[redacted]

Conservation House
18-32 Manners Street

Te Aro, Wellington, 6011
doc.govt.nz

Ref: OIAD-9477

20 August 2026

Tēnā koe [redacted]

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation, received on 23 July 2026, in which you asked for:

> *in the following 2023 DOC report on kea (page 6)*
> *https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/science-and-technical/sfc339entire.pdf*
> *it states:*
> *"A total of 300 audio recorders were located across South Westland and activated five times per year for 5-min counts between 2010–2016, to measure responses in forest birds to sustained predator control. Again, no significant change in kea call rates was detected across the survey area over the seven-year study period (Graeme Elliott, DOC, pers. comm.)"*
>
> *Under the OIA, please provide the project proposal and operational plans and all reports of findings regarding all birds in this study. Please provide this in an electronic form attached to an email.*

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

Your questions and our responses are listed below:

> *Please provide the project proposal and operational plans and all reports of findings regarding all birds in this study.*

The project proposal was written 17 years ago, and despite reasonable efforts we have been only able to locate a draft version of this document. This is provided to you as Item 1.

There was no written operational plan, so I must therefore refuse this part of your request accordingly under section 18(e) of the OIA.

Reports and papers produced from the study are attached as Items 2-6. Analysis of bird count data from the project was put on hold at the end of the study but is now being analysed as part of a larger analysis of bird counts collected before and after 1080 operations. A final paper describing this work is expected within a year.

We acknowledge that other information may have existed on this matter at the time. However, as previously mentioned, no other information has been identified in our records.

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

Nāku noa, nā



Tim Bamford
Director Terrestrial Biodiversity
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	September 2009	Project Proposal – Costs and Benefits of Aerial 1080 for Forest Birds in South Westland	Released in full
2	March 2011	Progress report for Animal Health Board March 2011 - Progress report on 1080 and birds research	Released in full
3	September 2011	Progress report for Animal Health Board September 2011	Released in full
4	August 2015	Progress report August 2015- South Westland 1080 research outline	Released in full
5	September 2023	Journal article – the effect of aerially applied 1080 on the nesting success and survival of kākā	Publicly available – provided to you as PDF
6	December 2024	Journal article - Rifleman (Acanthisitta chloris sp.) population responses to aerial 1080	Publicly available – provided to you as a PDF