

20 June 2024

Stephen Prendergast

**By email:** [fyi-request-26602-addf74a8@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-26602-addf74a8@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe Stephen

### **Request for Official Information: Information on Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Administration**

Thank you for your correspondence of 2 May 2024 requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). Following our request for clarification and refinement of the request under s 15(1AA) of the OIA, on 22 May you confirmed your refined request under the OIA to be for the following information, for the period of 1 August 2023 – 22 May 2024:

1. *Formal advice provided by Te Arawhiti to Ministers since 1 August 2023 relating to Ruapehu Alpine Lifts and all related matters.*
2. *Te Arawhiti comment on ministerial advice prepared by the Department of Conservation and the Ministry for Business Innovation and Employment since 1 August 2023 relating to Ruapehu Alpine Lifts and all related matters.*

### **Response**

We have considered your request under the OIA and have identified 26 documents either partially or entirely within scope of your request. This letter attaches the first set of documents within scope of your request, as in **Table 1**.

Under section 15A of the OIA, we are undertaking consultation necessary to make a decision on the remainder of your request. We will provide our decision on the remaining documents, listed in **Table 2**, no later than 4 July.

Where we have withheld documents in whole or information in part, the ground(s) on which we have relied are set out in the table. We have considered, under section 9(1) of the OIA whether the withholding of these documents or this information is outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable, in the public interest, to make that information available.

Te Arawhiti acknowledges that there is public interest in understanding the complex environment and interests relating to the status of RAL. The information released

acknowledges that public interest. The information we have withheld primarily relates to confidential and frank engagement between the Crown and iwi with interests in and around Tongariro National Park. We have also withheld draft documents to maintain a forum for officials to informally discuss and provide free and frank feedback on draft advice to Ministers. However, we have provided a high-level overview of Te Arawhiti comments made as part of the drafting process in **Table 3**.

### **Proactive release**

When Te Arawhiti acknowledged receipt of your OIA request, we advised we may proactively release your OIA response on our website. After considering our response to your request, we can advise that it will be published no earlier than 20 working days from the date of this letter at [www.tearawhiti.govt.nz](http://www.tearawhiti.govt.nz). Your personal and other identifying information will be removed.

If you have any concerns about the information in this response being published on our website please contact us by emailing [officialcorrespondence@tearawhiti.govt.nz](mailto:officialcorrespondence@tearawhiti.govt.nz) by 5.00pm on 4 July.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about this process is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or phone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Hui Kahu', written over a faint circular stamp.

Hui Kahu  
**Regional Director**

**Table 1 – Documents provided under the Official Information Act 1982**

Document number	Date	Document description	Extent of information provided	Reason for withholding/refusing (refer to notes below table)	Page
1	31 August 2023	Report to Minister for Māori Crown Relations – Te Arawhiti (MfMCR) 54 – Weekly Status Report	Parts withheld	s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(f)(iv) Out of scope	1-3
2	7 September 2023	Report to Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations (MfTOWN) 093 – Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Ltd (In Liquidation) – Ngāti Tūwharetoa	Parts withheld	s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(ba)(i) s 9(2)(g)(i) s 9(2)(j) Out of scope	4-11
3	1 December 2023	Te Arawhiti comment on draft DOC briefing 23-B-0466 – Ruapehu Alpine Lifts and Mt Ruapehu ski fields	Withheld in full Summary provided in table 3	s 9(2)(g)(i)	-
4	7 December 2023	Report to MfTOWN 138 – Weekly Status Report	Parts withheld	s 9(2)(a) Out of scope	12-14
5	8 December 2023	Te Arawhiti comment on draft MBIE briefing 2324-1206 – Background information and commercial options for Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Limited (In Liquidation and Receivership (RAL))	Withheld in full Summary provided in table 3	s 9(2)(g)(i)	-
6	13 December 2023	Report to MfTOWN 145 – Weekly Status Report	Parts withheld	s 9(2)(a) Out of scope	15-16

Document number	Date	Document description	Extent of information provided	Reason for withholding/refusing (refer to notes below table)	Page
7	24 January 2024	Te Arawhiti comment on draft MBIE Cabinet paper – Decisions on the Future of Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Limited (In Liquidation and Receivership) – post March 2024	Withheld in full Summary provided in table 3	s 9(2)(g)(i)	-
8	25 January 2024	Report to MfTOWN 164 – Weekly Status Report	Parts withheld	s 9(2)(a) Out of scope	17-19
9	9 February 2024	Report to MfTOWN 173 – Weekly Status Report	Parts withheld	s 9(2)(a) Out of scope	20-21
10	15 February 2024	Te Arawhiti and Crown Law Office comment on draft MBIE Cabinet paper – Decisions on the Future of Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Limited (In Liquidation and Receivership) – post March 2024	Withheld in full Summary provided in table 3	s 9(2)(g)(i) s 9(2)(h)	-
11	22 February 2024	Report to MfTOWN 187 – Weekly Status Report	Parts withheld	s 9(2)(a) Out of scope	22-23
12	26 February 2024	Report to MfMCR 151 – Weekly Status Report	Parts withheld	s 9(2)(a) Out of scope	24-25
13	29 February 2024	Report to MfTOWN 196 – Weekly Status Report	Parts withheld	s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(g)(i) Out of scope	26-28
14	7 March 2024	Report to MfMCR 166 – Taupō visit with Ngāti Tūwharetoa representatives and entities, 15 March 2024	Parts withheld	s 9(2)(a) Out of scope	29-30

Document number	Date	Document description	Extent of information provided	Reason for withholding/refusing (refer to notes below table)	Page
15	28 February 2024	Report to MfTOWN 200 – Tongariro National Park: Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Cabinet paper – Cab100 5 March	Withheld in full Summary provided in table 3	s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(b)(ii) s 9(2)(ba)(i) s 9(2)(g)(i) s 9(2)(f)(iv) s 18(d) Out of scope	31-38
16	7 March 2024	Report to MfTOWN 207 – Weekly Status Report	Parts withheld	s 9(2)(ba)(i) s 9(2)(g)(i) Out of scope	39-40
17	14 March 2024	Report to MfTOWN 218 – Weekly Status Report	Parts withheld	s 9(2)(a) Out of scope	41-42
18	21 March 2024	Report to MfTOWN 221 – Weekly Status Report	Parts withheld	s 9(2)(a) Out of scope	43-44
19	4 April 2024	Report to MfTOWN 239 – Weekly Status Report	Parts withheld	s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(f)(iv) s 9(2)(g)(i) Out of scope	45-47
20	11 April 2024	Report to MfTOWN 246 – Weekly Status Report	Parts withheld	s 9(2)(a) Out of scope	48-49
21	2 May 2024	Report to MfTOWN 265 – Weekly Status Report	Parts withheld	s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(g)(i) Out of scope	50-51
22	6-10 May 2024	Report to MfMCR 214 – Weekly Status Report	Parts withheld	s 9(2)(a) Out of scope	52-53

Document number	Date	Document description	Extent of information provided	Reason for withholding/refusing (refer to notes below table)	Page
23	20-24 May 2024	Report to MfMCR 226 – Weekly Status Report	Parts withheld	s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(g)(i) s 9(2)(h) Out of scope	54-55

### Reasons for withholding under section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982<sup>1</sup>

**s 9(2)(a)** – protect the privacy of natural persons, including the deceased.

**s 9(2)(b)** – protect information that would:

- (i) – disclose a trade secret;
- (ii) – unreasonably prejudice commercial position of subject.

**s 9(2)(ba)** – protect information where making it available would:

- (i) – prejudice the supply of similar information; or
- (ii) – likely otherwise damage the public interest.

**s 9(2)(c)** – prejudice to measures protecting health or safety of the public.

**s 9(2)(d)** – prejudice to substantial economic interests of New Zealand.

**s 9(2)(e)** – prejudice to measures that prevent or mitigate material loss to members of the public.

**s 9(2)(f)** – maintain the constitutional conventions which protect:

- (i) – communications by or with the Sovereign or their representative; or
- (ii) – collective and individual ministerial responsibility; or
- (iii) – the political neutrality of officials; or
- (iv) – the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and Crown officials.

**s 9(2)(g)** – maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through:

- (i) – the free and frank expression of opinions;
- (ii) – the protection from improper pressure or harassment.

**s 9(2)(h)** – maintain legal professional privilege.

**s 9(2)(i)** – enable the Crown holding the information to carry out commercial activities.

**s 9(2)(j)** – negotiations sensitive.

**s 9(2)(k)** – prevent the disclosure of information for improper gain or advantage.

### Reasons for refusing information under section 18 of the Official Information Act 1982<sup>1</sup>

**s 18(a)** – good reasons by virtue of s 6, 7 or 9 of the Act:

**s 18(b)** – the department or Minister or organisation neither confirms nor denies the existence or non-existence of the information:

**s 18(c)** – making the information available would –

**s 18(e)** – the information requested does not exist, or cannot be found:

**s 18(f)** – the information cannot be made available without substantial collation or research:

<sup>1</sup> Please see the Official Information Act 1982 for full version of sections 9 and 18 of the Act.

(i) – be contrary to a specified enactment; or

(ii) – constitute contempt of court or the House of Representatives:

**s 18(d)** – the information is, or will soon be, publicly available:

**s 18(da)** – the request is made by a defendant or person acting on behalf of a defendant and is –

(i) – information that could be sought under the Criminal Disclosures Act 2008; or

(ii) – information that could be sought under that Act and that has been disclosed or withheld under that Act:

**s 18(g)** – the information is not held by the department or Minister of the Crown or organisation, and the person dealing with the request has no grounds for believing that it is:

(i) – held by another department, Minister of the Crown or organisation, or by a local authority; or

(ii) – connected more closely with the functions of another department or Minister of the Crown or organisation or local authority:

**s 18(h)** – the request is frivolous or vexatious or the information requested is trivial.

## Table 2 – Decision to be provided by 4 July 2024

Document number	Date	Document description
24	7 September 2023	Report to MfTOWN 103 – Tongariro National Park: 11 September hui
25	28 September 2023	Report to MfMCR and MfTOWN 76/120 – Te Arawhiti comment on the MBIE Cabinet paper: <i>Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Limited (In Liquidation) (RAL) – options for government support</i>
26	26 January 2024	Report to MfTOWN, Minister of Conservation and Minister of Regional Development – Joint Ministers Meeting on Ruapehu Alpine Lifts and Mt Ruapehu
27	14 February 2024	Emails, MBIE and Te Arawhiti – consultation on draft MBIE Cabinet paper – Decisions on the Future of Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Limited (In Liquidation and Receivership) – post March 2024
28	28 February 2024	Emails, Te Arawhiti and MBIE, regarding draft MBIE Cabinet paper – Decisions on the Future of Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Limited (In Liquidation and Receivership) – post March 2024
29	28 February 2024	Emails, Te Arawhiti, Crown Law Office and MBIE, regarding draft MBIE Cabinet paper – Decisions on the Future of Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Limited (In Liquidation and Receivership) – post March 2024



