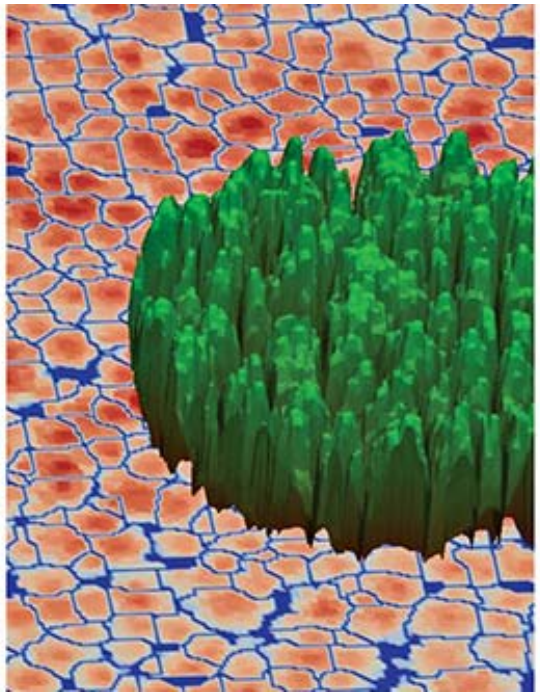
Growing confidence in forestry's future Research Programme

SCION forests · products · innovation

Perceptions of Erosion

Authors:
Duncan Harrison, Chris Phillips, Les Basher, Marie Heaphy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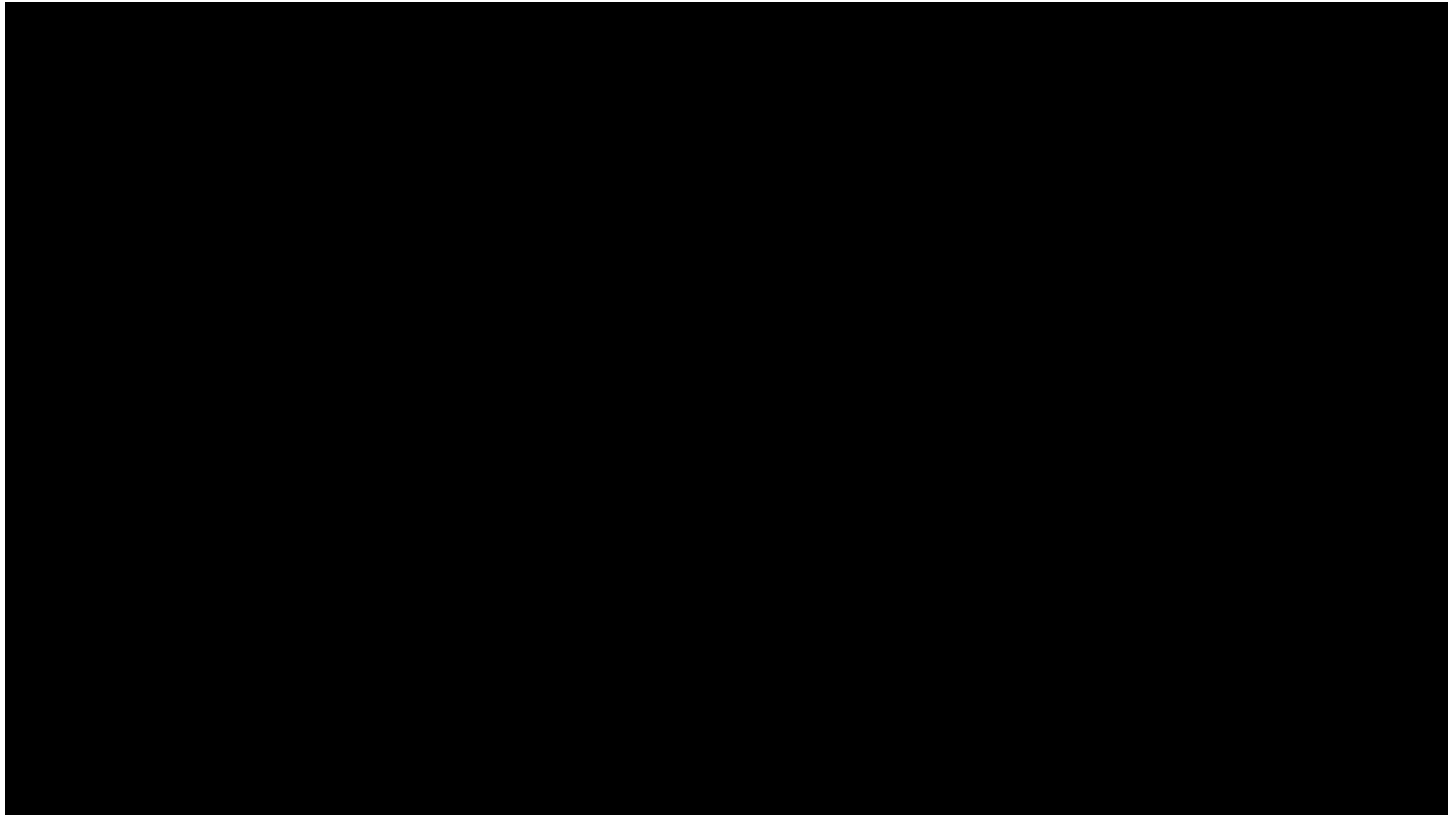
FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Why do this? Everybody knows that erosion and debris flows are a big problem in Planted Forests



