

11 March 2026

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation (DOC), received on 30 October 2025, in which you asked for:

*“..any information relating to the Tukituki Water Security project that has been received or prepared by the Department of Conservation or Minister of Conservation since 1 February 2025.”*

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

On 11 November 2025, in response to our request to refine and/or clarify your request, you advised:

*“.. We cannot think of a way to minimise the request so please progress the request as it stands. Thanks for checking. “*

On 26 November 2025, we extended the timeframe to respond to your request to 9 February 2026. This ensured the Department would be in a position to make a decision on, and prepare a proper response to, the request. Both collation and preparation of information within scope and consultation with relevant (third) parties were necessary.

On 9 February 2026, we advised our decision on your request, while noting the need for further time to prepare the response for release.

On 27 February 2026, we let you know that finalisation of the information within scope was taking longer than expected. We apologise for the delay and thank you for your patience.

Information found to be in scope of your request is listed (as Items 01 to 75) in the attached Document Schedule - with a link, provided in the covering email, to a shared OneDrive folder containing one bundle entitled **Appendix A**.

The period deemed applicable is 1 February 2025 to 30 October 2025.

I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents, listed as Items 01 to 53 and Items 55 to 75 in the attached Document schedule, subject to information being withheld due to

being out of scope and/or being 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,
- commercially sensitive 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,
- information provided in confidence, under section 9(2)(ba)(i) – to protect information where release would prejudice the ongoing supply of similar information.
- free and frank expression of opinion, under section 9(2)(g)(i) – to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs,
- advice subject to legal privilege, under section 9(2)(h) - to maintain legal professional privilege, and
- confidential information, under section 9(2)(j) – to enable the Crown to negotiate without disadvantage or prejudice.

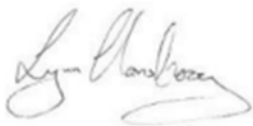
Item 54, also listed in the attached Document schedule, is withheld in full under section 9(2)(h) of the OIA to maintain legal professional privilege.

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 the 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 the Department's website.

Nāku noa, nā



Lynn Hansberry  
Acting Director, Regulatory Systems Performance  
Department of Conservation | *Te Papa Atawhai*

## Document Schedule

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
01	24 July 2025 – 28 July 2025	Email string: <i>Tukituki Water Security Project - Initiated</i>	Released in part
02	9 July 2025 – 10 July 2025	Email string: <i>RE: Fast Track Application – Tukituki Water Security</i>	Released in part
03	17 October 2025 – 29 October 2025	Email string: <i>Re: DOC Moveable Marginal strip analysis – Makaroro River</i>	Released in part
04	17 October 2025 -28 October 2025	Email string: <i>Re: DOC Moveable Marginal strip analysis – Makaroro River</i>	Released in part
05	17 October 2025 - 23 October 2025	Email string: <i>Re: DOC Moveable Marginal strip analysis – Makaroro River</i>	Released in part
06	17 October 2025 - 20 October 2025	Email string: <i>Re: DOC Moveable Marginal strip analysis – Makaroro River</i> (Attachment – Refer to Item 10)	Released in part
07	14 October 2025 - 17 October 2025	Email strings: <i>Re: DOC Moveable Marginal strip analysis – Makaroro River</i> and <i>RE: Land Status Report of Island at Dutch Creek Confluence</i> (Attachments – Refer to Items 09 and 10)	Released in part
08	14 October 2025 - 17 October 2025	Email strings: <i>Re: Moveable marginal strips – revision</i> and <i>RE: Land Status Report of Island at Dutch Creek Confluence</i>	Released in part
09		(Attachments and) Documents: <i>Tukituki Fast Track – Parcels where marginal strip notation exists on title (Images 1 to 4)</i>	Released in full
10	13 October 2025	(Attachment and) Report: <i>Land Status Report – Makaroro Riverbed (The Property Group (TPG))</i>	Released in full
11	17 October 2025	Email: <i>Amy's projects - Tukituki</i>	Released in part
12	13 October 2025 – 17 October 2025	Email string: <i>RE: Tukituki – AEE requirements</i>	Released in part

