

Pewhairangi/Bay of Islands  
34 Landing Road  
Kerikeri  
0230

07 May 2025

doc.govt.nz

Ref: OIAD-5172

Tēnā koe

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation (DOC), received on 01 May 2025, in which you asked for information relating to an archaeological study conducted in Waipoua Forest during the 1980s, alleged to be embargoed, and specifically:

- *Please advise what this 'hidden' information refers to?*
- *Please advise why this information has NOT been released to the public.*
- *Is this 'information' relating to carbon dating?*
- *Does it show evidence of human occupation PRIOR to Maori?*
- *Please provide all reports/findings from the above archaeological investigation.*

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

Your request is refused under section 18(d) of the OIA as the information is publicly available.

You can access the Waipoua Forest reports online from the Joan Maingay Collection at the Whangarei Public library at [Northland Room Digital Collections](#). DOC has also proactively released a previous OIA response on this topic, titled *Waipoua Forest Archaeological Investigation Records (1985–1988) – Northland*, which can be accessed at [Official Information Act responses 2025](#).

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) 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*