Problem Statement

- "…I've heard it has happened in other areas…"
- **What is the true scale of the problem?**
- "...How can we make sure that everybody upstream is doing their job…"
- **What is being done?**
- "…How can we stop this from happening again…"
- **What could be improved?**

Methodology

- Semi structured interview process – leading on from pilot project completed through FFR/SLMACC

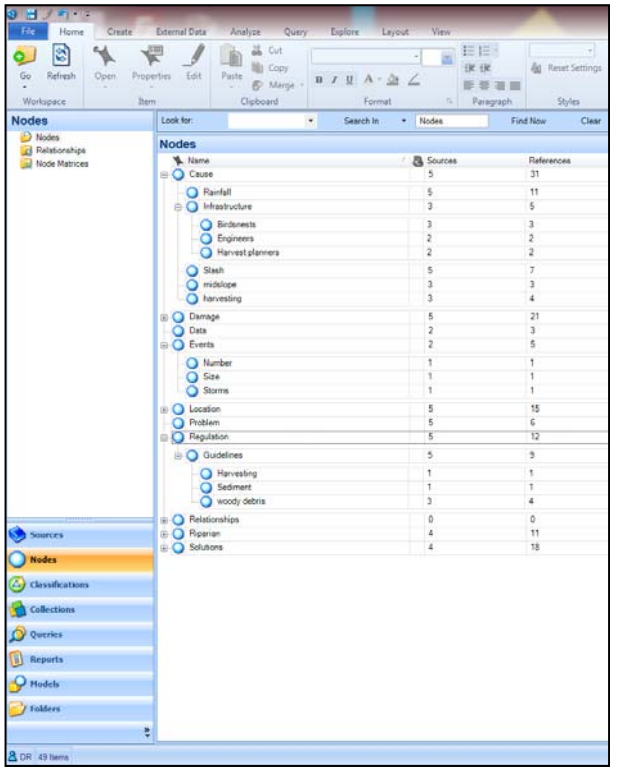
Collect nationwide data:

- Landslides and debris flows
- Rainfall conditions
- Affects
- Compliance issues
- Availability of information
- Current approaches

Amishev D, Basher, L, Phillips C, Hill S, Marden M, Bloomberg M, Moore J 2013. New Forest Management Approaches to steep hills. MPI Technical Paper 2014/39, November 2014.

