



Planning and Funding
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16 March 2020

Wendy Pond
Secretary, Manu Waiata Restoration & Protection Society
2225 Wyuna Bay Road
Coromandel 3581

Email: Pondwendy@gmail.com; fyi-request-12439-8b16746a@requests.fyi.org.nz;

Dear Wendy

RE Official information request WCDHB 9406

We are writing to acknowledge your email dated 13 March 2020 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB regarding clarification of our responses to Official Information Act requests WCDHB 9391 and WCDHB 9394. Specifically related to Buller River 1080 aerial operation November 2019.

May I please ask for this clarification:

- **The conditions for permission for use of aerial poisoning in catchments of the Buller river that resulted in carcasses being washed up in public places, were written by the Medical Officer of Health. She did not audit the operation.**
- **Without being present and without an audit, by what means does the HSNO Enforcement Officer know that the conditions of permission were adhered to?**
- **Who is responsible for ensuring the safety of public health when an aerially dispersed VTA is used, and when effects occur outside the boundaries of the permitted operation?**

We will consider your request against the provisions of the Official Information Act (see below) and advise you of our decision regarding the release of information within 20 working days (being the statutory timeframe provided within the Act.) Accordingly, we will notify you, no later than 15 April 2020, of our decision. (Please note this includes Good Friday and Easter Monday public holidays).

Your request is being handled by Kathleen Smitheram. If you have any queries, please feel free to contact either myself (details above) or Kathleen. (Kathleen.smitheram@cdhb.health.nz; Phone 364-4134). Please refer to the OIA number above when phoning or emailing.

If any additional factors come to light which are relevant to your request, please do not hesitate to contact us so that these can be taken into account.

Yours sincerely

Wayne Turp
Project Specialist

15 Decisions on requests

(1) Subject to this Act, the department or Minister of the Crown or organisation to whom a request is made in accordance with [section 12](#) or is transferred in accordance with [section 14](#) of this Act or [section 12](#) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, and in any case not later than 20 working days after the day on which the request is received by that department or Minister of the Crown or organisation,—

(1)(a) decide whether the request is to be granted and, if it is to be granted, in what manner and for what charge (if any); and

(1)(b) give or post to the person who made the request notice of the decision on the request

[If we are unable to make a decision on your request by the date noted above, we will notify you of an extension of that timeframe.]