



## CARBON SINK RESEARCH

NOVEMBER 2017

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# Smart Afforestation Planning (SAP) for Social, Economic, and Ecological Benefits

## SMART NATIVE AFFORESTATION PLANNING

OpenGeo has now completed its unique native afforestation site prioritisation for the Kapiti Coast District study area to locate optimal sites for indigenous ecosystem restoration and revegetation.

The research has shown that by using smart afforestation planning, native afforestation sites with significant diversity of social, economic and ecological benefits can be readily located. In the study area the key sites located occupy about 5% of the District, which is a minimal change in overall land use, to attain benefits in excess of those from planting solely for carbon sinks.

While the benefits studied include carbon sink, the study does not account for the benefits from the elimination of current greenhouse gas emissions from grazing animals where pastoral farming is replaced by native afforestation.

Investment in native afforestation is an opportunity where community social values can be enriched, where economic activities can be protected and boosted, and where ecological processes and systems can be restored and enhanced.

Native afforestation planning site prioritisation provides a smart new method to target investment that maximises overall returns on investment.

## SMART COMMERCIAL AFFORESTATION PLANNING

Commercial afforestation planning can also benefit from smart afforestation planning to attain triple bottom line and carbon sink benefits.

By focussing on locating sites that maximise economic return while avoiding negative impacts on social, economic and ecological values, smart commercial afforestation planning can maximise overall returns on investment.

Smart afforestation planning can ensure that commercial afforestation investment sites are located that are optimised for affordable access to ports and processing, productive soils, minimal establishment and harvesting costs, land costs, and avoiding negative impacts on social, economic and ecological values.

Smart commercial afforestation planning site prioritisation provides a smart method to target investment that maximises overall returns on investment.

## SMART AFFORESTATION PLANNING SITE PRIORITISATION

Initial research has focussed on native afforestation site prioritisation in the Kapiti Coast District, using methods that can be applied anywhere in Aotearoa. Read the research reports at: <http://opengeo.co.nz/CarbonSinkResearch1.html>

To identify the smart afforestation opportunities for your area, community, rohe, district, or region then contact OpenGeo for a conversation about a Smart Afforestation Planning solution tailored to your local situation and needs, to provide triple bottom line benefits for future generations and sustaining our planet.

