

12 February 2025



Tēnā koe

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation (the Department), received on 29 January 2025, in which you asked for:

“Mean, minimum and maximum times for completion of first complete assessment for the following permit application types in 2023 and 2024:

- *Scientific research in a marine reserve*
- *Wildlife Act Authority (General form 9) and*
- *Research and Collection Authorisation (form 10)*
- *A breakdown of these statistics by region if possible/applicable.”*

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

We have extracted the data on application times from information held by the Department in the Permissions Database in the following table.

Table 1. Times for completion of assessment for marine, research and wildlife permits

Permission Category	Calendar Year	Working days		
		Mean	Minimum	Maximum
Marine	2023	75	32	106
<i>Scientific research in a marine reserve</i>	2024	134	134	134
Research and Collection	2023	174	25	370
<i>Wildlife Act Authority (General form 9)</i>	2024	111	24	195
Wildlife Permits	2023	110	2	461
<i>Research and Collection Authorisation (form 10)</i>	2024	42	1	263

Notes on the data:

- Numbers are based on applications received in calendar years 2023 and 2024.
- Date calculations are in working days, from the date of receipt of the complete application to the decision date.
- Applications which have not yet reached decision are excluded.

I regret that I am not able to provide you with a breakdown of these statistics by region (your bullet point 4) as an accurate dataset for this information does not exist. Therefore, I must refuse this aspect of your request in accordance with section 18(e) of the 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 Act.

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

If you would like to discuss this response with us, please contact J Brunson, Senior Advisor National Transactions, by email at jbrunson@doc.govt.nz. J would be happy to talk with you about issues with aggregating data by location in the permissions database.

Nāku noa, nā



Anita Murrell
Principal Advisor, Regulatory Authorisations
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai