

14 October 2025

Tēnā koe

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation (DOC), received on 18 September 2025, in which you asked for:

“a copy of the leasehold agreement between the Department of Conservation and Salmon Smolt NZ for the operation of the salmon hatchery at 430 Heywards Road, Clarkville, in the Waimakariri District of Canterbury, legal description RS 42293 BLKS II III CHCH SD - SO 16577 16578 16789 SO 16789 SILVERSTREAM FISH HATCHERY.”

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

Two documents fall in scope of your request.

The Concession for the lease of *Local Purpose Reserve – Fish Hatchery – The Croft* was originally granted in 2003 to the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Ltd (NIWA) which you will see in the first document.

The lease was then reassigned, as you will see outlined in the second document, to Salmon Smolt New Zealand Limited in 2008 who took on all *covenants, terms and conditions* of the original Concession.

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	20 November 2003	Original concession document.	Released in part
2	2 December 2008	Deed of Assignment from NIWA to Salmon Smolt New Zealand Limited.	Released in part

I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed above, subject to information being withheld under one or more of the following sections of the OIA, as applicable:

- personal information, under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the OIA and determined there are no public interests that outweigh the grounds for withholding.

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



Darryn Ratana
Director Regional Operations (Acting), Eastern South Island
Department of Conservation *Te Papa Atawhai*

Encls.