**Table 3 – Summary of documents withheld**

Document number	Date	Document description	High level summary of substantive Te Arawhiti comments
5	1 December 2023	Te Arawhiti comment on draft DOC briefing 23-B-0466 – Ruapehu Alpine Lifts and Mt Ruapehu ski fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clarification of portfolio responsibilities for Minister of Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations and Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti.</li> <li>- Suggested adding text to note Te Arawhiti’s role in supporting engagement with iwi and hapū.</li> <li>- Clarified text relating to Treaty settlement processes.</li> <li>- Suggested amendments to text summarising iwi and hapū letters about RAL.</li> <li>- Suggested clarification regarding the role of Te Pou Tupua as representative entity of Te Awa Tupua (Whanganui River).</li> <li>- Suggested amendments to note that a shorter concession term would enable the concession to be revisited closer to the conclusion of the Tongariro National Park negotiations.</li> </ul>
7	8 December 2023	Te Arawhiti comment on draft MBIE briefing 2324-1206 – Background information and commercial options for Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Limited (In Liquidation and Receivership (RAL))	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clarification of portfolio responsibilities for Minister of Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations and Minister for Māori Crown Relations – Te Arawhiti.</li> <li>- Suggested expanding and clarifying discussion of iwi/hapū views that had been shared with the Crown.</li> <li>- Suggested clarification of text relating to sale of Whakapapa ski field.</li> <li>- Suggested adding text noting steps being considered by DOC to address concerns of iwi/hapū in relation to concessions.</li> <li>- Suggested inclusion of background text relating to the Crown’s commitment to negotiate redress over Tongariro National Park.</li> <li>- Suggested text noting that RAL processes may have an effect on future negotiations for redress over Tongariro National Park.</li> </ul>

Document number	Date	Document description	High level summary of substantive Te Arawhiti comments
9	24 January 2024	Te Arawhiti comment on draft MBIE Cabinet paper – Decisions on the Future of Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Limited (In Liquidation and Receivership) – post March 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provided background text on Treaty settlement processes and Tongariro National Park negotiations.</li> <li>- Suggested clarifying distinction between iwi/hapū views on the ski areas and their views on the future Tongariro National Park negotiations.</li> <li>- Suggested clarifying when and how iwi/hapū views were expressed and ensuring the Cabinet captured the most recent views expressed, for example through the recent Tūroa ski area concession process.</li> <li>- Suggested amendments to note potential effects on future Tongariro National Park negotiations and the importance of continuing engagement with iwi/hapū.</li> </ul>
14	15 February 2024	Te Arawhiti and Crown Law Office comment on draft MBIE Cabinet paper – Decisions on the Future of Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Limited (In Liquidation and Receivership) – post March 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Responded to queries directed to Te Arawhiti by the Crown Law Office during their review of the draft Cabinet paper.</li> </ul>

**IN-CONFIDENCE**


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**Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti**

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**Subject: MCR Weekly Report for the period 04 - 08 September 2023**

<b>Date</b>	31 August 2023	<b>File reference</b>	MCR-02-01
<b>Priority</b>	Low	<b>Report Number</b>	2023/2024 - 54

**Action sought**

<b>Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti</b> (Hon Kelvin Davis)	<b>Note the Weekly Report</b>	08 September 2023
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**Contact for phone discussion (if required)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Contact</b>
s9(2)(a) Kelly Dunn	Deputy Chief Executive – Partnerships		✓
Victor Goldsmith	Director – Te Kāhui Hikina		
Marian Smith	Director – Te Kāhui Whakamana		
Kurt McLauchlan	Director – Strategy and Policy		

Pages 4-17 withheld out of scope

## Key matters this week

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- **Reconciliation package for Patutokotoko:** We are preparing advice to the Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations to sign a letter committing to continued Crown engagement and [REDACTED]

s9(2)(f)(iv)

[REDACTED] We are recommending that the report be forwarded to you. (*Page 3 refers*)

Out of scope •

[REDACTED]

# Portfolio Responsibilities – Update

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## Partnerships

### Reconciliation package for Patutokotoko

1. Further to engagement with Patutokotoko on Ruapehu Alpine Lifts (RAL) issues, including their concerns around the trademark over their “Tūroa” family name, we agreed in June to explore the development of an outside-of-settlement reconciliation package.
2. Subject to relevant agency and Ministerial approvals, the package is likely to consist of:
  - Crown support for historical research into the history of Patutokotoko and the Tūroa family;
  - development of multimedia materials and construction of a marae to tell the Patutokotoko story;
  - funding to enable the purchase of land for the construction of a marae or other cultural hub; and
  - assistance resolving concerns around commercial use of the Tūroa family name.
3. We are preparing advice to go to the Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations in the week of 4 September. We will seek his signature on a letter to Patutokotoko committing to continued Crown engagement.

4. [Redacted]

s9(2)(f)(iv)

5. We will include in that advice a recommendation that the report be forwarded to you.

Out of scope

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations**

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**Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Ltd (In liquidation) – Ngāti Tūwharetoa**

<b>Date</b>	7 September 2023	<b>Priority:</b>	High
<b>Report No.</b>	2023/2024 - 093	<b>File ref:</b>	CLA-N687-OF-02

**Action sought**

<b>Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations</b>	<b>Note</b> that Te Ariki Tā Tumu Te Heuheu has written to you and the Minister for Regional Development, raising concerns about the process to find a commercial operator for the Mt Ruapehu ski fields; and	By 8 September 2023
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**Note that** Te Arawhiti considers that any decisions taken by the government in relation to commercial activity on Mt Ruapehu, need to be cognisant of the commitments made in the 2018 Deed of Settlement with Ngāti Tūwharetoa, the pending Tongariro National Park negotiations; and an enduring Māori Crown relationship with Ngāti Tūwharetoa and other iwi who have interests in the area.

**Agree** to forward this briefing to the Ministers for Regional Development, Māori Crown Relations and Conservation.

**Contact for phone discussion (if required)**

s9(2)(a)	Name	Position	Phone	1 <sup>st</sup> Contact
	Lil Anderson	Tumu Whakarae		✓
	Joana Johnston	Chief Advisor		

# Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Ltd (In liquidation) – Ngāti Tūwharetoa

## Purpose

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1. The purpose of this briefing is to provide you with:
  - a. a summary of the concerns Ngāti Tūwharetoa have raised in relation to the process to find a commercial operator for the Mt Ruapehu ski fields, and relevant background information; and
  - b. provide Te Arawhiti advice, as requested by the Minister for Regional Development, on decisions Ministers may make in relation to a commercial operator, in the context of the concerns raised by Ngāti Tūwharetoa.

## Background

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2. In June, Te Arawhiti supported MBIE and the Department of Conservation (DoC) at a number of targeted engagement hui with iwi and hapū with interests in Mt Ruapehu, following a breakdown in Māori-Crown relationships over the Mt Ruapehu ski fields.
3. The purpose of the engagement programme was to hear and understand iwi and hapū perspectives on the government’s plan to select an operator(s) for the Mt Ruapehu ski fields, when Ruapehu Alpine Lifts went into liquidation.

4. [REDACTED]

s9(2)(ba)(i)  
s9(2)(j)

5. On 8 June, DoC received an email from Te Ariki Tā Tumu Te Heuheu, in which he outlined his overarching frustration with the processes surrounding RAL in voluntary administration and the lack of attention the Crown had paid to the integral relationship between Ngāti Tūwharetoa and their tupuna maunga. [REDACTED]

s9(2)(j)  
s9(2)(ba)(i)

6. On 20 June, a hui was held with Te Ariki, Tā Tumu Te Heuheu and [REDACTED] Lil Anderson - Tumu Whakarae of the Office of Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti and Damian Coutts from the Department of Conservation attended on behalf of the government. At the hui, Te Ariki:

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(ba)(i)

- a. [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

s9(2)(j)  
s9(2)(ba)(i)

c. [Redacted]

d. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**Recent concerns raised by Ngāti Tuwharetoa**

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s9(2)(j)  
s9(2)(ba)(i)

8. On 31 August, Te Ariki, Tā Tumu Te Heuheu wrote to you and the Minister for Regional Development, advising that Ngāti Tūwharetoa [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Out of scope

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]



Out of scope

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Out of scope

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

*The DoC Concession*

20. Ngāti Tūwharetoa have strongly held concerns about the scale and intensity of skiing operations and their sustainability, including mitigating pollution effects and risks, long term financial arrangements for the enduring sustainability of infrastructure and other usage and access arrangements for any future concessions. [Redacted]

s9(2)(j)  
s9(2)(ba)(i)

21. It is important to note that other iwi also share the concerns raised by Ngāti Tūwharetoa, and also have an expectation that they will have a key role in the process.

22. The letter importantly notes that “...Ngāti Tūwharetoa is supportive of long-term sustainable commercial activities that contribute to regional economic development and will proactively support investment accordingly. [Redacted]

s9(2)(j)  
s9(2)(ba)(i)

[Redacted]

- 23. No applications for new ski field concessions have been lodged at this point in time, however, the Minister of Conservation or her delegate are obliged to consider any that are received.
- 24. In making a decision to grant or decline the application, the decision-maker must give consideration to the views of all relevant iwi to give effect the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi as per Section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987.
- 25. It is important to note, no iwi has right of veto over the application in this process for which the Crown is the decision-maker.

s9(2)(j)

[Redacted text block containing multiple paragraphs of blacked-out content]

s9(2)(j)

[Redacted text block containing multiple paragraphs of blacked-out content]

s9(2)(g)(i)

31. [Redacted text block containing one paragraph of blacked-out content]

s9(2)(g)(i)

[Redacted text block]

■ [Redacted text block]

■ [Redacted text block]

**Te Arawhiti view**

32. Ngāti Tūwharetoa have outlined their concerns with the commercial process the Crown has run in relation to the future of ski field operations on Mt Ruapehu a number of times. These concerns have now been raised in emails, in meetings and in letters to Ministers and in part relate to commitments made through the 2018 Deed of Settlement between the Crown and Ngāti Tūwharetoa.

33. The profound significance of the maunga is formally acknowledged by the Crown in the 2018 Settlement and is the Crown’s commitment to entering into negotiations over the Tongariro National Park. Specifically, the Crown has acknowledged that when the peaks of the maunga were offered to the Crown, Ngāti Tūwharetoa sought to create a shared responsibility with the Crown to protect and preserve the mountains for Ngāti Tūwharetoa, for other iwi, and for all New Zealanders.

34. In offering the peaks of the maunga to the Crown, the intention of Ngāti Tūwharetoa was to enter into a partnership with the Queen, and not to make an unconditional gift – however legal ownership of the mountains was vested solely in the Crown and it has not always honoured its reciprocal obligations.

s9(2)(g)(i)

35. [Redacted text block]

■ [Redacted text block]

■ [Redacted text block]

Out of scope

[Redacted]

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

*An enduring relationship between Ngāti Tūwharetoa and the Crown*

42. In the interests of an enduring relationship between Ngāti Tūwharetoa and the Crown, it is important that a final decision in relation to commercial operations on Mt Ruapehu is based on a way forward that:

- a. is a good faith attempt to address the concerns Ngāti Tūwharetoa has raised;
- b. does not compromise the commitments made by the Crown in the 2018 Deed of Settlement;

s9(2)(j)

- c. [Redacted]

- d. Allows for a positive, enduring relationship between Ngāti Tūwharetoa and the Crown.

43. It is also important to note that the Crown has also made commitments to other iwi (including through their Deeds of Settlement) to grow and maintain enduring relationships based on mutual trust and respect. These also need to be acknowledged and recognised through the decision making process.

s9(2)(j)

[Redacted]

- [Redacted]

s9(2)(g)(i)

45. [Redacted]

**Next steps**

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46. We will continue to support MBIE and DoC to engage with Ngāti Tūwharetoa and other iwi through this process, and ensure the position of iwi and hapū is reflected in any relevant advice to Ministers.

**Recommendations**

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47. It is recommended that you:

a. note that

s9(2)(a)

- i. that Te Ariki Tā Tumu Te Heuheu has written to you and the Minister for Regional Development, raising concerns in relation to the process to find a commercial operator for the Mt Ruapehu ski fields; and
- ii. Te Arawhiti considers that any decisions taken by the government in relation to commercial activity on Mt Ruapehu, need to be cognisant of the commitments made in the 2018 Deed of Settlement with Ngāti Tūwharetoa, the pending Tongariro National Park negotiations and an enduring relationship with Ngāti Tūwharetoa and other iwi who have interests in the area.

b. agree to forward this briefing to the Ministers for Regional Development,  YES  NO  
Māori Crown Relations and Conservation.



Lil Anderson  
Tumu Whakarae

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOTED / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVED / NOT APPROVED
 Hon Andrew Little Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations
Date: 7 / 9 / 2023

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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations**


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**Weekly Status Report**


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**Date:** 7 December 2023

**Priority:** Low

**Report No.** 2023/2024 – 138

**Action sought**


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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi  
Negotiations**  
(Hon Paul Goldsmith)

**Note** the Weekly Status Report.

**By:** 14 December 2023

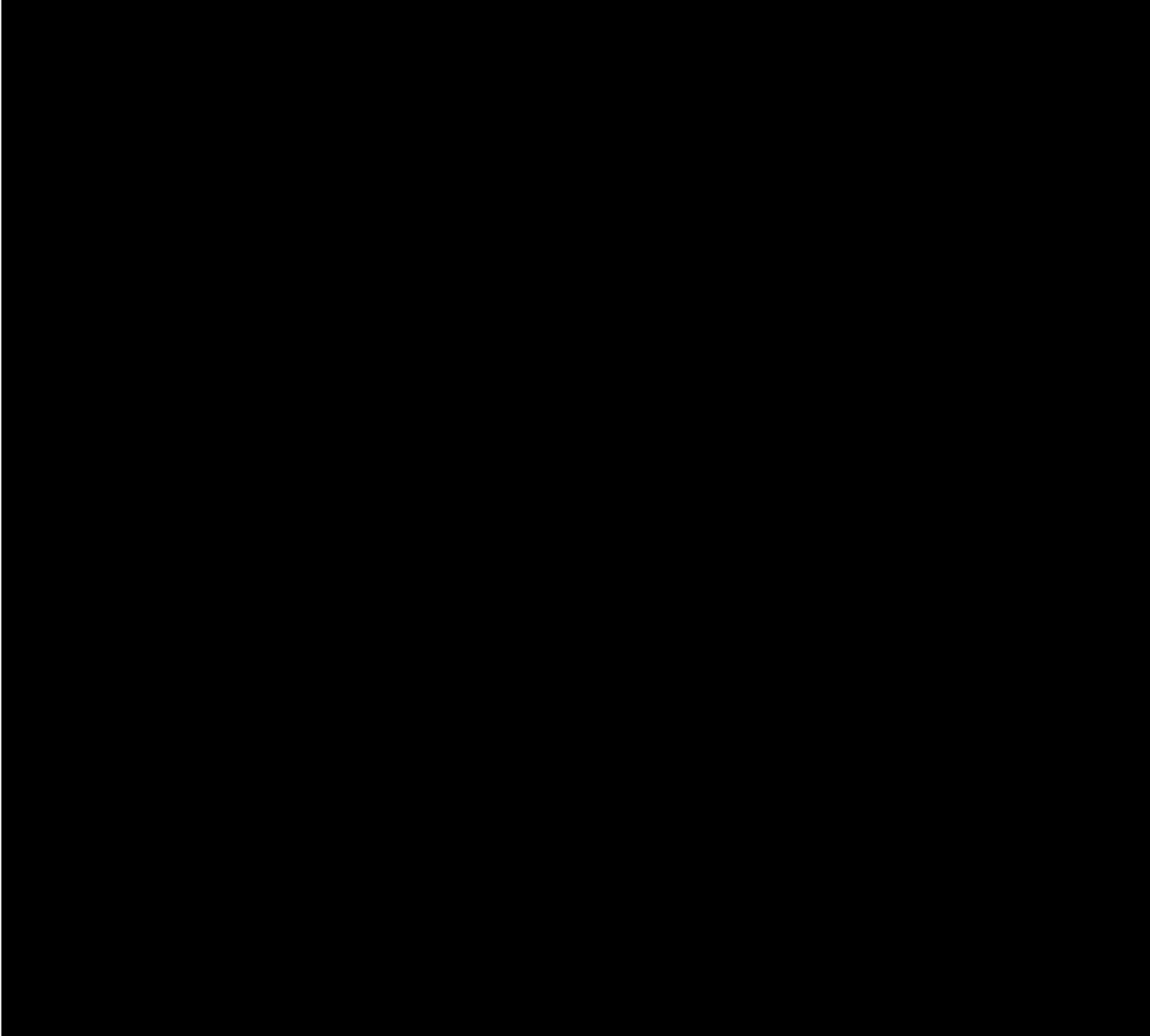
**Contact for phone discussion (if required)**


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Name	Position	Mobile	1 <sup>st</sup> Contact
Lil Anderson	Tumu Whakarae	[REDACTED]	
Warren Fraser	Tumu Whakarae (Acting)	[REDACTED]	✓
Tui Marsh	Deputy Chief Executive, Treaty Reconciliation and Takutai Moana		

Pages 2-5, 8 withheld out of scope

Out of scope

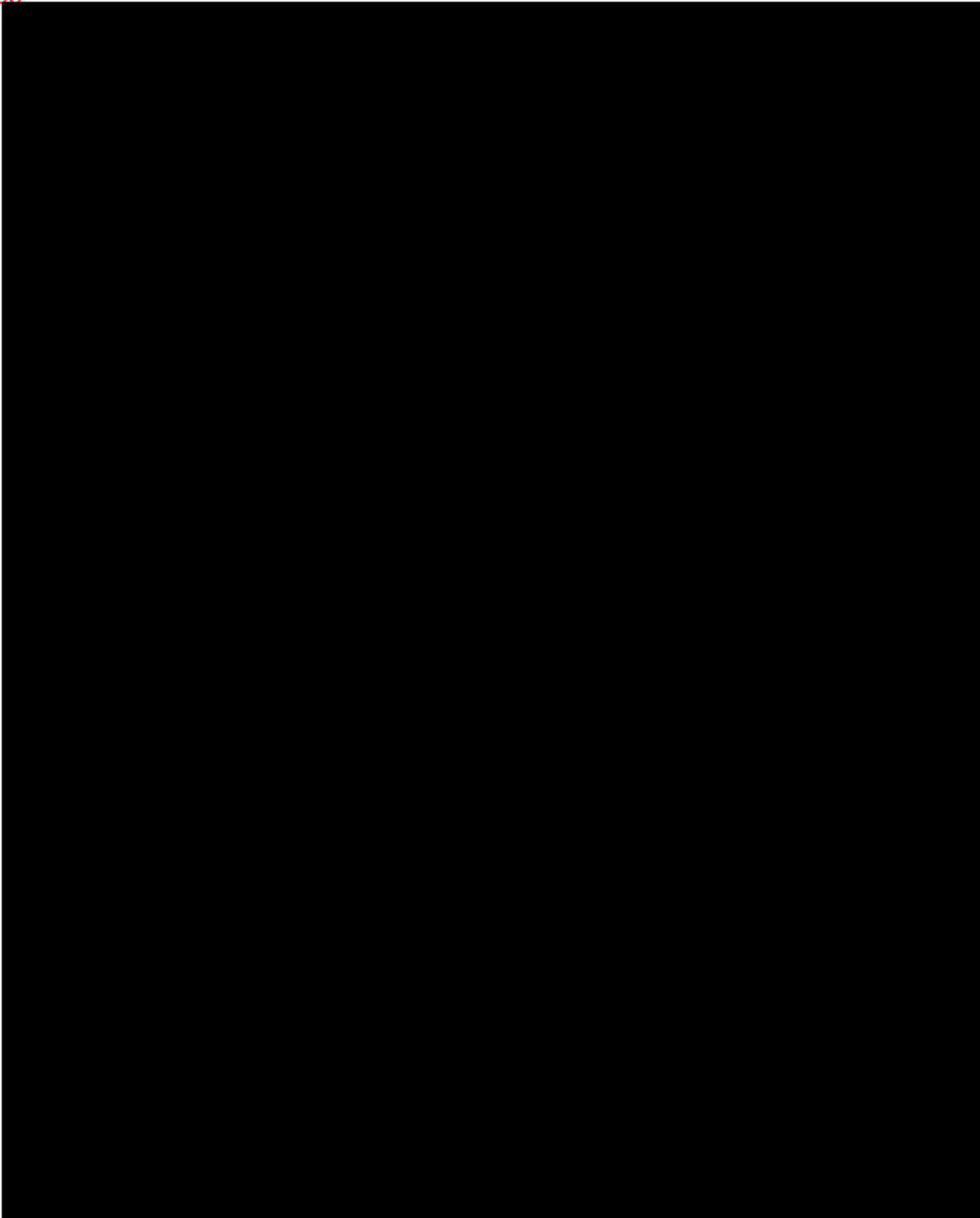


**Tongariro National Park – Ruapehu Alpine Lifts**

27. Ruapehu Alpine Lifts, currently in receivership, operates the two ski-fields within Tongariro National Park - Whakapapa and Tūroa. To enable the 2024 ski-season to proceed, new operators and concessions will need to be in place by June 2024 at the latest. Concessions are a statutory permission that enable certain types of activities on public conservation land; in the case of RAL, companies that are proposing to take over the existing ski-field operations require a concession issued by the Minister of Conservation (or delegate) to operate within Tongariro National Park.
28. Throughout 2023 Te Arawhiti has played a supporting role to facilitate and support Crown engagement with the multiple iwi and hapū with interests in Tongariro National Park. The Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) leads the commercial aspects to Ruapehu Alpine Lifts (RAL) and the Department of Conservation (DOC) leads the concessions process. Both agencies intend to brief their respective Ministers before Christmas on the decisions required to enable the 2024 ski-field season to proceed. Those briefings will recommend a joint Ministerial hui before Christmas (including you given the future negotiations over Tongariro National Park). We will work with MBIE and DOC to prepare a joint briefing to support that engagement.
29. DOC expect to begin consultation before the end of the year on skifield concessions for Tūroa skifield to enable a concession to be granted in April 2024. DOC has advised iwi with interests in Tongariro National Park of expected time frames.