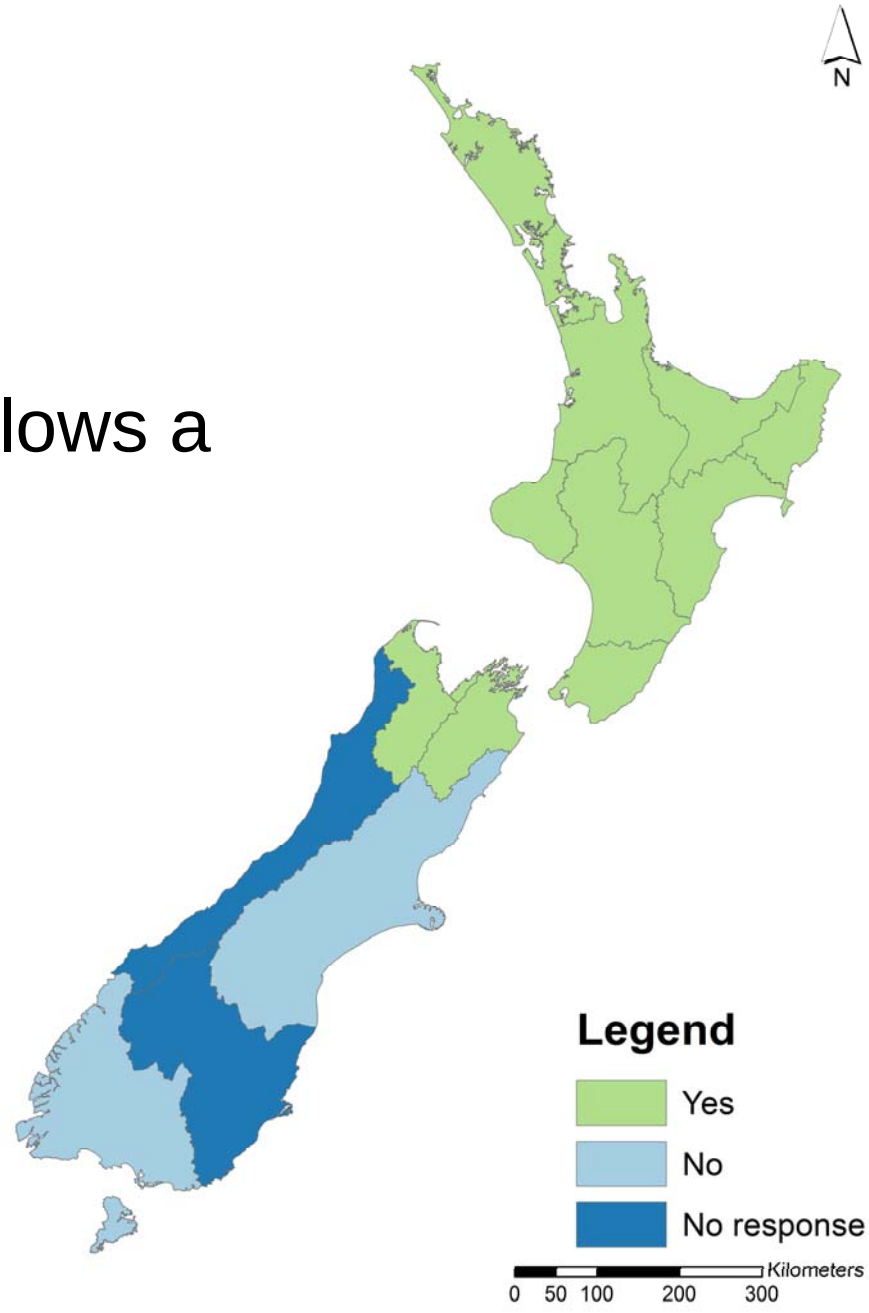
- Analysed interviews through Nvivo

- Themes :
  - Problem
  - Location
  - Cause
  - Effect
  - Controls
  - Management
  - Regulation

