



Our ref: 18-E-0142
File ref: DOC-5472548

10 May 2018

Wendy Pond
fyi-request-7576-90f6f9a4@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Wendy

OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your email to the Department of Conservation, dated 8 April 2018.

You requested the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

“a complete record for the distribution of 1080 poison baits brought into the Coromandel peninsula in 2017. Please state what locations and organisations received 1080 poison baits, on what dates, and what quantity of baits was used on each occasion”

In your email you noted that our previous responses to you (8 February 2018 and 13 March 2018) left some bait unaccounted for. In this context you asked whether this bait was “returned or buried”. Your email also asked:

“Is the use of 1080 poison in our communities and in our environments a secret project?”

Before responding to your request, I would like to provide you with the attached NZ Hazardous Substances Dangerous Goods Declaration which shows the shipping of 2400kg of bait from Thames to Stoney Bay. This Declaration was part of the tracking sheet provided to you in our responses of 8 February 2018 and 13 March 2018. Unfortunately, the Declaration was accidentally omitted from the response, which is why I am providing it to you now. My apologies for the oversight.

Please note that some information is withheld from the attached Declaration. Doing so is necessary in order to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of employees from improper pressure or harassment. This decision is made under section 9(2)(g)(ii) of the Act.

You are entitled to seek an investigation and review of this decision by writing to an Ombudsman as provided by section 28(3) of the Act.

In response to the first part of your request I am providing you with a summary of the distribution of bait brought into the Coromandel Peninsula in 2017. This information is collated using the tracking sheets already provided to you. I trust providing you with this summary helps you form a more complete picture of quantities of bait, where it was stored, where it was distributed to, and where it was used. As such, I am able to advise that any remaining bait was destroyed. No bait was returned or buried.

Papakai Operation:

9 June 2017	23700kg delivered to 2/20 Joan Gaskill Dr, Whitianga
17 October 2017	22800kg aerial applied to the Papakai block
	900kg remained at 2/20 Joan Gaskill Dr, Whitianga
29 October 2017	300kg supplied to community group for ground based operation
21 February 2018	600kg sent for destruction. (You were advised of this in a telephone conversation with Penny Loomb on 19 March 2018. An updated tracking sheet showing this was sent to you on 11 April 2018.)

Otahu and Moehau Operations:

13 June 2017	25500kg delivered to the Thames store
19 October 2017	14100kg taken from the Thames store for the Otahu operation
19 October 2017	9000kg taken from the Thames store to the Stoney Bay store. (8400kg of this was applied and 600kg kept at the Stoney Bay store for later use) for the Moehau operation.
20 November 2017	2400kg taken from the Thames store to the Stoney Bay store
21 November 2017	3000kg stored at the Stoney Bay store applied to Mt Moehau.

As the above summary shows, there is no remaining bait in the Coromandel Peninsula from the total 49200kg delivered in 2017.

In response to the final part of your request I am able to advise that the use of 1080 bait is not a secret project. The Department provides information on the use of bait on its website. The following links may assist.

<https://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/battle-for-our-birds/>

<https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/things-to-do/hunting/pesticides/>

In part to meet the requirements of the Medical Officer of Health, we undergo extensive notification of adjoining landowners and people or organisations that are directly affected. The public are informed via adds placed in local newspapers. These were in the Hauraki Herald on the 28 April 2017, The Informer on the 3 May 2017 and again in the Informer and again on the 30 August 2017.

Yours sincerely



David Speirs
Director, Operations
Hauraki Waikato Taranaki Region