30. It is likely the concession process will result in media attention relating to the skifields and/or the Tongariro National Park collective negotiations. In the week beginning 11 December we will provide a media pack for your office.

Out of scope





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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations**


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**Weekly Status Report**


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**Date:** 13 December 2023  
**Report No.** 2023/2024 – 145

**Priority:** Low

**Action sought**


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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi  
Negotiations**  
(Hon Paul Goldsmith)

**Note** the Weekly Status Report.

**By:** 21 December 2023

**Contact for phone discussion (if required)**


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Name	Position	Mobile	1 <sup>st</sup> Contact
Lil Anderson	Tumu Whakarae	[REDACTED]	✓
Warren Fraser	Deputy Chief Executive, Strategy, Policy and Legal	[REDACTED]	
Tui Marsh	Deputy Chief Executive, Treaty Reconciliation and Takutai Moana		

s9(2)(a)

Pages 2-4, 6-8 withheld out of scope

Out of scope

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**Tongariro National Park – Ruapehu Alpine Lifts**

14. We continue to work alongside the Ministry for Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE) (who leads the commercial aspects to Ruapehu Alpine Lifts (RAL)) and the Department of Conservation (who lead the concessions process) as they brief their respective Ministers. Should a joint Ministerial hui eventuate before Christmas (as proposed in both pieces of advice), we will work with those agencies to prepare joint advice. We understand that MBIE is still proposing that Cabinet consider some financial aspects to RAL either late this year or early next year. It will be important for the three key RAL Ministers (Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations, Conservation and Regional Economic Development) to have an agreed position in respect of RAL prior to Cabinet consideration.

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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations**


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**Weekly Status Report**


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**Date:** 25 January 2024  
**Report No.** 2023/2024 – 164

**Priority:** Low

**Action sought**


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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi  
Negotiations**  
(Hon Paul Goldsmith)

**Note** the Weekly Status Report.

**By:** 1 February 2024

**Contact for phone discussion (if required)**


---

Name	Position	Mobile	1 <sup>st</sup> Contact
Lil Anderson	Tumu Whakarae	[REDACTED]	✓
Tui Marsh	Deputy Chief Executive, Treaty Reconciliation and Takutai Moana		

s9(2)(a)

Pages 3-6, 8-10 withheld out of scope

### Key matters this week

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Out of scope

- 1. The key matters for this week are:

[REDACTED]

- 1.4. On 31 January the Minister of Conservation, Minister for Regional Development and Minister of Finance will meet to discuss next steps regarding Ruapehu Alpine Lifts. You have been invited to the hui. We are working with the Department of Conservation to brief Ministers for that meeting.

### Recommendations

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- 2. It is recommended that you:
  - 2.1. **note** the updates provided in this Weekly Status Report.

Lil Anderson  
Tumu Whakarae

<b>NOTED</b>
Hon Paul Goldsmith Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations
Date:      /      / 2024

Out of scope

[Redacted text block]

**Tongariro National Park – Ruapehu Alpine Lifts**

- 27. On 31 January the Minister of Conservation, Minister for Regional Development and Minister of Finance will meet to discuss next steps regarding Ruapehu Alpine Lifts. We are working with the Department of Conservation to brief Ministers prior to that meeting, including in relation to the Crown’s commitments regarding Treaty negotiations over Tongariro National Park.
- 28. Ruapehu Alpine Lifts, currently in receivership, operates the Whakapapa and Tūroa ski fields in Tongariro National Park. Cabinet has agreed in-principle support for Pure Tūroa Limited’s bid to operate the Tūroa ski field. On 18 December 2023 the Department of Conservation began public consultation on Pure Tūroa Limited’s application for a concession to operate Tūroa ski field. The submission period will end on 9 February.
- 29. MBIE’s assessment is that there are no viable bids for Whakapapa ski field after a bid from Whakapapa Holdings Limited was withdrawn in late December.

Out of scope

[Redacted text block]




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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations**

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**Weekly Status Report**

**Date:** 9 February 2024 **Priority:** Low  
**Report No.** 2023/2024 – 173

**Action sought**

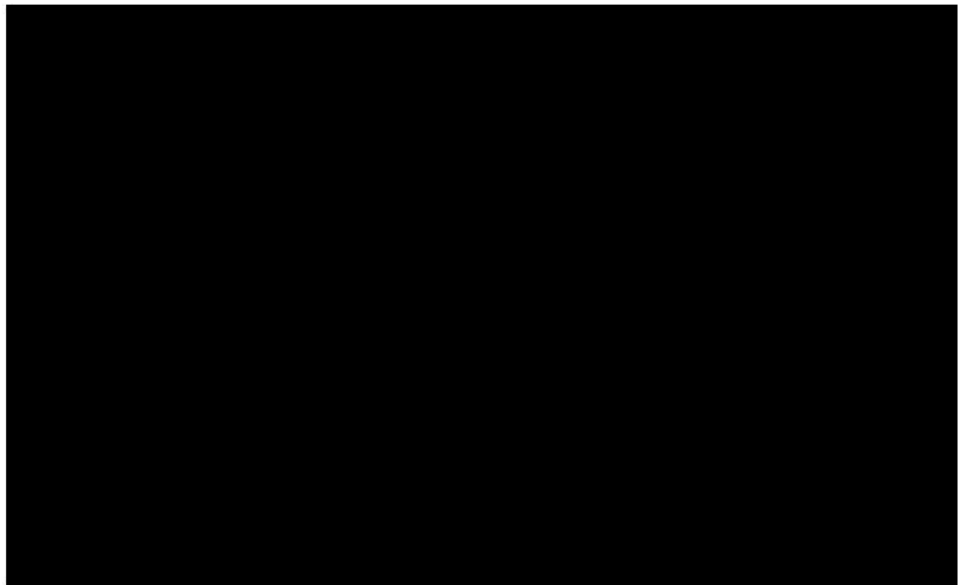
**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations** (Hon Paul Goldsmith) **Note the Weekly Status Report.** **By:** 13 February 2024

**Contact for phone discussion (if required)**

Name	Position	Mobile	1 <sup>st</sup> Contact
Lil Anderson	Tumu Whakarae	[REDACTED]	✓
Tui Marsh	Deputy Chief Executive, Treaty Reconciliation and Takutai Moana		

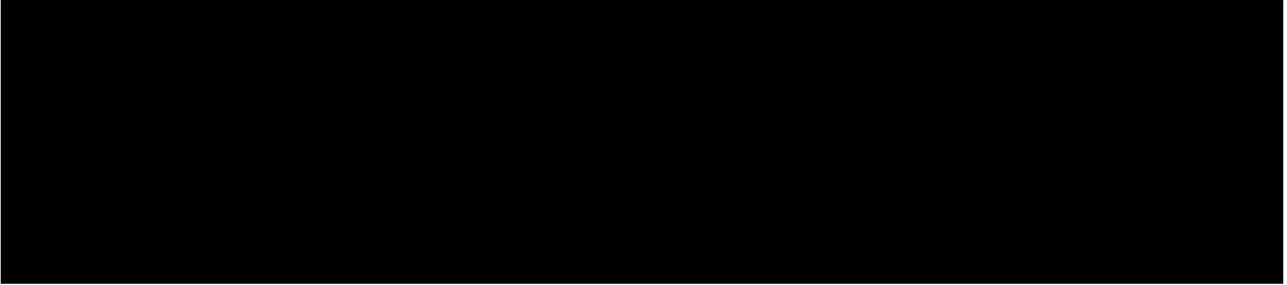
s9(2)(a)

Out of scope



Note: Returned unsigned by the Minister.

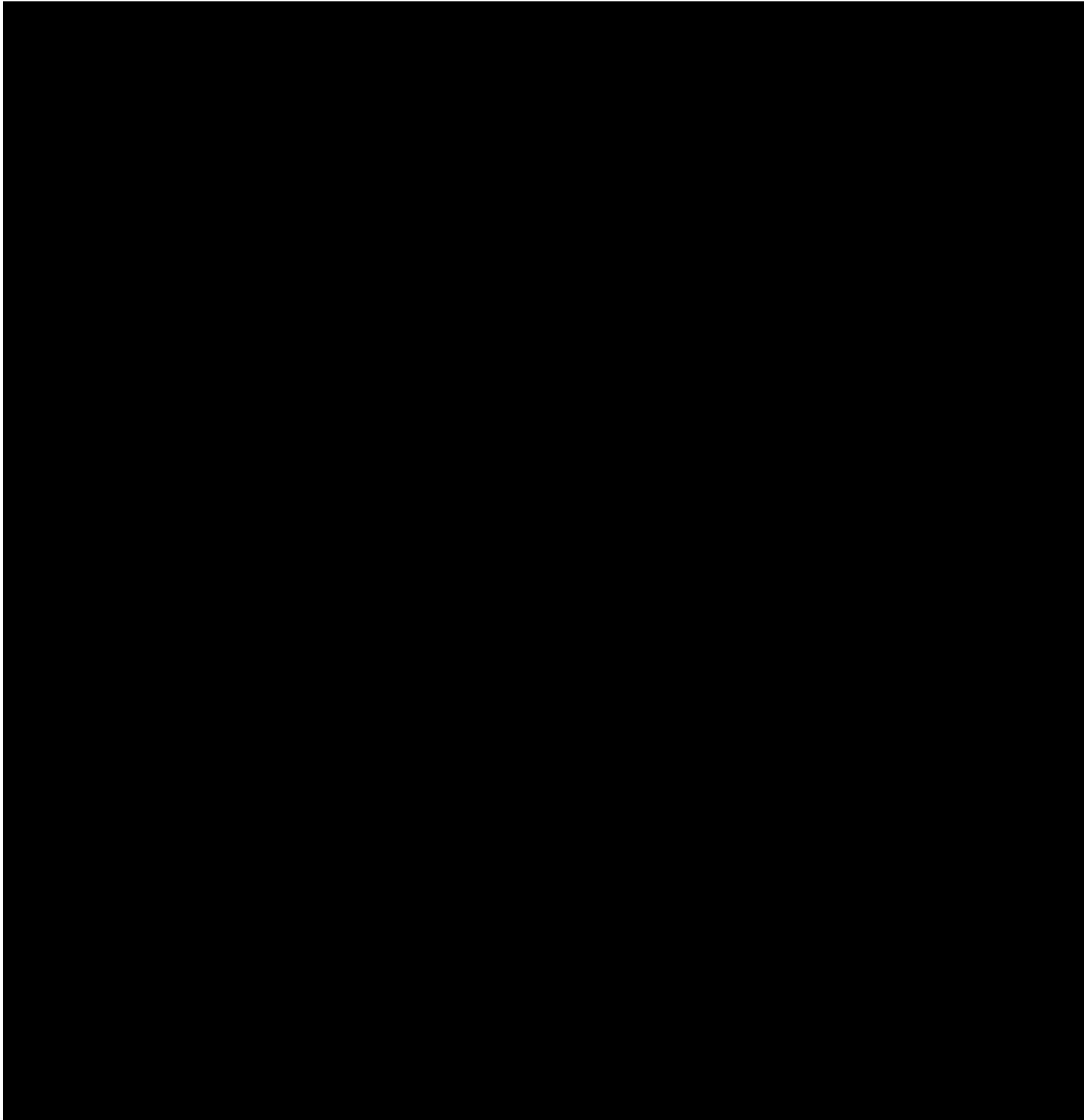
Out of  
scope



**Tongariro National Park – Ruapehu Alpine Lifts**

26. Following your meeting with Ministers on 31 January, the Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment are providing further advice for the Minister of Regional Development regarding Ruapehu Alpine Lifts. This advice will focus on the Crown’s financial exposure in relation to the ski-fields and will be forwarded to you, the Minister of Finance, and the Minister of Conservation, for your information.