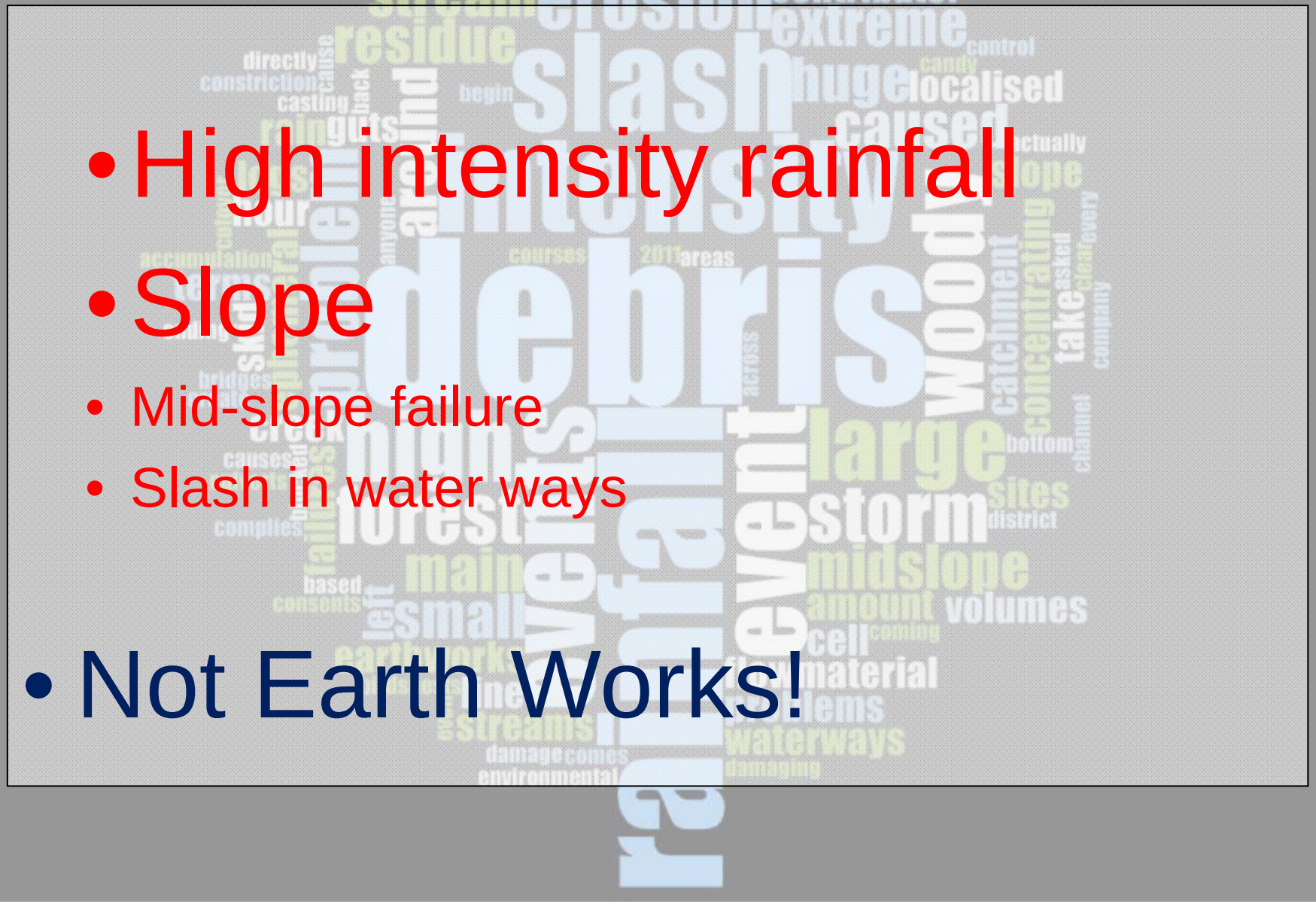


Preliminary Results

- Are Erosion and Debris Flows a problem in your area?
- Where is it happening?



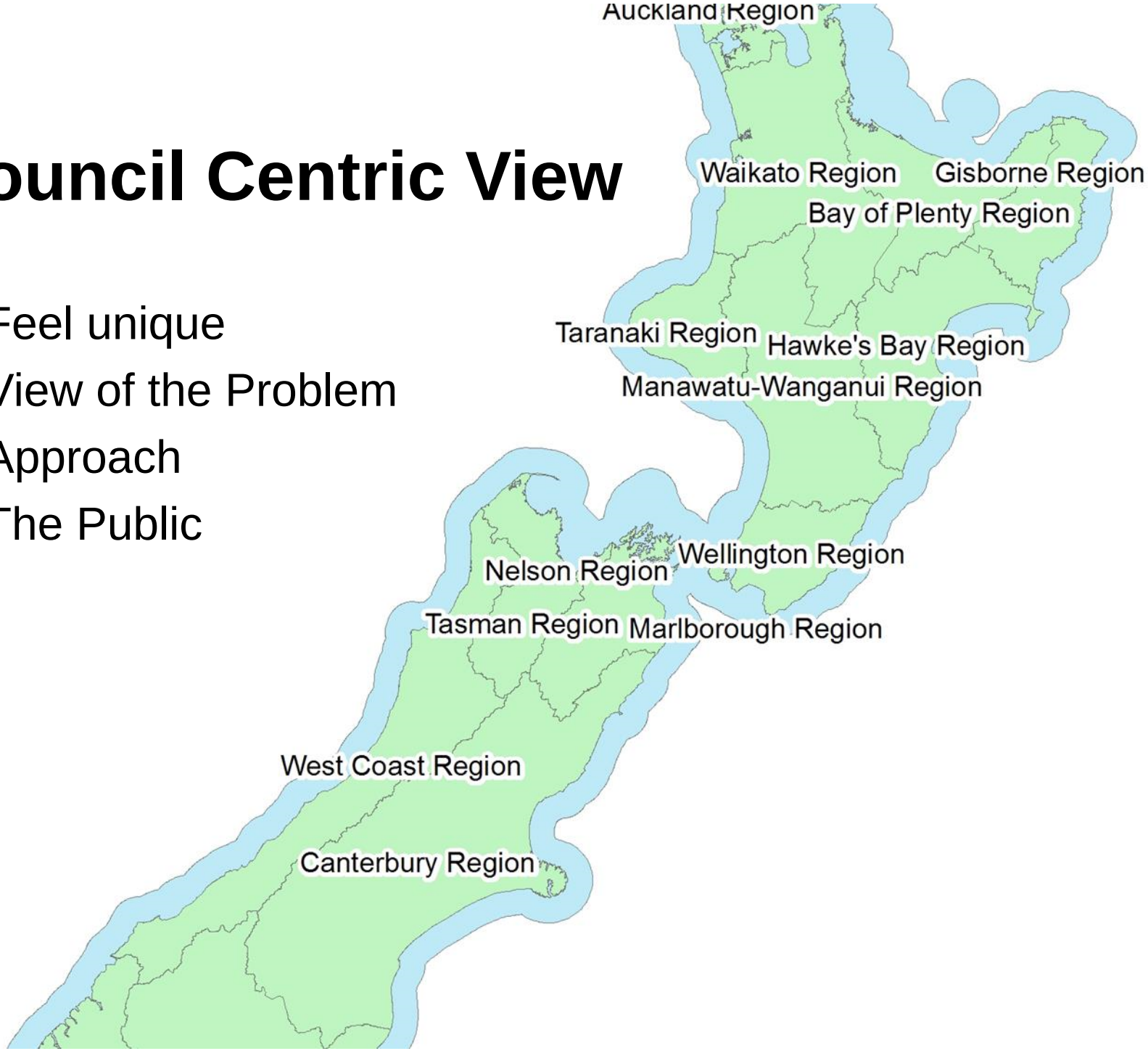
Common elements contributing to the problem:



- High intensity rainfall
- Slope
  - Mid-slope failure
  - Slash in water ways
- Not Earth Works!

