

\$1 million mark passed for pine control

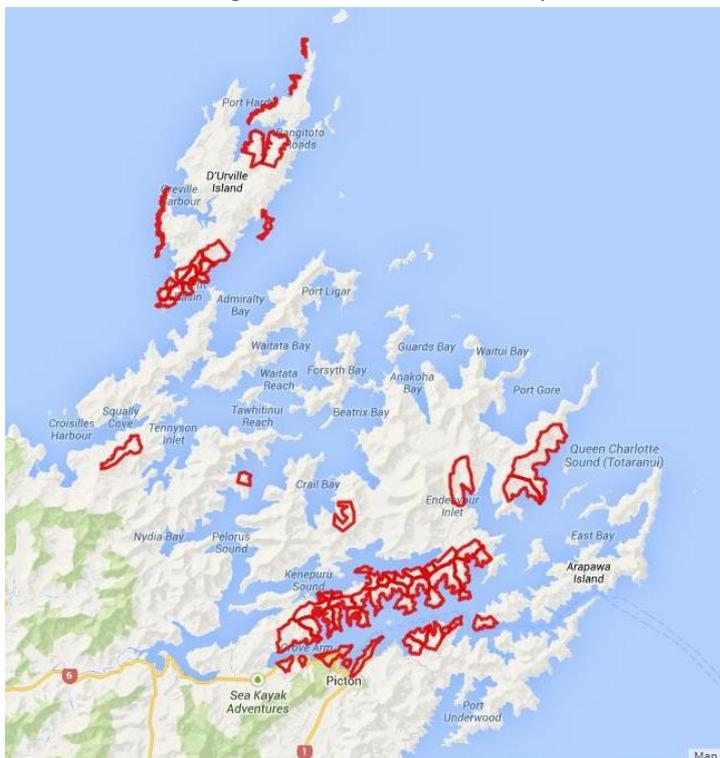
The Trust will have spent more than \$1 million on wilding pine control in the Marlborough Sounds by the end of this season, on the back of securing major new funding to carry out \$180,000 of control this year.

Control of the nuisance trees is now in its sixth year, with the Trust making huge progress in its programme.

This year, work is taking place in Kenepuru and Queen Charlotte Sounds and on D'Urville Island – with thousands of wilding pines controlled to the benefit of the environment and scenic values.

“The success of the programme continues to encourage wide community support, both financially and through in-kind assistance,” says Chairman, John Hellstrom. “Without this support, protecting highly-valued and fragile areas such as the Mineral Belt on D'Urville Island could not succeed.”

This year's programme is being funded thanks to a \$75,000 grant from the New Zealand Lottery Grants Board's Environment and Heritage Fund, a \$20,000 grant from the Canterbury Community Trust and a \$9,000 grant from the Biodiversity Condition Fund - alongside continued contributions



from Marlborough District Council, Department of Conservation, NZ King Salmon Ltd, Marlborough Lines Ltd, Agronica NZ Ltd, Interislander, Marine Farming Association and Glenn & Carina Dick of Bayleys Marlborough Ltd.

“The pine control programme is delivering benefits to the environment, local tourism interests, residents and visitors - which is only possible thanks to the commitment and backing of our donors,” says Mr Hellstrom.

The Trust plans to complete most of this year's programme early in 2014, with professional contractors engaged to deliver the services.

The map shows all the areas in which the Trust will have delivered wilding pine control by early 2014.

Thanks to our supporters

Once again, our wilding pine programme has only been possible thanks to the generous support of businesses and landowners.

New Zealand King Salmon has financially supported the programme since its inception in 2008. Chief Executive Grant Rosewarne says it's fantastic to take a trip through the Sounds and see the very visible difference the programme is making. "There are now vast tracts of regenerating native bush, thanks to this partnership and the hard work of many local people".

The Marine Farming Association has continued to support work in Kenepuru Sound. Chief Executive, Graeme Coates, says that members of the Marine Farming Association are excited about the progress being made by the Trust in controlling the wilding pines. "Increasingly the work the Trust is doing is becoming more apparent, and this will be noticed by all Sounds visitors and residents," he says.

Local landowners and businesses also support the programme where-ever possible. This year, for example, the Momorangi Bay Campground and Lazy Fish Retreat in Queen Charlotte Sound have provided contractor accommodation, Waitai Station on D'Urville Island has provided accommodation and boat transport, D'Urville Crossings barge service has shifted vehicles and equipment to the island for free, and the Pelorus Boating Club and several landowners from throughout the Sounds have provided cash donations to the Trust.