Out of  
scope






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Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations

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**Weekly Status Report**

Date: 22 February 2024 Priority: Low  
 Report No. 2023/2024 – 187

**Action sought**

Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations  
 (Hon Paul Goldsmith) Note the Weekly Status Report. By: 29 February 2024

**Contact for phone discussion (if required)**

Name	Position	Mobile	1 <sup>st</sup> Contact
Lil Anderson	Tumu Whakarae	[REDACTED]	✓
Tui Marsh	Deputy Chief Executive, Treaty Reconciliation and Takutai Moana		

s9(2)(a)

Pages 2-6, 8-9 out of scope



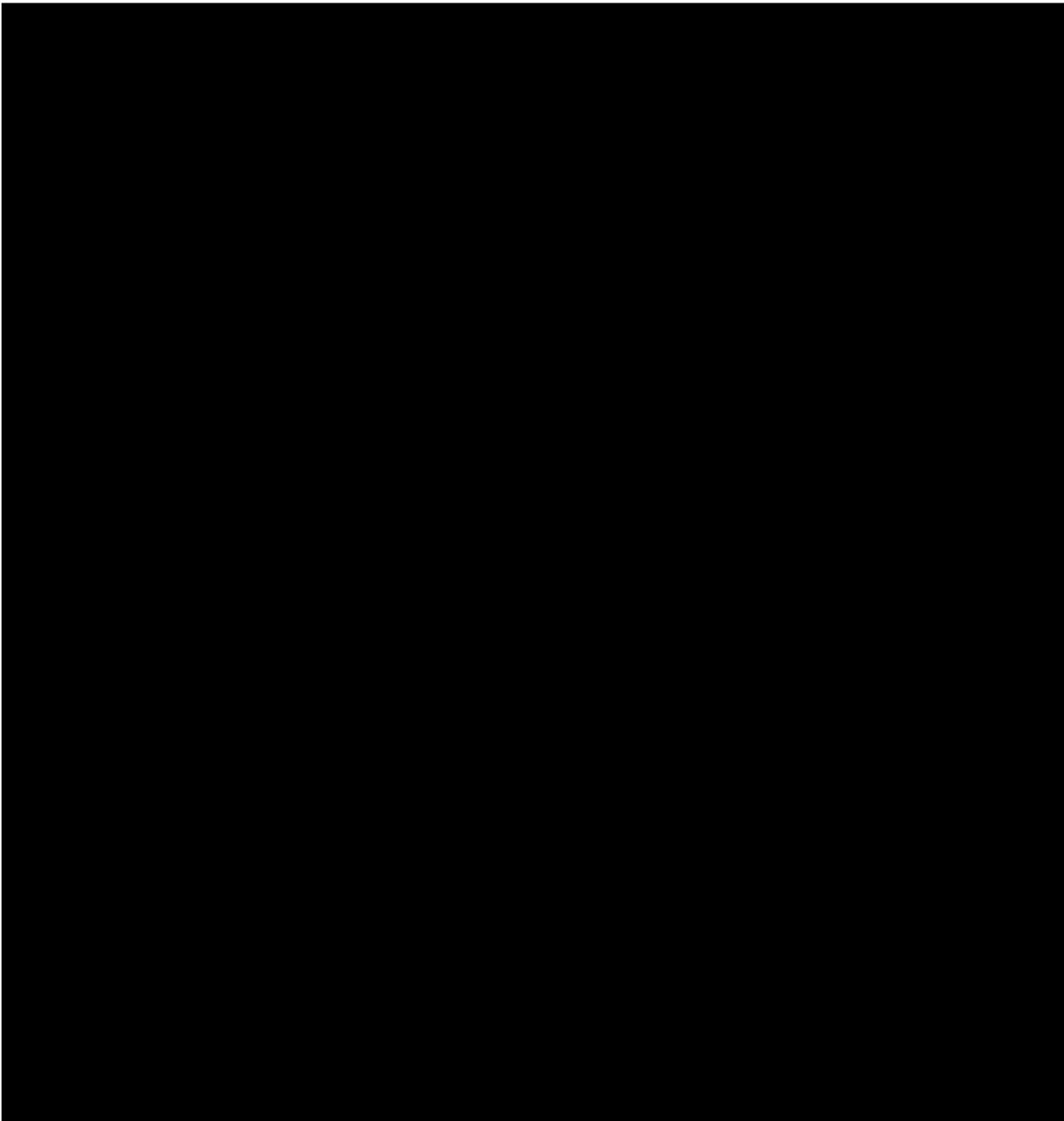
Out of scope



**Tongariro National Park – Ruapehu Alpine Lifts**

26. The Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment is preparing a Cabinet paper for the Minister of Regional Development to take to Cabinet Economic Policy Committee on 6 March regarding next steps for Ruapehu Alpine Lifts (in liquidation and receivership). The paper proposes to continue support for the sale of Tūroa ski field assets to Pure Tūroa Limited and to fund the receivers to run the 2024 ski season at Whakapapa ski field while transitional arrangements are put in place. We have provided feedback on the draft Cabinet paper as it relates to the Tongariro National Park negotiations and the broader Māori Crown relationship, and will provide you a briefing in the week of 26 February.

Out of scope



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**Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti**

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**Weekly Status Report**

**Date:** 26 February – 1 March 2024  
**Report No.** 2023/2024 – 151

**Priority:** Low

**Action sought**

**Minister for Māori Crown  
Relations: Te Arawhiti**  
(Hon Tama Potaka)

**Note** the Weekly Status Report

**By:** 29 February 2023

**Contact for phone discussion (if required)**

Name	Position	Mobile	1 <sup>st</sup> Contact
Lil Anderson	Tumu Whakarae	[REDACTED]	✓
Sheridan Smith	Deputy Chief Executive – Partnerships (Acting)		

s9(2)(a)

Pages 2, 4-8 withheld out of scope

## Updates

### Strategic issues

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[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

### Tongariro National Park – Ruapehu Alpine Lifts

3. The Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment (**MBIE**) is preparing a Cabinet paper for the Minister of Regional Development to take to Cabinet Economic Policy Committee on 6 March regarding next steps for Ruapehu Alpine Lifts (in liquidation and receivership). The paper proposes to continue support for the sale of Tūroa ski field assets to Pure Tūroa Limited and to fund the receivers to run the 2024 ski season at Whakapapa ski field while transitional arrangements are put in place. We have provided feedback on the draft Cabinet paper as it relates to the Tongariro National Park negotiations and the broader Māori Crown relationship.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]




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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations**

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**Weekly Status Report**

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**Date:** 29 February 2024 **Priority:** Low  
**Report No.** 2023/2024 – 196

**Action sought**

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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations** (Hon Paul Goldsmith) **Note** the Weekly Status Report. **By:** 7 March 2024

**Contact for phone discussion (if required)**

Name	Position	Mobile	1 <sup>st</sup> Contact
Lil Anderson	Tumu Whakarae	[REDACTED]	✓
Tui Marsh	Deputy Chief Executive, Treaty Reconciliation and Takutai Moana		

Pages 2-4, 7-9 out of scope

Out of scope

[REDACTED]

**Tongariro National Park – Ruapehu Alpine Lifts**

16. The Cabinet paper *Ruapehu Alpine Lifts: Decisions to continue support for RAL post-March 2024* will now be considered by the Cabinet Economic Policy Committee on 6 March and Cabinet on 11 March. The paper seeks Cabinet decisions on the future of the two ski-fields (Whakapapa and Tūroa). We have provided feedback to the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE) on the Cabinet paper to ensure that the link between Cabinet decisions on Ruapehu Alpine

Lifts (RAL) and the future collective Tongariro National Park (TNP) negotiation uses more open language and does not bind the parties to a specific outcome. We have also sought to highlight the importance of engaging with iwi throughout the Crown's decision-making to not further unsettle relationships in the region.

17. On 29 February we will provide you with advice and draft talking points to support the discussion at Cabinet. The discussion at Cabinet is relevant to the Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations portfolio due to the Crown's overdue commitment to negotiate redress over TNP and the need to preserve relationships with the iwi collective in advance of those negotiations commencing.
18. We understand that MBIE are intending to engage with iwi prior to Cabinet consideration to inform them of the forthcoming process and providing a commitment to engage once Cabinet has given a direction on the future of the ski-fields.