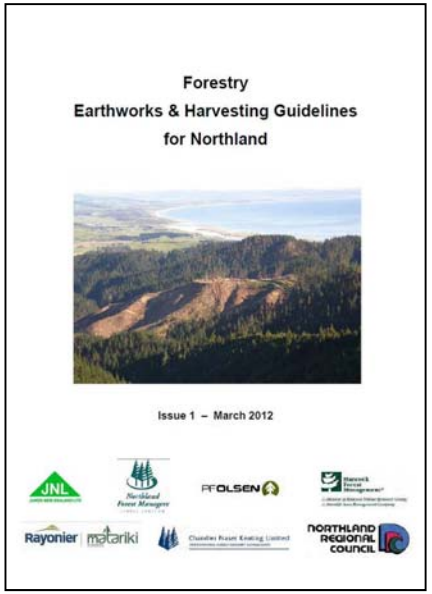
Council Centric View

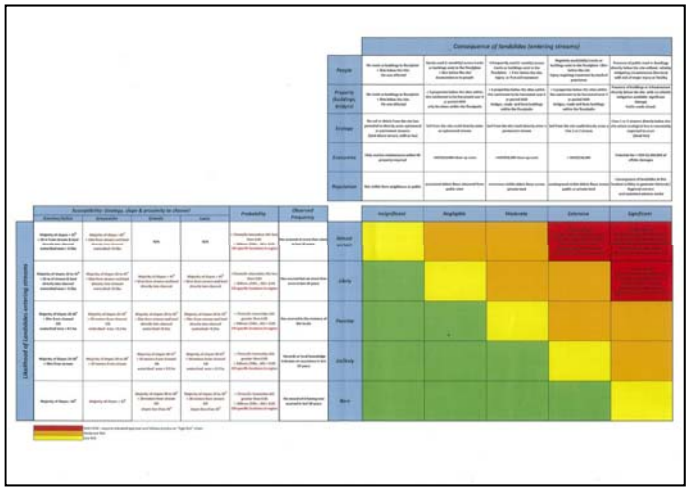
- Feel unique
- View of the Problem
- Approach
- The Public

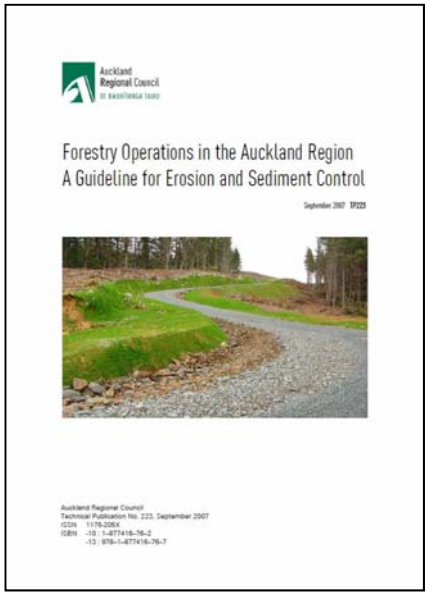


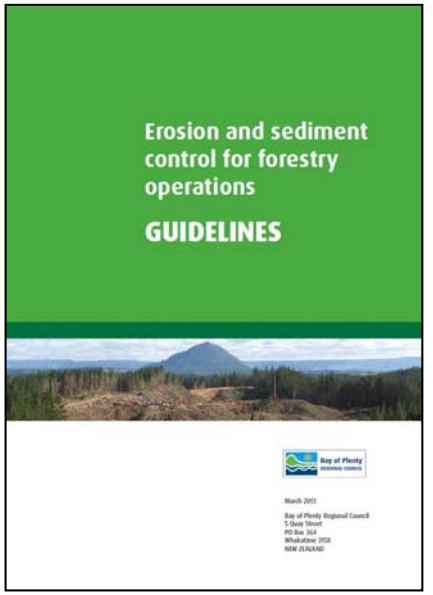
What is being done to manage the issue?

- Regulation
- Risk assessment
- Monitoring
- Data collection









Current Mitigation

- Debris traps
- Slash management
- Trees as barriers
- Retirement

What does this mean

- What is the true scale of the problem?
- What is being done?
- What could be improved?

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http://research.nzfoa.org.nz/
www.gcff.nz

Duncan Harrison
Geo-Spatial Scientist
duncan.harrison@scionresearch.com

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FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION

What does this mean for the industry?

- Larger forest companies are leading the way
- Building good relationships with councils
- Need to engage with the public
- Is the problem caused by events that are beyond our control?

What do we still need to know?

- Where and how many
- Intensity of rainfall that triggers landslides

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