
From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 26 December 2014 11:04 a.m.
To: Kea Conservation Trust <[REDACTED]> [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]> [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]> [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] ([REDACTED] <[REDACTED]> [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Kea death at Nelson Lakes

Ceejay wasn't considered to be one of the birds that would be likely to be protected by the kea diversion area as she was nesting on MOR spur (west flank St Arnaud Range, but only about 2.5 km from the skifield as the crow flies) and she wasn't historically a 'junk food' bird. [REDACTED] and I discussed the possibility of taking up food close to her nest and the potential downsides (e.g. food going mouldy if we couldn't get back there to remove it) but in the end we didn't have enough time to do anything over and above the skifield road kea diversion project.

The kea diversion volunteers did tell us a few times that they got a signal on channel 30 (Ceejay's Tx) – however given that they were new to using telemetry equipment and that there was a skifield juvenile with channel 31 who was frequently hanging around close to the diversion area, I couldn't be sure whether it was actually Ceejay they were picking up or whether they were just getting 31's signal a channel lower because it was so close. Once we've had the chance to finish entering the kea diversion data into the spreadsheet it would be interesting to see how it compares with [REDACTED] nest camera data to see if Ceejay was at the nest or not at the times when a signal on 30 was recorded at the diversion area.

Her mate was not fitted with a Tx or banded (correct me if I'm wrong [REDACTED]) so we don't know if

he visited the diversion area.

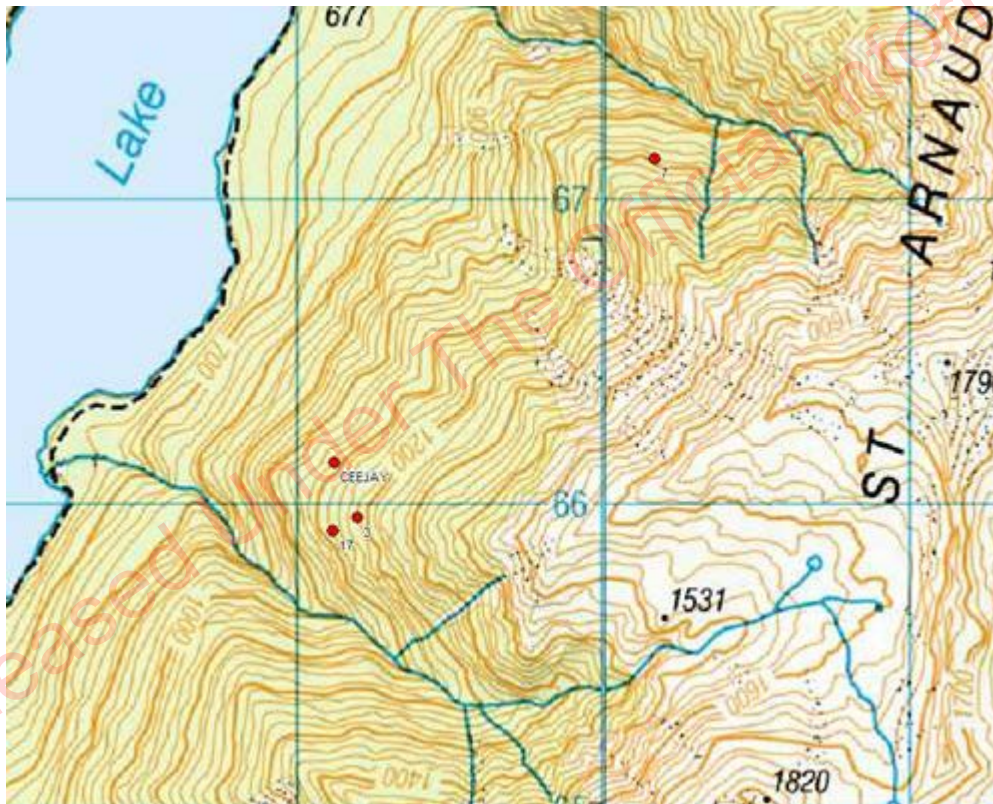
The diagnostics off Ceejay's Tx indicate that it went into mortality 2 days after the operation – I was mistakenly under the impression that we had got a live signal from her later on than that, but it must have happened not long after [REDACTED] first post-1080 kea round-up in which he got live signals off all the birds except 76 which we got the following day and on subsequent days after that.

The diversion area was closed down on 15 December, 12 days after the operation and we had had a reasonable amount of rain by then.

The map below shows where we found her (point "Ceejay") relative to the three nest sites I have in my nest site GPS file, but I think her latest nest was in a new cavity in the vicinity of point "7" in the map below – [REDACTED] will have the co-ordinates.

Have a great Christmas break yourselves and talk to you next year!

[REDACTED]



From: Kea Conservation Trust [mailto:[REDACTED]]

Sent: Wednesday, 24 December 2014 7:25 p.m.

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Kea death at Nelson Lakes

Hi All,

Really sorry to hear about Ceejay – she must be one of the most well-known female kea in the Nelson lakes area and will be sorely missed by all of us who have worked with her over the years – [REDACTED] no doubt the most. Out of interest had she or her mate visited the supplementary feeding

area at anytime? Also when was the feeding area closed down? Just trying to get some indication of why she would have picked up baits (assuming this is what killed her) – also re the coordinates you have given, how far away is this location from her nest?

All the best in the meantime for Xmas and new year – talk again in the New Year

Many thanks for all of your work and support over the past year,

Best wishes

██████████

From: ██████████ [mailto:██████████]

Sent: Tuesday, 23 December 2014 3:31 p.m.

To: ██████████ Kea Conservation Trust; ██████████

Cc: ██████████

Subject: Kea death at Nelson Lakes

Hi,

Just letting you know that sadly one of our monitored kea has died.

I got a mortality signal from Ceejay (the female with chicks near MOR spur within the 1080 treatment area) on Friday but no-one could go to search for her then, ██████████ had a go during the weekend but had no luck due to bouncing signals, then today ██████████ and I went up and found her body at E1587112, N5366144 (on MOR spur).

Since Massey is closing for Christmas I'll have to freeze the body for now, I will send it off for analysis first thing next year and let you know the results.

██████████ said that the camera footage collected by ██████████ showed the male still feeding her chicks so hopefully they still make it to adulthood.

Cheers,

██████████
Biodiversity Ranger - *Kaitiaki Kanorau Koiora*

Rotoiti/Nelson Lakes Office

Department of Conservation - *Te Papa Atawhai*

VPN: 5122 DDI: (03) ██████████

Conservation for prosperity *Tiakina te taiao, kia puawai*

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