

16 January 2025

[REDACTED]

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Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation, received on 11 December 2024, in which you asked for:

*... background information for my own research, relating to DOC's decision enabling the translocation of Ponui kiwi to Waiheke. You will recall the hybrid nature of this population in the past presented some complications in terms of wider conservation management of this species - and its management taxons...*

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

On 12 December 2024 you clarified your request during a phone conversation with Kat Lane that you are seeking a copy of technical advice provided by the Kiwi Recovery Group on the suitability of kiwi on Ponui as a source population for translocation onto Waiheke.

By way of context, Save the Kiwi, Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki and the Ngāti Pāoa Iwi Trust have submitted a joint translocation application to the Department to introduce kiwi to the Te Matuku area of Waiheke Island. The application sought to transfer kiwi from Ponui to Waiheke. We are working through this and other alternative source populations, which may include the Coromandel brown kiwi.

The Department will continue to work with all parties involved to identify a suitable source population. A final decision on the translocation application will also take into account the suitability of Waiheke to receive kiwi. The Department is aware that extensive predator control work is taking place on Waiheke, and that there is a robust dog control advocacy programme on the island being led by Save the Kiwi.

Since 2021 the Kiwi Recovery Group has provided advice on three occasions about the translocation of kiwi onto Waiheke Island, during which time their advice has evolved. I have decided to release all three memos to you so that you have full context.

The latest advice from the recovery group is contained in the memo dated 19 December 2024. The documents are listed below, and copies are attached.

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	4 August 2021	Kiwi Recovery Group Advice - kiwi to Waiheke Island	Released in full
2	22 December 2022	Kiwi Recovery Group Advice - kiwi to Waiheke Island	Released in part
3	19 December 2024	Kiwi Recovery Group Advice - kiwi to Waiheke Island	Released in part

I have decided to release the relevant parts of documents 2 and 3 listed above, subject to information being withheld under one or more of the following sections of the Official Information Act, as applicable:

- names of individuals who are not past or present employees of the Department, under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people.

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

If you would like to discuss this response with us, please contact Kat Lane, Auckland Inner Islands Operations Manager, by email [kalane@doc.govt.nz](mailto:kalane@doc.govt.nz).

Nāku noa, nā



Alex Rogers  
Director - Regional Operations  
Department of Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*