



OIA 18-E-0751
DOC-5594630

19 October 2018

Jacinta Peryer
Email: fyi-request-8775-6b42688b@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Jacinta,

Thank you for your Official Information Act request to the Department of Conservation, dated 27 September 2018. You requested the following:

1. *What were the results of the water testing done at Hunua Ranges after the latest 1080 drop?*
2. *Do you guys test for by products of fluorocitrate and flouroacetyl in the water or just solely sodium fluoroacetate?*

By way of context for my response, it is important to note that the recent Hunua 1080 operation was led by Auckland Council. The Council manages 85 percent of the land in the operation area as regional parkland. The Council has led planning for the operation, with support from the department, and therefore holds more information about the operation. Information on the operation can be found on the Council's website at this link:

<https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/environment/what-we-do-to-help-environment/our-biodiversity-projects/Pages/hunua-project-1080-pest-management.aspx>

Additional information regarding the use of 1080 for pest control can be found on the department's website at this link:

[https://www.doc.govt.nz/nature/pests-and-threats/methods-of-control/1080/.](https://www.doc.govt.nz/nature/pests-and-threats/methods-of-control/1080/)

Your questions, and our responses, are listed below:

1. *What were the results of the water testing done at Hunua Ranges after the latest 1080 drop?*

Water testing was undertaken by Watercare Services Ltd., a Council-controlled organisation which is part of the Auckland Council family. Information about the water testing related to the Hunua 1080 operation can be found on Watercare's website:

<https://www.watercare.co.nz/About-us/News-media/Pest-control-programme-in-the-Hunua-Ranges>

Auckland Council provided information to the Department about the water testing results. The following documents therefore fall within the scope of your request and are attached:

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	25 September 2018	Email from Auckland Council to DOC with water sampling results	Released in part.
2	24 September 2018	Watercare Certificate of Analysis Report # 286140-0	Released in part.
3	25 September 2018	Watercare Certificate of Analysis Report # 286392-0	Released in part.

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

- section 9(2)(g)(ii) – names of officials and other individuals to protect people from improper pressure or harassment.

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

2. Do you guys test for by products of fluorocitrate and flouroacetyl in the water or just solely sodium fluoroacetate?

As I noted above in my response to Question 1, in the case of the Hunua 1080 operation, water testing was undertaken by Watercare Services Ltd.

The Department does not itself undertake the testing of water and uses accredited laboratories for this purpose. As an example of what such laboratories do, information about the protocol followed by Landcare New Zealand's laboratory is available at his link:

<https://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/resources/laboratories/toxicology-laboratory/services/advice-and-protocols/protocol-for-sampling-and-testing-water-for-1080>

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

If you wish to discuss this with the Department, please contact Kirsty Prior, Operations Manager, Tāmaki Makaurau, on 027 540 3820 or by email kprior@doc.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Baucke', written in a cursive style.

Andrew Baucke
Director, Operations
Tāmaki Makaurau/Auckland