



OIA -18-E-0063

5 March 2018

Chris Hicks

[fyi-request-7240-3dd300e4@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-7240-3dd300e4@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Chris

Thank you for your Official Information Act request to the Department of Conservation, dated 9 February 2018. You requested information about the kiwi project at Pukaha Forest.

Below is the information you requested:

*Please confirm how many Kiwi have been bought in or bred at Pukaha and released into the Pukaha Forest or held in captivity since 2003.*

Kiwi bred at Pukaha

YEAR	KIWI RELEASED	YEAR	KIWI RELEASED
2017	7	2009	3
2016	3	2008	3
2015	7	2007	1
2014	9	2006	0
2013	19	2005	2
2012	11	2004	0
2011	15	2003	0
2010	0		

Kiwi translocated from other sites and released at Pukaha

YEAR	KIWI INTRODUCED
2010	30
2009	3
2007	1
2006	2
2004	1
2003	3

*Please confirm the current Kiwi numbers at Pukaha inside the Kiwi House, in fenced enclosures and in the Pukaha Forest.*

- There are two kiwi housed in the kiwi house, six kiwi in fenced enclosures and 12 radio-tagged kiwi in Pukaha Forest. This is not the total amount of kiwi in the forest, as not all kiwi are radio-tagged. A selection of kiwi are radio-tagged to monitor trends in success of the wider population at Pukaha Forest.

*Please explain why juvenile Kiwi are still released into Pukaha Forest when so many Kiwi have died!*

- There have been successes and set-backs with kiwi in Pukaha Forest. It is important to note there were no kiwi deaths in Pukaha Forest in 2017. Predator control methods have been constantly reviewed and refined during the project and new trapping technologies have been introduced to control the predators that threaten kiwi. There is strong support from the community and neighbours to have kiwi in Pukaha Forest and adjoining properties. The community donate their money and time to support this project. It is the combination of strong community support and improving control methods that sees this project continuing.

*How much money has been spent on the restoration project by Department of Conservation, the Pukaha Board, Wellington Regional Council & Horizons Regional Council since 2001?*

- We can only provide figures for the Department of Conservation and the Pukaha Board back to 2011. Regional councils do predator control on private land surrounding Pukaha Forest. The department does not hold information on money spent by regional councils on private land.

1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016	Pukaha Board \$232,874	DOC \$26,650
1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015	Pukaha Board \$140,000	DOC \$26,650
1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014	Pukaha Board \$140,000	DOC \$26,650
1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013	Pukaha Board \$140,000	DOC \$26,650
1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012	Pukaha Board \$140,000	DOC \$26,650

Please let me know who I should request an official investigation into the Kiwi deaths at Pukaha.

- You could request an official investigation into kiwi deaths at Pukaha Forest from the Director Operations Lower North Island, Reg Kemper.

If you wish to discuss this with the Department, please contact Jim Flack on 027 568 9246 or by email [jflack@doc.govt.nz](mailto:jflack@doc.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely,



Jay Eden  
Acting Director Operations Lower North Island  
Department of Conservation