**Patutokotoko – reconciliation agreement**

19. Due to dissatisfaction with the Crown's engagement in respect of RAL in 2023, the Crown committed to explore a discrete outside-of-settlement reconciliation process with the hapū of Patutokotoko. Patutokotoko are a shared hapū between the four Whanganui large natural groupings, including Te Korowai o Wainuiārua and Ngāti Rangi. [REDACTED]

s9(2)(g)(i)

20. [REDACTED]

Out of scope

[REDACTED]



## Aide Memoire

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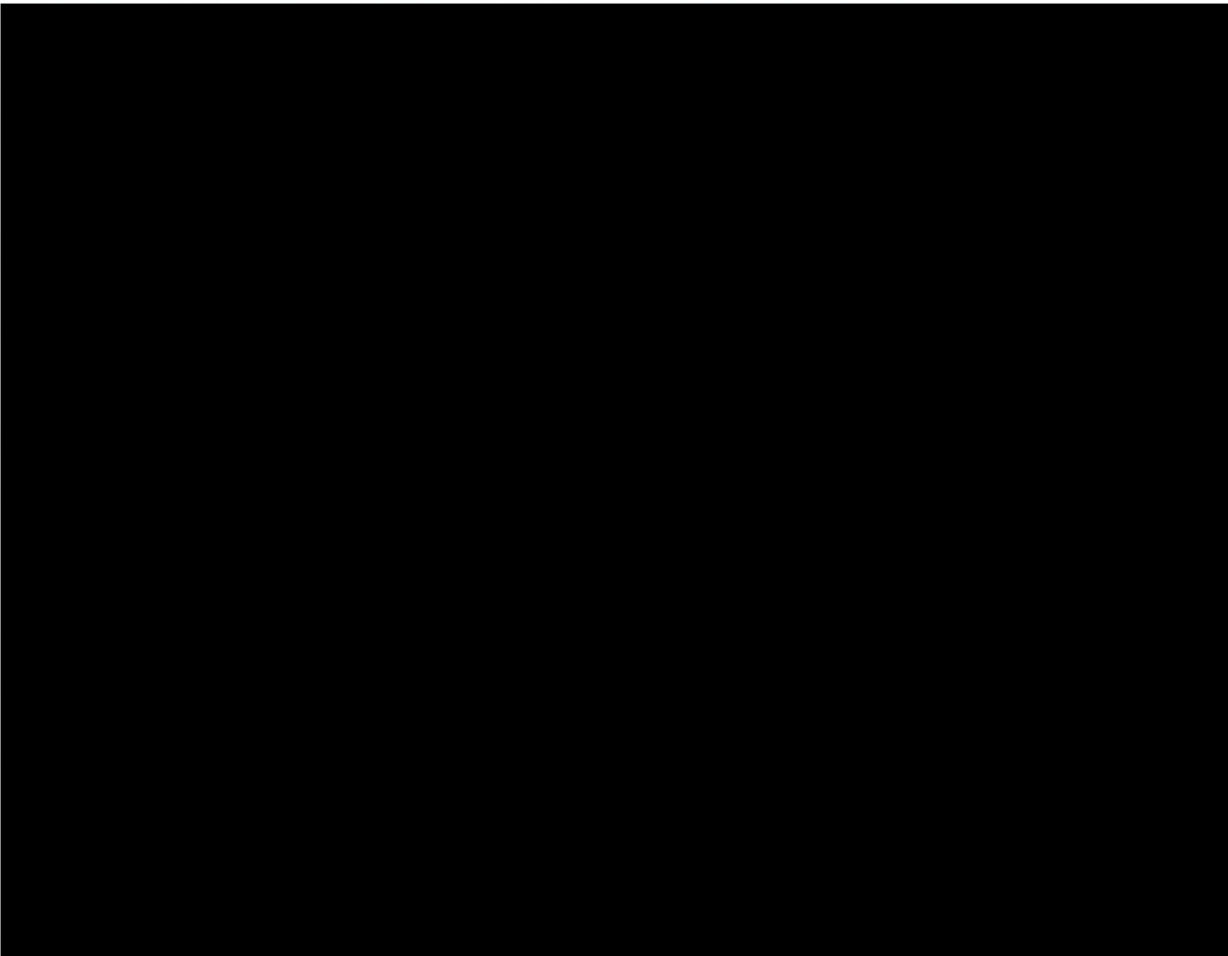
<b>To</b>	Hon Tama Potaka Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti	<b>File no.</b> DTS-09-02
<b>From</b>	Lil Anderson Tumu Whakarae [REDACTED]	<b>Report no.</b> 2023/2024 - 166
<b>cc.</b>	Sheridan Smith Acting Deputy Chief Executive, Partnerships	
<b>Date</b>	7 March 2024	
<b>Title</b>	Taupō visit with Ngāti Tūwharetoa representatives and entities, 15 March 2024	

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### Purpose

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1. This covering Aide Memoire provides you with information for your visit to Taupō on Friday 15 March with Ngāti Tūwharetoa.



Pages 2-10, 12-33 withheld out of scope

s9(2)(a)

Out of scope

## Backpocket information

*Portfolio: Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti*

Out of scope [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

### *Ruapehu Alpine Lifts*

43. In 2023, the Crown, led by officials from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, engaged with iwi with interests in the TNP on the liquidation processes of Ruapehu Alpine Lifts (RAL). Poor or late engagement in relation to RAL harmed relationships between the Crown and iwi, including Ngāti Tūwharetoa.
44. One outcome of the RAL process was that the Crown and iwi agreed to recommence collective negotiations over TNP. Te Arawhiti are now waiting to hear from iwi regarding timeframes, approach and process and will begin negotiations once iwi with interests in TNP are ready to do so.

Out of scope [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]





## Aide Memoire

<b>To</b>	Hon Paul Goldsmith Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations	<b>File no.</b> CLA-N575-OF-01
<b>From</b>	Tui Marsh Deputy Chief Executive, Treaty Reconciliation and Takutai Moana [Redacted]	<b>Report no.</b> 2023/2024 - 200
<b>Date</b>	28 February 2024	
<b>Title</b>	Tongariro National Park: Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Cabinet paper – Cab100 5 March	

s9(2)(a)

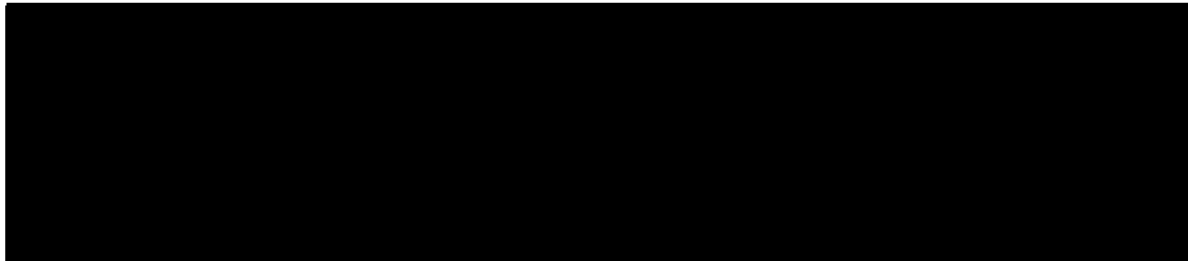
### Purpose

1. This aide memoire provides you with advice on a Cabinet paper about Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Limited (in liquidation and receivership) (RAL) which will be presented at Cabinet 100-Day Plan Committee (Cab100) on 5 March and then Cabinet on 11 March by the Minister for Regional Development.
2. RAL and the two ski-fields (Whakapapa and Tūroa) are the most significant commercial activity within Tongariro National Park (TNP). The discussion, and decision-making, at Cabinet is relevant to the Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations portfolio due to the Crown’s overdue commitment to negotiate redress over TNP and the need to preserve relationships with the iwi collective in advance of those negotiations commencing.
3. The Cabinet paper will recommend Cabinet agree to:
  - a. provide Pure Tūroa Limited (PTL) with government loans to allow it to complete the purchase of the Tūroa ski area from RAL; and
  - b. either:
    - i. provide RAL’s receivers with funding to run the 2024 ski season to run [Redacted]
    - ii. [Redacted]
4. Suggested talking points for Cab100 on 5 March are attached at **Appendix One**.

s9(2)(f)(iv)

### Background

Out of scope



Out of scope

- 6. [Redacted]
- 7. [Redacted]
- 8. [Redacted]
- 9. [Redacted]

*Engagement on Ruapehu Alpine Lifts resulted in re-engagement on Tongariro National Park*

Out of scope

- 10. [Redacted] Many of the issues that arose during the 2023 RAL processes (poor or late engagement and unclear [or inconsistent] governance of the national park) highlighted to both the Crown and iwi the need for the TNP negotiations to commence. TNP is of particular importance to iwi and the Crown and there is a general commitment that the care of the mountains within the national park rests with both Treaty partners. [Redacted]

s9(2)(g)(i)

[Redacted]

- 11. As part of the 2023 engagement on the future of RAL, Ngāti Tūwharetoa requested the Crown progress negotiations for redress in relation to TNP, which the Crown agreed to do with 'some urgency' via various letters in June and July 2023. On 11 September 2023, the former MfTOWN and MOC met with representatives of the four groups in Taupō to discuss TNP and an approach to collective negotiations.

Out of scope

- 12. [Redacted]

- 13. Through the 2023 RAL engagement, and due to Patutokotoko dissatisfaction with the Crown's engagement, the Crown also committed to explore a discrete outside-of-settlement reconciliation process with the hapū of Patutokotoko. Patutokotoko are a shared hapū between

the four Whanganui large natural groupings, including Te Korowai o Wainuiārua and Ngāti Rangi. We will brief you separately on the Patutokotoko reconciliation process in March.

**Engagement with iwi regarding Ruapehu Alpine Lifts has been fraught**

14. RAL, which operated and owned the assets of the Whakapapa and Tūroa ski areas on Mt Ruapehu within TNP, entered voluntary administration in October 2022 and was placed into receivership in October 2023.
15. In mid-2023 Te Arawhiti led engagement with iwi who have interests in RAL and TNP alongside the Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) and DOC. Te Arawhiti involvement in the RAL processes has been limited to:
  - a. supporting agencies' engagement with iwi;
  - b. seeking to ensure that iwi views are accurately reflected in advice to Ministers and Cabinet; and
  - c. seeking to ensure that the RAL processes do not destabilise the future TNP negotiations.
16. Ministers and senior officials formally recognised that prior engagement with iwi in relation to RAL had been flawed as it:
  - a. did not allow appropriate time or sharing of quality information;
  - b. had harmed relationships between the Crown and iwi; and
  - c. [REDACTED]

s9(2)(g)(i)

17. [REDACTED] A key commitment arising from the mid-2023 engagement was for MBIE and DOC to continue to engage with iwi as the Crown made decisions. However, iwi have continued to raise concerns about the nature and quality of Crown engagement, and while DOC has had ongoing engagement with iwi during the PTL concession process, [REDACTED]

s9(2)(g)(i)

s9(2)(g)(i)

18. In August-October 2023, [REDACTED] Te Kotahitanga o Ngāti Tūwharetoa (Tūwharetoa post settlement governance entity), Ngāti Hauā, Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui (Whanganui River post settlement governance entity) and Te Korowai o Wainuiārua expressed they did not support continuation of commercial ski areas on Ruapehu in their current form. The general preference was for the sales of ski area assets to be halted, the ski areas to be managed in the interim through an 'iwi-led transition process', and for future arrangements to be considered after, or during, TNP negotiations.

s9(2)(a)

*Sale of Tūroa assets is progressing but there is no viable bidder for Whakapapa*

19. During 2023 MBIE undertook a bidding process for the sale of Tūroa and Whakapapa ski areas. PTL have a conditional Sale and Purchase agreement for purchase of the Tūroa ski area assets. Conditions of the sale include receiving the concession and the Government providing a loan of approximately \$3 million. [REDACTED] PTL have applied for a concession to operate within TNP. DOC is undertaking public consultation on the concession application and a decision is expected in March.

s9(2)(b)(ii)

- 20. MBIE considers there are no commercially viable bids for Whakapapa ski area assets after Whakapapa Holdings Limited withdrew their bid in December 2023.

