

DOC Kauri Coast
150 Colville Road
RD 7, Dargaville, 0377
doc.govt.nz

Ref: OIAD-5053

22 April 2025

Tēnā koe

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation (DOC), received on 24 March 2025, in which you asked for:

Copies of the reports authored by Michael Taylor and Annetta Sutton, including but not limited to:

- *Waipoua Archaeological Project Stages II and III: Management and Research Undertaken 1985–87 (1988)*

Any associated field notes, draft reports, internal correspondence, or supporting materials generated during or after these investigations.

Documentation concerning the 75-year embargo initially placed on these records, including any communications regarding its imposition and subsequent lifting.

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA). Please note that many of these documents are also publicly available via Archives New Zealand. Rather than decline your request under Section 18(d) of the OIA, we have opted to provide you with electronic copies, in good faith.

Please see the appended document schedule. I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed, subject to information being withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people. In making this decision, I have considered section 9(1) of the OIA and determined that there are no public interests that outweigh the grounds for withholding.

Item 7 of the attached documents lists a number of files held within the Kauri Coast Office. Most of these are either out of scope/administrative in nature or are duplicated elsewhere. However, in doing due diligence of checking each of these individual files, my staff have discovered a large amount (four large boxes) of background information, very close to the deadline of your request. Staff are also unsure how much of this information is relevant or useful to you. I have included a photograph of the information in question for your reference (Item 8). If you wish to

view this information in person at our Dargaville office, you are welcome to make an appointment by contacting Shelley Paniora, Senior Ranger Community, on [REDACTED] or at spaniora@doc.govt.nz. Please be aware that there will be conditions associated with inspecting the documents on site, as well as the possibility of charging for copies should you want copies made.

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 OIA.

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

Nāku noa, nā

Sue Reed-Thomas
Regional Operations Director, Northern North Island
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Document schedule

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	Oct 1985	Waipoua State Forest 13 Archaeological Project Stage 1 Report	Released in full
2	Oct 1986	Report on the Proposed Historic and Traditional (archaeological) reserve in Waipoua State Forest 13	Released in full
3	Aug 1987	Future directions for the Waipoua Archaeological Project in the Dept of Conservation	Released in full
4	Feb 1988	Waipoua Archaeological Project Stages II and III Management and Research undertaken during 1985-87	Released in full
5	3 Feb 2012	File Note: Embargoed archaeological records from Waipoua Forest	Released in full
6	Mar 2012	Archaeological evidence in Waipoua	Released in part
7	13 Feb 2012	Internal correspondence – FW: OIA Request access to archived documents relating to Waipoua Forest	Released in part
8	April 2025	Photograph of hard copy documents	Documents may be viewed by appointment in Dargaville office