

OIA24-0820

13 November 2024

Craig Innes
fyi-request-29062-3540b486@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Craig Innes

Thank you for your email of 5 November 2024 requesting information relating to the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS). Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested the following:

Please supply the GIS data for all registered Emissions Trading Scheme forests within the Greater Wellington Regional Council region.

Unfortunately, due to specific obligations to maintain confidentiality set out under section 99 of the Climate Change Response Act 2002 (CCRA), Te Uru Rākau - New Zealand Forest Service is not able to provide any maps showing areas currently or previously registered in the ETS.

Section 99(2)(a) of the CCRA states:

A person to whom this section applies must keep confidential all information that comes into the person's knowledge when performing any function or exercising any power under this Part and Part 5.

Te Uru Rākau - New Zealand Forest Service considers that providing the location of these forests is covered by section 99 of the CCRA. As a result of this, your request for this information is refused under section 18(c)(i) of the OIA, *as the making available of the information requested would be contrary to the provisions of a specified enactment.*

The Ministry for Primary Industries is satisfied that in the circumstances of this case, the withholding of the information is not outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable in the public interest to make the information available.

However, we are able to provide the below link which provides a guide to the imagery resources used by Te Uru Rākau - New Zealand Forest Service in GIS assessments:
<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/27999/direct>

We are also providing the link below to a publicly available land use mapping database, the Land Use Carbon Analysis System (LUCAS) Land Use Map 2020. This database was established by the Ministry for the Environment and Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research and includes indicative post-1989 and pre-1990 forest land:
<https://data.mfe.govt.nz/layer/117733-lucas-nz-land-use-map-2020-v003/>

Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise these with the Ministry for Primary Industries at Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143 or at info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amber Bill', written in a cursive style.

Amber Bill
Director Forestry ETS Operations