

13 January 2023

Wendy Pond  
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Tēnā koe Wendy

## Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your requests for information of 18 September 2021 and 16 October 2021 for information relating to the 2021 Moehau 1080 operation application which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). We apologise for the length of time that it has taken to get this information to you. It has required a considerable amount of time to collate and review the information.

Our response to these two requests is below:

- 1. Has the Board received an application during 2021 requesting permission for use of 1080 for the Moehau public conservation lands?**

The Board did receive an application during 2021.

- 2. Please provide a full copy of the application for permission. Please include**
  - a. The full communication logs and correspondence concerning consultation**

The following documents covered by your request are attached:

- Application for a health permission (and associated documents) by EcoFx for the Moehau Possum and Rat Control Operation, dated 27/5/21
- Updated application for a health permission (and associated documents) by EcoFx for the Moehau Possum and Rat Control Operation, dated 13/10/21
- Communications plan
- List of iwi consulted.
- Relevant emails

- b. Statements by the applicant explaining why they have not complied with the Communications guideline for aerial 1080 operations.**

Te Whatu Ora Waikato, does not hold documentation of a statement by the applicant explaining why the Communications guideline for aerial 1080 operations has not been complied with therefore this part of the request is refused pursuant to section 18(g) of the Official Information Act 1982 because the information requested is not held by Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand Waikato and we have no grounds for believing the information is held by another department.

The applicant has made a statement explaining why they have not consulted on the options for pest control. This is included on page 1 of the attached document "19\_07\_2021 MOE21 Moehau 2021 Communication Plan - DOC-6507603\_Intro".

**3. Correspondence between WDHB and DoC concerning the application and the operation**

The relevant emails are attached.

**4. Correspondence received from the public concerning the application and the operation**

The relevant emails are attached.

**5. Please explain the statement, WDHB cannot refuse permission.**

A public health HSNO officer for WDHB (now Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand, Waikato) can decline to grant a permission for a 1080 operation.

You will note that on the attachments some of the information you have requested has been withheld under:

- section 18(a), and 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982, which enables information to be withheld if this is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons and this is not outweighed by any public interest in its release.
- Sections 18(a) and 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Official Information Act 1982, which enables information to be withheld if its release would be likely to unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of a person who supplied or is the subject of the information and this is not outweighed by any public interest in its release.
- Sections 18(a) and 9(2)(ba)(i) of the Official Information Act 1982, which enables information to be withheld if it is subject to an obligation of confidence or a person was legally compelled to provide the information, and release would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that the information should continue to be supplied, and this is not outweighed by any public interest in its release.
- Sections 18(a) and 9(2)(g)(ii) of the Official Information Act 1982, which enables information to be withheld if this is necessary to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of officials from improper pressure or harassment, and this is not outweighed by any public interest in its release.
- Section 6(d) of the Official Information Act 1982, which enables information to be withheld if its release would be likely to endanger the safety of any person.

**How to get in contact**

If you have any questions, you can contact us at [HealthProtection@waikatodhb.health.nz](mailto:HealthProtection@waikatodhb.health.nz)

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phoning 0800 802 602.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, Health NZ has decided to proactively release a copy of this response on Health NZ's website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available [here](#).

Nāku iti noa, nā



**Mark Waitai**

Waikato Maniapoto, Hauraki  
Ngaati Apa, Te iwi Morehu  
Ngaati Kurii, Te Aupouri

**Director of Tikanga | Acting Executive Director MEHI Directorate  
Waiora Waikato**