



05/03/0020

Paul Amaral

Community Facilities  
Customer & Community Services Directorate  
Auckland Council

Hi Paul,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Western Springs Pine Tree removal project.

My review is of the removal methodology, state of the site post removal and planting plan from a fire behavior and safety view only. This site is on a Westerly slope that does have a prevailing wind influence.

**Removal Methodology:**

The removal of the trees in Autumn will unlikely cause risk of a fire ignition or spreading towards the housing. The Specification of work report recommends the removal of the tree commence in March. At this time of the year we are usually in a Prohibited or Restricted Fire Season as the fire risk is at the High or Extreme level. The time of year for the lowest fire risk is 1 April through to 30 November. Work outside of this period would require a site hot works plan to ensure the machinery does not cause a fire risk.

**Site post removal:**

Area 1: Most of the logwood and foliage will be removed and/or mulched on site. Recommendation is that no logwood to be left within 15 metres of the properties on West View Road. The remaining tree stumps will not be a fire risk.

Area 2: All logwood and branches will be left on site. Recommendation is that no logwood or branches to be left within 20 metres of the properties on West View Road. The remaining tree stumps will not be a fire risk.

**Replanting Plan:**

Area A: No planting of the plant species *Kunzea robusta* Kānuka within 20 metres of any building structure

Area B: No planting of the plant species *Kunzea robusta* Kānuka anywhere within this area. The area of planting within 20 metres of the property boundaries is to be of a species of that does not grow higher than 3 metres in height.

Area C: No risk

Area D: No planting of the plant species *Kunzea robusta* Kānuka within 20 metres of any building structure

Note: Kānuka and Mānuka are both classed as a Highly flammable plant species as identified by Scion Rural Fire Research 2018

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information or clarity.

Kind regards,

Denis Cooper

Special Advisor Land Management

Fire and Emergency NZ

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