

Hon Eugenie Sage

Minister of Conservation
Minister for Land Information
Associate Minister for the Environment

Minita mō Te Papa Atawhai
Minita mō Toitū Te Whenua
Minita Tuarua mō Te Taiao



13 NOV 2018

Angus Borrell

fyi-request-8732-011a6b36@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Angus

Thank you for your Official Information Act request to the Minister of Conservation, dated 11 October 2018. On 9 November 2018 I extended your request to 16 November 2018 due to the large quantity of information sought. Your question regarding the tahr cull and my response, is listed below:

'all correspondence between the Minister of Conservation, Eugenie Sage and Department of Conservation to do with Tahr Culling since Eugenie became minister.'

The documents listed below fall within the scope of your request and can be found at the following link <https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/about-doc/oia/2018/tahr-control-oia-responses.pdf>

I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed, subject to information being withheld under one or more of the following sections of the Official Information Act, as applicable:

- personal contact details of officials, under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people,
- commercially sensitive information, under section 9(2)(b)(ii) – to protect the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or who is the subject of the information,
- advice still under consideration, section 9(2)(f)(iv) – to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials,
- advice subject to legal privilege, under section 9(2)(h) - to maintain legal professional privilege,

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Official Information Act.

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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'E M Sage'.

Hon. Eugenie Sage
Minister of Conservation

Document schedule

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	3 November 2017	Departmental Memo – Tahr Control Report	Released in part (Names and Legal advice withheld)
2	10 November 2017	Departmental Memo – Response to Follow up Questions – Tahr Control Report	Released in part (Names and Legal advice withheld)
3	8 June 2018	Departmental Memo – Follow-up Meeting with NZDA, on 11 June 2018	Released in part (Names and Legal advice withheld)
4	27 September 2018	Departmental Memo – Tahr Liaison Group Meeting – Monday 1 October 2018	Released in part (Names and Legal advice withheld) Attachment 2 – Brief Biographies – withheld under 9(2)(g)(ii)
5	1 October 2018	Meeting Notes from Tahr Liaison Group – 1 October 2018: draft for TLG representatives to review/confirm	Released in part (Names and Legal advice withheld)
6	13 July 2018	Departmental Memo – Wild Animal Control (including tahr) and Pastoral Leases	Released in part (Names and Legal advice withheld)
7	2 July 2018 – 24 September 2018	Status Report items relating to the Tahr control	Released in part (Names and Legal advice withheld)
8	9 May 2018 - 18 September 2018	Emails of Correspondence between Minister of Conservation and Department of Conservation	Released in part (Names and Legal advice withheld)