
One Billion Trees Programme

Greenwood Roche is assisting the Crown in the preparation and registration of Forestry Rights as part of the One Billion Trees Programme developed by the Government.

The Government has set a goal to plant one billion trees by 2028. Progress towards achieving this target is well underway.

The One Billion Trees Programme supports New Zealand's commitment to mitigating the effects of climate change. By absorbing carbon dioxide, tree planting reduces the impact of greenhouse gases. As well as addressing the impacts of climate change, the Programme aims to create increased sustainable regional development, increased employment, optimise land use, support Māori values and aspirations, protect the environment and support New Zealand's transition to a low emissions economy.

The programme involves the planting of both permanent trees and plantation forests. The Crown estimates that commercial foresters will plant 500 million trees by 2028. The Crown is issuing direct landowner grants and entering into partnership projects to help plant the other 500 million trees. For example, funding will be allocated to research and workforce initiatives. To help achieve the target, Crown Forestry is also entering into joint ventures and forestry rights to plant commercial forestry on privately owned land.

Greenwood Roche is involved with the preparation and registration of Forestry Rights over privately owned land. As at the end of November 2019, the Crown has entered into over 40 Forestry Rights covering over 20,000 hectares with more being negotiated and finalised. Under the Forestry Rights, the Crown plants, manages and harvests trees on the land and pays an annual rental to the landowner. An estimated 18,443,000 trees will be planted over the next two years under the Forestry Rights signed to date.

Key lawyers involved

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