

21 April 2023

[Redacted]

Tēnā koe [Redacted]

Thank you for your Official Information Act request to the Department of Conservation, received on 25 March 2023. You have asked:

“Has the Department of Conservation done a private deal with Ngāi Tahu for exclusive rights to Ngāi Tahu for all apiary operators on DOC land at the forfeiture of non-Māori apiarists?”

In response to your question Ngāi Tahu do not have exclusive rights for commercial beehive sites on Public Conservation Land (‘PCL’).

Anyone seeking to operate a commercial beekeeping venture on PCL requires a concession. Concessions are issued by the Minister of Conservation (or the Minister’s delegate) under the Conservation Act 1987 (‘the Act’).

We assess concession applications against the statutory criteria of Part 3B of the Act. If the statutory requirements are met, a concession can be issued.

You can find more information about the process to apply for a beehive concession on our website: <https://www.doc.govt.nz/beekeeping>.

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

[Redacted]

Nāku noa, nā

[Redacted]

Steve Taylor
Director, Regulatory Services
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai