



18 September 2025

Conservation House
18 Manners Street
Wellington 6011
doc.govt.nz

Ref: OIAD-5591

Tēnā koe 

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation (DOC), received on 22 August 2025, in which you asked for:

A copy of WARO operator submitted Kill/Capture/etc digital data for the most recent year where you have full data from all operators for:

The data is referred to on <https://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/apply-for-permits/business-or-activity/national-wild-animal-recovery-operations/national-warop-permit-renewal-process/>

and more specifically is described as:

"WARO operators are required to send the Department information about their recovery operations. This will provide greater visibility of wild animal removal and compliance, better understand of the biodiversity benefits and inform future conservation management decisions.

** Information collected includes where operators have flown, where they have shot or captured animals, how many, and of what species and sex."*

Data requested

Copies of database/s (or records if no database is available) of WARO Operator records of when and where animals were shot or killed - along with any number, species and sex recorded

Flight paths are not requested

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

Your questions and our responses are listed below:

1. *Copies of database/s (or records if no database is available) of WARO Operator records of when and where animals were shot or killed - along with any number, species and sex recorded.*

I regret that I am not able to provide you with all the information to the level of detail you seek. Only reporting of unattributable, summarised information on WARO numbers and trends can be made publicly available due to commercial sensitivity. This is outlined in the link you reference in your request at <https://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/apply-for-permits/business-or-activity/national-wild-animal-recovery-operations/national-warop-permit-renewal-process/>, and in the WARO Permission Decision Support Document September 2023 found at

<https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/about-doc/concessions-and-permits/waro/waro-permit-decisions-support-document-2023.pdf>.

The data which we are able to share, including number and sex of animals, as well as a map of generalised locations, has been summarised in the attached document for the 2024/2025 financial year, which is the most recent full year available. The only species reported as recovered during this period were deer, so no further species-level breakdown is provided.

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	1 September 2025	Response to OIA Request: OIAD-5591 – WARO Animal Kill for Financial year 2024-2025	Released in part

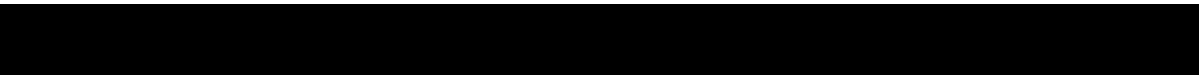
I have decided to release the documents listed above, subject to information being withheld under one or more of the following sections of the OIA, as applicable:

- attributable information, under section 9(2)(b)(ii) – to protect the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or who is the subject of the information,

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 document may be published on DOC's website.



Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ben Reddiex".

Ben Reddiex
Director National Programmes
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai