

15th Dec 2018

Lynette Trewavas
Permissions Advisor
Department Of Conservation

Dear Lynette,

Thank you for your email of 7th Dec 2018. Please find responses to your request for further information below.

Volunteer use of the cottage

Public booking of the cottage will take priority over volunteer use, particularly during the peak summer period from Christmas to mid-February. If a public booking had been made and a volunteer requested use of the cottage for the same period the volunteer would be denied in favour of the public booking.

International volunteers depend on several factors such as exchange rates and the impact of global financial markets, typically the global volunteers come from three sources, one in Germany, one in the Netherlands and one NZ based company. From time to time we will get requests directly from individuals and we will review our resources and a suitable work programme to determine whether or not we will recruit them. Typically the volunteer use of the cottage is outside the peak summer period as our own team are taking leave and busy with other projects, this fits with the period where public use of the cottage is reduced.

Financial information

A spreadsheet is attached detailing the financial information for the cottage for the last 3 years.

As indicated we would like to put the proceeds from Knox Cottage towards our stoat trapping project. We currently have a mix of volunteer trapping and paid trapping to service the traps monthly, currently the annual cost of the labour alone is \$46,000, maintenance of the tracks and traps is in addition to this. We have funding from Kiwis for Kiwi totalling \$32,216 annually leaving a shortfall of \$13,784. The average income received from Knox Cottage almost closes this gap for us.

The spreadsheet attached also has information on the traplines we have that cross DOC land and the annual cost of servicing these traps. The total cost comes to \$13,761.60, the income we get from Knox Cottage doesn't quite cover the cost of these traplines but it is close. Also, the trapping work MEG does on private land in this region acts as a buffer zone to aid DOC's predator control work on Mt Moehau and public conservation land and help prevent

reinvansion. We see ourselves as working in tandem with DOC to achieve conservation goals up here.

Hopefully this answers your questions, please give me a call to discuss this if you would like further clarification.

Yours Sincerely

Paul Johnson

Operations Manager

