

14 SEP 2017



OIA17-0500

J Cone
Care of FYI website

Dear J Cone

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

I refer to your official information request on 18 August 2017 relating to *a copy of the oldest plan known to MPI for responding to a biosecurity incursion by "sudden oak death" and/or Phytophthora ramorum.*

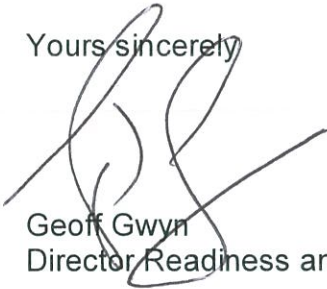
The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) has previously managed biosecurity responses using the Biosecurity Response Knowledge Base (BRKB) system and now manages them using the Single and Scalable Response Model (SSRM, March 2015), which has elements of the BRKB incorporated in it. These response models maintain a generic formula in order to bring the capabilities and resources together to manage an individual response. The specifics around the nature of each response are inputted into the model and developed as part of the response process.

MPI has a wide range of capabilities for dealing with diseases such as this including well prepared diagnostic and identification protocols and access to experienced field and investigative staff from within MPI and the National Biosecurity Capability Network.

There are hundreds, if not thousands of organisms overseas that pose significant threats to New Zealand and it is not feasible to have specific response plans for all such threats hence the need for an adaptable and scalable response system as described above. While MPI does not have a specific plan for *Phytophthora ramorum*, any incursion would be managed via the SSRM system.

Under the Government Industry Agreement for Biosecurity Readiness and Response (GIA) specific preparedness plans may be prepared for pests of significance to signatory industries and several have been signed. In the future it is anticipated that more plans will be developed under the GIA.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Geoff Gwyn', written over the printed name.

Geoff Gwyn
Director Readiness and Response Services