

# 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



14 NOV 2018

**Luke Duncan**

[fyi-request-8736-1c4fob6d@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-8736-1c4fob6d@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Luke

Thank you for your Official Information Act request to the Minister of Conservation, dated 11 October 2018. On 11 October 2018 I extended the deadline for your request to 16 November 2018 due to the large quantity of information sought.

Your request regarding the tahr control operation and my response, is provided below:

*'I request that you provide correspondence between Eugenie Sage and the department of conservation*

*I am hoping to identify the person who is responsible for breaching the trust of public land users who are dependent on the tahr resource for either commerce or recreational use.'*

The documents listed in the attached document schedule 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, appearing to read "E M Sage". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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)