

Defence House
34 Bowen Street
Wellington, New Zealand

P +64 (04) 496 0999
E info@defence.govt.nz

PO Box 12703
Molesworth Street
Wellington 6144, New Zealand

www.defence.govt.nz



**MANATŪ KAUPAPA
WAONGA**
NEW ZEALAND
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

29 October 2024

RC

fyi-request-28941-52556449@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear RC

TRANSFER OF YOUR OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

Thank you for your email of 27 October 2024, in which you requested, pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following:

- 1) How extensive is New Zealand's hydrophone monitoring system?*
- 2) Is the data recorded, especially historical data stretching back to the implementation of these systems?*
- 3) Has the Navy or the MOD conducted any assessments as to the feasibility of publishing this data or making it available to vetted researchers within New Zealand?*
- 4) What is the MOD's position on making this data public or accessible to researchers?*

The Ministry of Defence (the Ministry) and the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) operate as separate entities. As the lead civilian advisor on defence, the Ministry is responsible for the development of defence policy, international defence engagements, and the procurement of major capability.

The information you have requested is more closely connected with the work of the NZDF. Accordingly, I am transferring your request to that agency in accordance with section 14(b)(i) of the Act.

Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to request the Ombudsman to investigate and review this transfer.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian MacGregor'.

Adrian MacGregor
Managing Principal, Ministerial and Executive Services

cc: Ministerial Services, NZDF
ministerialservices@nzdf.mil.nz