

19 February 2021

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Tēnā koe ██████████

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 request to the Department of Conservation/*Te Papa Atawhai* (DOC), received on 18 December 2020 in which you asked for:

“Can DoC please release all advice and information provided to LINZ about the Riversdale reserve at Mt White Station, a Crown pastoral lease. The time period of my request is the 2020 calendar year. This issue is in the public interest, considering the Commissioner for Crown Lands’ letter to the lessee saying the Riversdale will be excluded from the lease, and the fact this block was gazetted for inclusion in a national park in 1901.”

On 27 January 2021 we extended your request to 19 February 2021 due to the consultation necessary to complete the request.

I have decided to release the attached information to you, as noted in the table below. The material being released relates to the expiry of the lease.

DOC responses to LINZ contractors regarding applications for discretionary consents under Mt White Station’s pastoral lease were not considered to be in scope of this request.

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	23 November 2020	Mt White lease renewal plus attachments	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 1982, as applicable:

- personal contact details of officials, under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people.



Other information that is being withheld under the following section of the Official Information Act:

- advice subject to legal privilege, under section 9(2)(h) - to maintain legal professional privilege,
- confidential information, under section 9(2)(j) – to enable the Crown to negotiate without disadvantage or prejudice.

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.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and enclosed documents may be published on the Department's website.

If you wish to discuss this with the Department, please contact Janine Sidery, Statutory Manager Eastern South Island on [REDACTED] or by email jsidery@doc.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nicola Toki'.

Nicola Toki
Director Operations *Kaihautū, Matarautaki* Eastern South Island
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai