

# *Hawke's Bay* **BOTANICAL GROUP**



## **The Hawke's Bay Botanical Group's tour of selected botanical highlights in Pan Pac's Kaweka Forest**

**Saturday 13 April 2019**



Our host for the day is Dave Coe, forestry operations co-ordinator, Kaweka, for Pan Pac Forest Products. He's going to guide the group to see a series of superb natural wetlands, and in the afternoon, we're going to check out the vegetation along the Burns Range.

**Our itinerary** for the day is:

8.30am: Carpool from Farmlands Napier carpark

Drive to Kaweka Forest headquarters, 3882 Taihape Road via HW50 and Omahu. This is 55km from Farmlands, and should take about 50 minutes.

9.45am: leave for the wetlands on Roses Road, near Kuripapango.

There are nine forest wetlands at Kuripapango ranging in size from one to 15ha. We'll be driving past several before reaching the final wetland, which is about 3.5ha in size.

Here Keiko Hashiba, terrestrial ecologist at the Hawke's Bay Regional Council will talk to us about the assessments carried out at the site. This is an unusual wetland, having *Phormium tenax* in the bed of the wetland, and *Phormium cookianum*, and a mix of hybrid flaxes surrounding the area.

Dave will talk about what Pan Pac is doing to protect and enhance the wetlands, including forest operations, weed control and predator control.

From here we'll leave about 11.30 to head to Kuripapango and depending on the weather we might have lunch at the Kuripapango DOC base, or if the weather is really good, we'll have lunch on the top of the Burns Range, where there are some spectacular views.

Up along the Burns Range Road, at around 900m asl, we will see a wide range of nurse species giving way to regenerating beech and podocarp forest, including Hall's totara, rimu and the odd miro. Other treasures include *Pseudopanax colensoi*, red tussock, *Podocarpus nivalis*, and *Raukawa simplex*.

Alan Lee from DOC will tell us about the *Pinus contorta* control programme on the Range.

We will be leaving the forest by 4pm so we can be back in Napier by 5pm.

**Bring:** clean boots, warm clothes, waterproof coat, camera, binoculars, lunch, thermos/drinks, water. Four-wheel-drives with good clearance are preferred for the trip, although the forestry roads are in good condition. No dogs or guns thank you.

**Please register** for this trip before 10 April by emailing Hawke's Bay Botanical Group chair Marie Taylor at [planthawkesbay@xtra.co.nz](mailto:planthawkesbay@xtra.co.nz) with names and numbers.