

# BECOME A WILDLIFE PROTECTOR



New Zealand is home to lots of plants and animals found nowhere else in the world. Diseases or introduced plant and animals from other countries can be a big issue, as our species haven't evolved to protect themselves from these threats.

Biosecurity is about keeping New Zealand free of unwanted organisms, and for controlling or removing them if they arrive in the country. We can all help to look after New Zealand's unique environment.

## PICK A TOPIC

Choose a biosecurity risk, and find out what it is, how to identify it, how it spreads and what we can do to prevent it spreading. The DOC website [www.doc.govt.nz](http://www.doc.govt.nz) is a great starting point for information. After gathering your information, create a poster or write a story, poem, letter or blog post which tells people what you've learnt. Then share it proudly with your whānau, friends or community.

Telling others about biosecurity risks is important because it means more people can look after our precious native plants and animals.

## BIOSECURITY RISKS YOU MIGHT LIKE TO FIND OUT ABOUT:

### KAURI DIEBACK

A fungus-like disease that only attacks New Zealand Kauri.

### MYRTLE RUST

A fungus that attacks plants like Pōhutukawa, Mānuka and Rātā.

### DIDYMO (ALSO KNOWN AS 'ROCK SNOT')

A slimy algae that attaches itself to rocks and is spreading throughout our rivers.

Tell us about how you shared your information, and we'll send you a Toyota Kiwi Guardians Wildlife Protector medal.

## REMEMBER TO CLAIM YOUR ACTION MEDAL AT [KIWIGUARDIANS.CO.NZ](http://KIWIGUARDIANS.CO.NZ)



*Kauri trees can live for thousands of years. Our largest Kauri, Tāne Mahuta, is over 50m tall.*

*How tall are you? How many of you would it take to reach 50m tall?*

