor in normal circumstances
- Large proportion of wood destined for export.
  O Long lead distance so lower truck utilization
- Peaked at 500 truck movements per day, with loadout on nightshift and Saturdays from many crews
- Managing stock levels on skids very challenging, especially when pulp not moving

#### N.Z. FOREST MANAGERS

#### MANAGEMENT STAFF

- NZFM staffing levels, normally 26-27, peaked at 39
- Two recently retired supervisors 'persuaded' to come back to work
  - Familiarity with our systems and forests invaluable
- Harvesting team was expanded with additional experienced supervisors taken on
- Arrangements made with some forestry companies to supply supervisors with harvesting crews
  - Effective way of matching supervision capacity with crew numbers
- Large strain on back-office staff Timbersales and accounts

## LOG MARKETS

- Domestic market conditions, wood quality, and sapstain meant export was the only avenue for much of the volume
- Within a few months, the only domestic sales of any significance were pruned and pulp
- Export volumes were far in excess of what our normal export channels could cope with
  - Export volume sold to FOB and AWG across four ports, sometimes at a rate of more than 250k m<sup>3</sup> per month
- NZFM took the view that we could achieve a better return for the forest owners selling into low markets than by waiting for market conditions to improve while log quality deteriorated
  - Loss minimization as opposed to value maximization



#### N.Z. FOREST MANAGERS

### SAPSTAIN

- Sapstain was identified as something that would be an issue from the outset, especially for domestic supply
- Rate of sapstain development difficult to accurately predict
  - Main drivers were snapped v. toppled trees, log diameter, aspect
- Less of an issue for export logs. A salvage grade was introduced midway through the salvage in order to segregate the most stained material and keep the average quality of regular export volume higher.
  - Export pruned, A and K grade with >50% sapstain



## WOOD QUALITY

- Wood quality more of a 'real' issue than sapstain, both in domestic and export markets
- Shatter and internal cell collapse a problem in pruned logs
  - Sales team worked closely with pruned mills to monitor the extent of this.
- As wood got older and drier, brittleness increased
  - Loading and handling issues, less suitable for end uses







#### LOG GRADE OUTTURN

- Log grade mix gradually changed over time
- Pruned proportion stayed around 20% right through until the end of 2023, much longer than anyone expected
- Decrease in A Grade a combination of downgrading as sapstain increased, and a gradual move into younger stands with smaller piece size
- Salvage grade tapered off toward the end more volume diverted to pulp to minimise risk of phyto issues at the port

#### CHANGE IN LOG GRADE PROPORTIONS OVER THE COURSE OF THE SALVAGE

Pruned A K Pulp Salvage





#### HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Heightened focus on H&S for all salvage activity
- Trees in damaged stands still falling over months after the cyclone – hunting and other incidental access was restricted until these stands were cleared
- A total of 5 LTI's recorded during the salvage





## HOW DID IT ALL GO?

- We set a company record for annual harvest volume in FY23. Beat it in under 5 months in FY24
- The salvage was finished mid-June 2024, 16 months after the cyclone
- 3.3million m<sup>3</sup> of logs were salvaged from 6,700 hectares of forest
  - 2.4Mm<sup>3</sup> export, 0.9Mm<sup>3</sup> domestic sales
- A positive stumpage achieved in each forest



# Thank You