

20 March 2017

S L Curtis

Sent by email to: [fyi-request-5531-fc4b9caf@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-5531-fc4b9caf@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Sir or Madam

Your official information request dated 13 March to Auckland Council was formally transferred by Auckland Council on 14 March.

Not all of the information you seek is held by Watercare and you will need to obtain that information from Auckland Council, as explained.

1. You say "Watercare has a large area of Hunua Ranges in its ownership".

This is incorrect. None of the land in the Hunua Ranges that has been logged, or is intended to be logged, is owned by Watercare.

The land is owned by Auckland Council as successor to the Auckland Regional Council (ARC) which in turn succeeded the Auckland Regional Authority (ARA) which in turn succeeded the former Auckland City Council.

The Auckland City Council commenced planting exotics in the catchments in 1961. The catchments for the water supply reservoirs known as Cosseys, Wairoa and Mangatangi contain a mix of native forest and plantation forest. For the sake of completeness the catchment of the Mangatangi water supply reservoir only contains natives.

2. You seek information of the land allowed to be logged for each of the last five years.

The land upon which logging has occurred for the past five years is owned by Auckland Council and has been logged by a private company which in 1997 was given a forestry right for a term of 95 years from the Auckland Council Regional Services Trust (the licensor).

Auckland Council now stands in the place of the original licensor and receives the income from the grant of rights.

You should request the information on past logging from the Auckland Council.

3. You have requested the area and locations that are intended to be logged or have logging contracts set for future years.

For some years Watercare has been concerned about the effects of activities associated with plantation forestry on the Cosseys, Wairoa and Mangatawhiri water supply reservoirs, the concerns relate to increased sediment run off which increases turbidity in the water and increased nutrient run-off.

Watercare had no contractual relationship with the private company undertaking the logging and was reliant on Auckland Council to enforce the provisions of the forestry rights. That proved unsatisfactory and in February 2017 Watercare acquired the private company which meant that Watercare now holds the forestry right from the Auckland Council.

There will be some further logging within the area of the forestry right but none will be undertaken in the catchments of the Cosseys, Wairoa and Mangatwhiri water supply reservoirs.

Instead Watercare will be reforesting the land within those catchments by the planting of natives with seed stock drawn from the area.

Yours sincerely,



Rob Fisher

**Company Secretary**