

30 October 2025

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation (DOC) received on 15 September 2025, in which you asked for:

*“copies of all active permits to cull or disturb game birds that DOC has issued in your [the Auckland] region. You mention the existing permit [100618-FAU] is dated, but presumably still active? I would also appreciate an outline of any consultation undertaken with Fish & Game as statutory managers of game birds, prior to the issuance of these permits.”*

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

On 10 October 2025, we extended the timeframe to respond to your request to 4 November 2025, due to consultations necessary to make a decision on the request.

The three parts of your request and our responses are listed below.

*copies of all active permits to cull or disturb game birds that DOC has issued in your [the Auckland] region.*

We have interpreted your request to be for all active Wildlife Act 1953 permits which feature gamebirds within the Auckland region. In scope material associated with this question is provided in the document schedule below. We have not included permits in scope which are issued to any Fish & Game Council within New Zealand, as this information has already been provided to your organisation. If you would like another copy of any of these permits, please let DOC know.

I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed in the document schedule, subject to personal information being withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA – 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 mention the existing permit [100618-FAU] is dated, but presumably still active?*

As advised on 18 September 2025, Permit 100618-FAU was issued to Auckland International Airport Ltd on 14 February 1990 and is currently active.

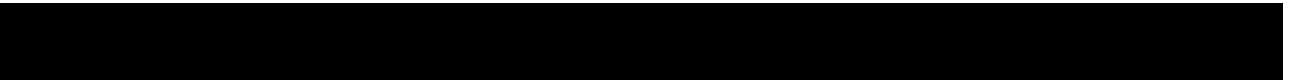
*I would also appreciate an outline of any consultation undertaken with Fish & Game as statutory managers of game birds, prior to the issuance of these permits.*

Of the identified permits outlined in the document schedule, records indicate that DOC has consulted with Fish & Game on 91215-FAU, 91575-FAU, and 91576-FAU. Additionally, I understand the concessionaire Auckland International Airport Limited consulted with Fish & Game regarding 97658-FAU.

Under the Wildlife Act 1953, there is no statutory requirement for DOC to conduct consultation with stakeholders or interested parties when assessing wildlife permit applications. Instead, the decision to consult is determined on a case-by-case basis, taking into account factors such as the species involved, the potential ecological and recreational impact, and any relevant statutory obligations.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phillippa Fox'.

Phillippa Fox  
Director Regulatory Authorisations  
Department of Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*

### Document schedule

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	14 February 1990	100618-FAU Auckland International Airport Ltd - Wildlife causing damage Permit	Released in part
2	24 February 1994	100618-FAU Amendment to Authority to Disturb and Kill Protected Birds at Auckland Airport	Released in part
3	23 June 2016	48405-FAU Individual Authority – DOC-2732950	Released in part
4	12 January 2018	63550-FAU Individual Authority – DOC-5390801	Released in part
5	26 July 2018	67991-FAU Contract – Aerodrome IT Systems Limited Authority - DOC-5549564	Released in part
6	29 August 2019	78062-FAU Individual Authority – DOC-6034457	Released in part
7	19 April 2021	91215-FAU Individual Authority – DOC-6514273	Released in part
8	27 April 2021	91575-FAU Individual Authority – DOC-6632545	Released in part
9	27 April 2021	91576-FAU Individual Authority – DOC-6632545	Released in part
10	22 September 2021	94808-FAU Royal Auckland and Grange Gold Club Incorporated Authority	Released in part
11	23 June 2022	97658-FAU Auckland Airport Black Swan Tracking Authority	Released in part
12	7 June 2023	102034-FAU Individual Authority – DOC-7283638	Released in part
13	23 December 2024	118288-FAU New Zealand Defence Force Authority – DOC-7845590	Released in part
14	8 August 2025	119909-FAU Auckland Museum Trust Board and University of Auckland Authority	Released in part