**Te Arawhiti views on the RAL Cabinet paper**

- 21. We have maintained engagement with MBIE and DOC throughout the RAL process and have reminded agencies of the commitments Ministers and senior officials made in 2023 to engage in good faith regarding the RAL processes. DOC has had ongoing engagement with iwi during the PTL concession process,

s9(2)(g)(i)  
s9(2)(f)(iv)

[Redacted]

Out of scope

- 22. [Redacted]

Outlined below are our understanding of current iwi perspectives drawn from the PTL concessions process.

- 23. Any decisions taken by the government in relation to commercial activity on Mt Ruapehu need to consider the commitments made in deeds of settlement with Ngāti Rangī, Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Te Korowai o Wainuiārua and the agreement in principle with Ngāti Hāua; the pending TNP negotiations; and an enduring Māori Crown relationship with iwi who have interests in TNP.

*Iwi have raised concerns about the Tūroa ski area sale and concession*

- 24. [Redacted] The final Cabinet paper now includes a summary of iwi views as expressed via the DOC concessions process in respect of PTL.

- 25. [Redacted] Groups have also most recently expressed their views in respect of Tūroa ski area in written submissions on the concession application (which closed on 9 February):

s9(2)(g)(i)  
s18(d)

- a. [Redacted]
- b. [Redacted]
- c. [Redacted]

s9(2)(g)(i)

- d. Ngā Tangata Tiaki (Whanganui River) wrote to DOC on 22 February [Redacted]

s9(2)(g)(i)

e. Ngāti Tūwharetoa did not submit on the concession [REDACTED]

s9(2)(g)(i)

f. Te Ariki Tā Tumu Te Heuheu wrote to DOC on 21 February [REDACTED]

26. Further information on iwi submissions on the concession is outlined in the table at **Appendix Two**.

*Iwi views on the proposals for Whakapapa ski area are unknown*

27. As the Whakapapa Holdings bid for Whakapapa ski area was discontinued in December 2023, iwi views regarding the current proposals for Whakapapa ski area are unknown and untested. MBIE intend to reach out to iwi to organise further engagement. Te Arawhiti has offered to be involved in that engagement [REDACTED]

s9(2)(f)(iv)

*Risks in proceeding with Cabinet decisions at this time*

s9(2)(g)(i)

28. [REDACTED]

29. If Cabinet agrees to provide PTL with government loans, it would allow PTL to complete the purchase of the Tūroa ski area from RAL subject to being granted a concession. [REDACTED]

s9(2)(g)(i)

[REDACTED]

30. Should Cabinet agree to continue support for Whakapapa ski area [REDACTED]

s9(2)(f)(iv)

[REDACTED]

**Next steps**

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- 31. We have attached suggested talking points for Cab100 on 5 March at **Appendix One** for your consideration. We recommend you forward this briefing to the Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti for his information.

**Recommendations**

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- 32. It is recommended that you:
  - a. **note** the talking points at **Appendix One**; and
  - b. **forward** this aide memoire to the Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti. YES / NO



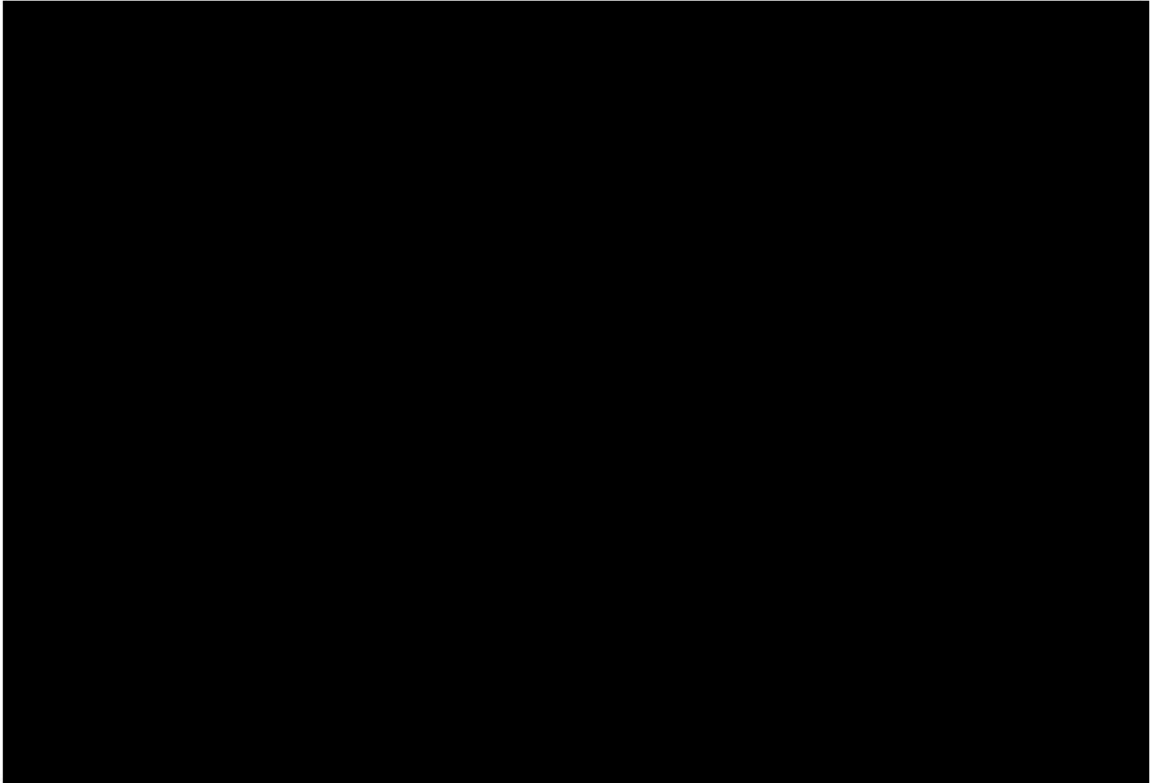
Tui Marsh  
Deputy Chief Executive, Treaty Reconciliation and Takutai Moana

<b>NOTED / APPROVED / NOT APPROVED</b>

Hon Paul Goldsmith Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations
Date: 4 / 3 / 2024

Appendix One: Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Cabinet paper talking points for Cab100 5 March

s9(2)(g)(i)



**Appendix Two: Iwi views in submissions on the Pure Tūroa Limited concession application**

Where views were not expressed during the concessions process, the date and means of expression have been noted.

Iwi/group	View on PTL concession application	
s9(2)(g)(i) s18(d)  Hapū of Patutokotoko	- - - - -	[Redacted]
s9(2)(g)(i)  Ngā Tangata Tiaki (Whanganui River)	-	Wrote to DOC on 22 February [Redacted]
s9(2)(g)(i) s18(d)  Ngāti Hāua	- - - - -	[Redacted]
s9(2)(g)(i) s18(d)  Ngāti Rangī	- - - -	[Redacted]
Ngāti Tūwharetoa	- -	Did not submit on the PTL concession application. In an August 2023 letter expressed opposition to the sale of the ski areas.
s9(2)(g)(i)  Te Ariki Tā Tumu Te Heuheu	-	Wrote to DOC on 21 February [Redacted]
s9(2)(g)(i) s18(d)  Te Korowai o Wainuiārua	- - - -	[Redacted]



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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations**


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**Weekly Status Report**


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**Date:** 7 March 2024  
**Report No.** 2023/2024 – 207

**Priority:** Low

**Action sought**


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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi  
Negotiations**  
(Hon Paul Goldsmith)

**Note** the Weekly Status Report.

**By:** 14 March 2024

**Contact for phone discussion (if required)**


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Name	Position	Mobile	1 <sup>st</sup> Contact
Lil Anderson	Tumu Whakarae	[REDACTED]	
Tui Marsh	Deputy Chief Executive, Treaty Reconciliation and Takutai Moana	[REDACTED]	✓

s9(2)(a)

Pages 2-4, 6-7 out of scope

Out of scope

[REDACTED]

**Tongariro National Park – Ruapehu Alpine Lifts (RAL)**

- 14. On 5 March the Cabinet 100-day Plan Committee considered the *Ruapehu Alpine Lifts: Decisions to continue support for RAL post-March 2024* Cabinet paper. We have provided you advice and draft talking points to support the discussion at Cabinet on 11 March.
- 15. We understand MBIE intends to inform iwi of the forthcoming RAL processes and commit to engage with them once Cabinet gives a direction on the future of the ski-fields, but this may not happen before the Cabinet meeting on 11 March. We have highlighted the importance for the Crown taking a co-ordinated approach to engage with iwi so that they are informed on current and future government decision-making [REDACTED]

s9(2)(g)(i)

Out of scope

[REDACTED]




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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations**

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**Weekly Status Report**

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**Date:** 14 March 2024 **Priority:** Low  
**Report No.** 2023/2024 – 218

**Action sought**

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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations** **Note** the Weekly Status Report. **By:** 21 March 2024  
 (Hon Paul Goldsmith)

**Contact for phone discussion (if required)**

s9(2)(a)

Name	Position	Mobile	1 <sup>st</sup> Contact
Lil Anderson	Tumu Whakarae	[REDACTED]	
Tui Marsh	Deputy Chief Executive, Treaty Reconciliation and Takutai Moana	[REDACTED]	✓

Pages 2-4, 6-7 out of scope

Out of scope

[Redacted text block]

**Tongariro National Park – Ruapehu Alpine Lifts**

16. On 15 March the Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti, will meet with Tūwharetoa entities in Taupō, including Te Kotahitanga o Tūwharetoa (the post settlement governance entity). We anticipate the Tongariro National Park negotiations, and Cabinet’s 11 March decisions in respect of Ruapehu Alpine Lifts, may be raised at those meetings. We will provide updates to you, via the weekly report, on the position of the various groups with interests in the national park.

