

Otawa Forest Sanctuary kauri

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In March 2017 the Rotorua Botanical Society went to the Ottawa Forest Sanctuary, off No. 3 Road, south-west of Te Puke, to explore the forest and search for a reported stand of kauri (*Agathis australis*) previously seen by Sarah Beadel. On that trip the kauri were not found, despite searching the suggested spur.

More recently, in November 2020, a DOC staff member, Brad Angus, found two mature kauri approximately 15 m apart on the nearby spur. Both trees looked healthy. The larger tree is illustrated below.

Coordinates for the larger tree – NZTM N1883902 E5809223

Coordinates for the smaller tree – NZTM N1883906 E5809203

These are the most eastern known natural stand of kauri in the North Island (Beadel 2006).

Reference:

Beadel, S.M. 2006. *Otanewainuku Ecological District- Survey Report for the Protected Natural Areas Programme*. Department of Conservation, Rotorua.



Base of larger kauri tree. Note pack in shadow at left of the trunk.

Photo: Brad Angus.



Trunk of larger kauri at Ottawa Sanctuary. Photo: Brad Angus.