Out of scope

[Redacted text block]

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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations**


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**Weekly Status Report**


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**Date:** 21 March 2024 **Priority:** Low  
**Report No.** 2023/2024 – 221

**Action sought**


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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations** **Note** the Weekly Status Report. **By:** 28 March 2024  
(Hon Paul Goldsmith)

**Contact for phone discussion (if required)**


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Name	Position	Mobile	1 <sup>st</sup> Contact
Lil Anderson	Tumu Whakarae	[REDACTED]	
Tui Marsh	Deputy Chief Executive, Treaty Reconciliation and Takutai Moana	[REDACTED]	✓

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Tongariro National Park – Ruapehu Alpine Lifts (RAL)**

11. On 13 March Cabinet’s decisions regarding Ruapehu Alpine Lifts (RAL) were announced. We understand that the Ministry for Business Innovation and Employment contacted all groups with interests in the national park prior to the public announcement. There has been little commentary in the media from iwi (except from the chair of Te Korowai o Wainuiārua who has outlined that there was “no consultation with iwi/Māori”). We are working with MBIE and DOC regarding next steps for Whakapapa ski-field, including iwi engagement.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations**


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**Weekly Status Report**


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**Date:** 4 April 2024  
**Report No.** 2023/2024 – 239

**Priority:** Low

**Action sought**


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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations**  
(Hon Paul Goldsmith)

**Note** the Weekly Status Report

**By:** 11 April 2024

**Contact for phone discussion (if required)**


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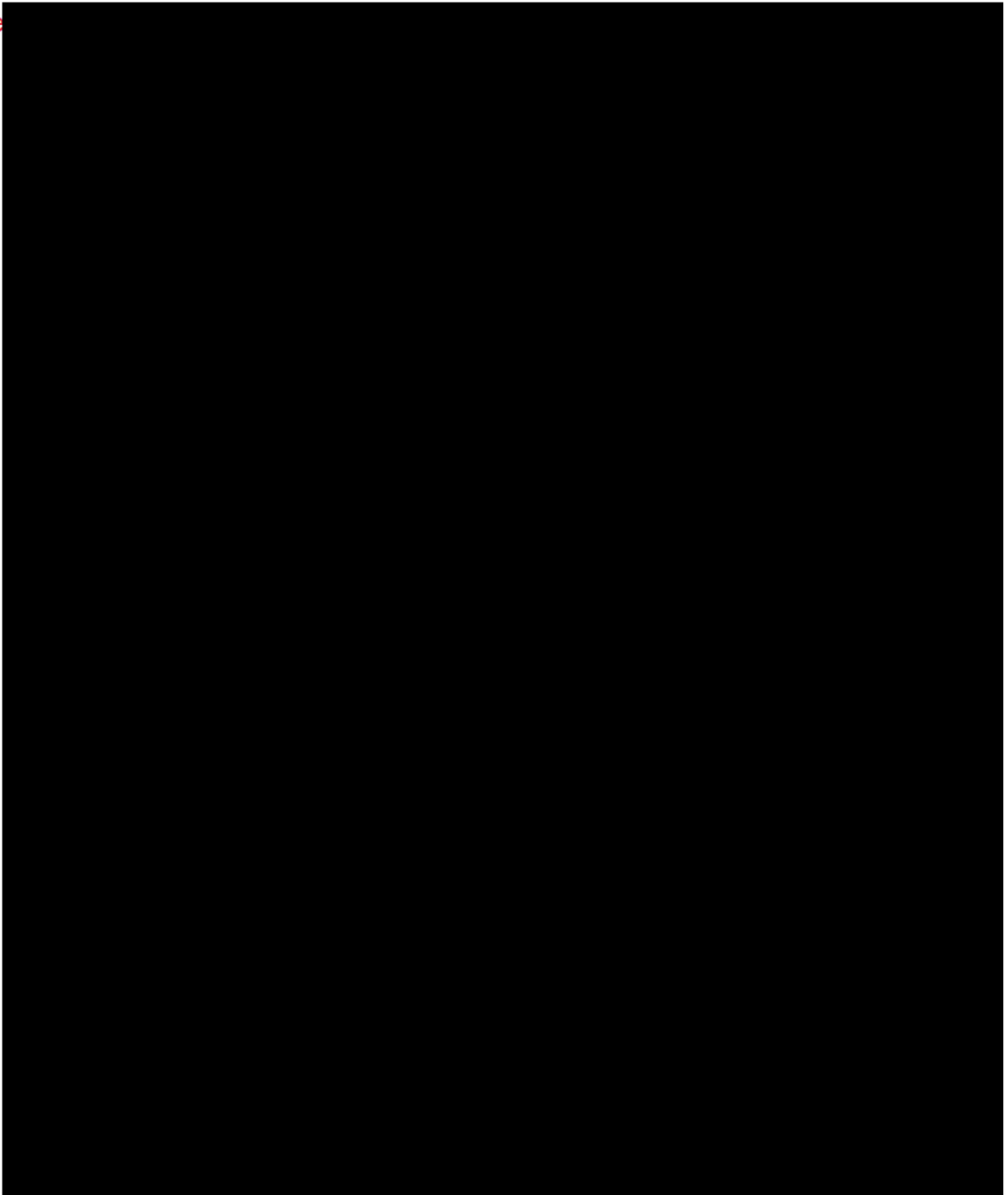
Name	Position	Mobile	1 <sup>st</sup> Contact
Lil Anderson	Tumu Whakarae	[REDACTED]	
Tui Marsh	Deputy Chief Executive, Treaty Reconciliation and Takutai Moana	[REDACTED]	✓

s9(2)(a)

Pages 2-3, 6-7 out of scope

## Updates

Out of scope



### **Tongariro National Park – Ruapehu Alpine Lifts**

7. During discussions with iwi in 2023 regarding Ruapehu Alpine Lifts, the then Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations agreed to explore a reconciliation package with the hapū of Patutokotoko. On 2 April we met with the hapū of Patutokotoko regarding the exploration of a reconciliation package. We will report to you on the outcomes of the exploration process in late April and provide options on how to proceed for your consideration.



8. Patutokotoko have consistently raised concerns about the commercial use of the family name 'Turoa' in relation to Pure Turoa Limited's purchase of Turoa ski-field and the associated concession to operate within Tongariro National Park. We understand the Minister of Conservation is due to decide on the Turoa ski-field concession by 5 April.

s9(2)(g)(i)  
s9(2)(f)(iv)

9. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Out of scope

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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations**


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**Weekly Status Report**


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**Date:** 11 April 2024  
**Report No.** 2023/2024 – 246

**Priority:** Low

**Action sought**


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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations**  
(Hon Paul Goldsmith)

**Note** the Weekly Status Report

**By:** 18 April 2024

**Contact for phone discussion (if required)**


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Name	Position	Mobile	1 <sup>st</sup> Contact
Lil Anderson	Tumu Whakarae	[REDACTED]	
Tui Marsh	Deputy Chief Executive, Treaty Reconciliation and Takutai Moana	[REDACTED]	✓

s9(2)(a)

Pages 2-5, 7-8 out of scope

Out of scope

[Redacted]

**Tongariro National Park – Ruapehu Alpine Lifts**

16. On 6 April the Minister of Conservation (MOC) announced that a ten-year concession has been granted to Pure Turoa Limited for the operation of Turoa ski area. We will monitor iwi responses and provide updates to you on any matters that relate to Tongariro National Park negotiations.

Out of scope

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]




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**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations**

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**Weekly Status Report**

**Date:** 2 May 2024 **Priority:** Low  
**Report No.** 2023/2024 – 265

**Action sought**

**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations** **Note the Weekly Status Report** **By: 9 May 2024**  
 (Hon Paul Goldsmith)

**Contact for phone discussion (if required)**

s9(2)(a)

Name	Position	Mobile	1 <sup>st</sup> Contact
Lil Anderson	Tumu Whakarae	[REDACTED]	
Tui Marsh	Deputy Chief Executive, Treaty Reconciliation and Takutai Moana	[REDACTED]	✓

Pages 2-4, 6-10 out of scope

Out of scope

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**Tongariro National Park – Ruapehu Alpine Lifts**

8. Draft letters to representatives of iwi with interests in Tongariro National Park will be provided to you and the Minister of Conservation for consideration and signature in the week of 6 May. The letters propose a meeting between joint Ministers and iwi representatives in early May to discuss:

Out of scope

8.1. commercial processes for the sale of Whakapapa ski area assets [Redacted]

8.2. future concessions processes for operation of Whakapapa ski area in the national park; and

Out of scope

8.3. [Redacted]

9. Separately, senior officials from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Department of Conservation, and Te Arawhiti will meet with iwi representatives who were involved in the Tūroa ski area concession process. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss 'lessons learned', maintain relationships with iwi as we prepare for Tongariro National Park negotiations, [Redacted]

s9(2)(g)(i)

[Redacted]

Out of scope

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]




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**Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti**

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**Weekly Status Report**

**Date:** 6 – 10 May 2024 **Priority:** Low  
**Report No.** 2023/2024 – 214

**Action sought**

**Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti** (Hon Tama Potaka) **Note** the Weekly Status Report. **By:** 10 May 2024

**Contact for phone discussion (if required)**

s9(2)(a)

Name	Position	Mobile	1 <sup>st</sup> Contact
Lil Anderson	Tumu Whakarae	[REDACTED]	
Sheridan Smith	Deputy Chief Executive – Partnerships (Acting)	[REDACTED]	ü

Pages 2-3, 5-12 out of scope

**Ruapehu Alpine Lifts – iwi engagement**

10. Draft letters to representatives of iwi with interests in Tongariro National Park will be provided to you (as Minister of Conservation) and the Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations for consideration and signature in the week of 6 May. The letters propose a meeting between joint Ministers and iwi representatives in early May to discuss:

- a. commercial processes for the sale of Whakapapa ski area assets and Chateau Tongariro;
- b. future concessions processes for operation of Whakapapa ski area in the national park; and
- c. next steps for the Tongariro National Park negotiations.

11. Separately, senior officials from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, the Department of Conservation, and Te Arawhiti will meet with iwi representatives who were involved in the Tūroa ski area concession process. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss 'lessons learned', maintain relationships with iwi as we prepare for Tongariro National Park negotiations,

s9(2)(g)(i)

[Redacted text block]

Out of scope

[Redacted text block]



**Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti**

**Weekly Status Report**

**Date:** 20 – 24 May 2024 **Priority:** Low  
**Report No.** 2023/2024 – 226

**Action sought**

**Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti** (Hon Tama Potaka) **Note** the Weekly Status Report. **By:** 24 May 2024

**Contact for phone discussion (if required)**

Name	Position	Mobile	1 <sup>st</sup> Contact
Kelly Dunn	Acting Tumu Whakarae		
Sheridan Smith	Deputy Chief Executive – Partnerships (Acting)		✓

Pages 2-4, 6-14 out of scope



Out of scope

[Redacted text block]

**Ruapehu Alpine Lifts – iwi engagement**

25. On 10 May 2024, we joined senior officials from DOC to meet with Ngā Tangata Tiaki (the Whanganui River post-settlement governance entity) and representatives of Ngāti Hāua, the hapū of Patutokotoko, Ngāti Rangī and Te Korowai o Wainuiārua. The purpose of the hui was to discuss iwi concerns about the Tūroa ski area concession process in March. DOC officials conceded that, in June last year, the Crown committed to engage differently with iwi with interests in Tongariro National Park in relation to the processes around Ruapehu Alpine Lifts, but this had not occurred.

s9(2)(h)  
s9(2)(g)(i)

26. Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (**MBIE**) officials were invited to the hui but declined to attend [Redacted text]. We will continue to work with DOC and MBIE as the commercial and concessions processes around Whakapapa ski area move forward.

Out of scope

[Redacted text block]