13	14 October 2025	Email string: <i>RE: Land Status Report of Island at Dutch Creek Confluence</i>	Released in part
14	13 June 2013	(Attachment and) Email Memo: <i>RWSS : Ruahine Forest Park : Land Exchange Options &amp; Analysis (TPG)</i>	Released in part
15	8 October 2025	Email string: <i>TWSL – Terrestrial Ecology Memo on Proposed Land Exchange</i>	Released in part
16	8 October 2025	(Attachment and) Technical Memo: <i>Tukituki Water Land Exchange – Fast Track</i>	Released in part
17	7 October 2025	Email string: <i>Tukituki land parcel request</i>	Released in part
18	6 October 2025 – 7 October 2025	Email string: <i>Re: Recreation and heritage - Tukituki</i>	Released in part
19	May 2013	Report: <i>Ruataniwha Water Storage Scheme: Archaeological Assessment</i>	Released in part
20	8 February 2014	Document/Overview: <i>Projects A, B C, D, E and F – Various Enhancement Zone and Restoration Projects</i>	Released in full?
21	30 September 2025 - 6 October 2025	Email string: <i>Re: Tukituki Water Security Project – FTAA DOC Land Exchange</i>	Released in part
22		(Attachment and) Report: <i>SLM - Tukituki fast-track-Makaroro river hydro land status check</i>	Released in full
23	22 September 2025 – 6 October 2025	Email string: <i>Re: Tukituki Water Storage fast-track application</i>	Released in part
24		(Attachment and) Table: <i>Tukituki competing application</i>	Released in part
25	6 October 2025	Email string: <i>RE: Recreation and heritage - Tukituki</i>	Released in part
26	May 2013	(Attachment and) Recreation Assessment: <i>Ruataniwha Water Storage Scheme Recreation Assessment (Opus)</i>	Released in part
27	3 October 2025	Email string: <i>Re: Tukituki Land Exchange Share folder link</i>	Released in part

28	30 September 2025 – 2 October 2025	Email string: <i>Re: Tukituki Water Security Project – FTAA DOC Land Exchange</i>	Released in part
29	22 August 2025 – 2 October 2025	Email string: <i>Wildlands Consultants Ltd – invoice &amp; PO info</i>	Released in part
30	29 September 2025 – 2 October 2025	Email string: <i>Re: Fast Track Services</i>	Released in part
31		(Attachment and) Document: <i>AoG Consultancy Services Order (CSO) and Terms</i>	Released in part
32	30 September 2025 – 1 October 2025	Email string: <i>Re: Tukituki Water Security Project – FTAA DOC Land Exchange</i>	Released in part
33	22 September 2025 - 30 September 2025	Email string: <i>Tukituki Water Storage fast-track application</i>	Released in part
34		(Attachment and) Document: <i>List of other concessionaires – Gwavas Conservation Area and Ruahine Forest East Conservation Area</i>	Released in part
35	29 September 2025	Email string: <i>RWSS Consents March 2025</i>	Released in part
36	9 September 2025 – 29 September 2025	Email string: <i>Wildlands contract for Tukituki Water Security Fast Track project</i>	Released in part
37	29 September 2025	Email: <i>FT-0094-PRE&gt;Approve: Tukituki Water Security Project Treaty Obligations Table</i>	Released in full
38		(Attachment and) Table: <i>Tukituki Water Security Project Treaty Obligations Table</i>	Released in full
39	29 September 2025	Microsoft Teams Invite	Released in part
40	22 September 2025 – 26 September 2025	Email string: <i>Tukituki Water Storage fast-track application</i>	Released in part
41	3 September 2025 – 24 September 2025	Email string: <i>Fast Track discussion – Tukituki Water</i>	Released in part
42	22 September 2025 – 23 September 2025	Email string: <i>Tukituki Water Storage fast-track application</i>	Released in part

43	22 September 2025	Email string: <i>Tukituki fast-track application</i>	Released in part
44	15 September 2025	Email string: <i>Tukituki Water Storage Fast-track project handover</i>	Released in part
45	15 September 2025	Email string: <i>Seeking resource for the Tukituki water storage fast-track project</i>	Released in part
46	12 September 2025	Email: <i>FT [Redacted] Tukituki and potentially others - Jeremy</i>	Released in part
47	7 September 2025 - 11 September 2025	Email string: <i>Wildlands contract? Tukituki Fast Track project</i>	Released in part
48	10 September 2025 – 11 September 2025	Email string: <i>RE: Seeking resource for the Tukituki water storage fast-track project</i>	Released in part
49	5 October 2015	(Attachment and) Letter: <i>Ruataniwha letter to the applicant</i>	Released in full
50	10 September 2025	Email string: <i>Seeking resource for the Tukituki water storage fast-track project</i>	Released in part
51	10 September 2025	Email string: <i>RE: Wildlands contract for Tukituki Water Security Fast Track project</i>	Released in part
52	4 September 2025 – 9 September 2025	Email string: <i>RE: Tukituki Water Security Project Treaty Obligations Table for Review</i>	Released in part
53	8 September 2025 – 9 September 2025	Email string: <i>RE: Conservation values assessment</i>	Released in part
54	5 September 2025	Attachment: <i>DOC compensation advice DvM DRAFT</i>	Withheld in full under s9(2)(h) of the OIA
55	27 August 2025 – 8 September 2025	Email string: <i>Land exchange – conservation values assessment guidance</i>	Released in part
56		(Attachment and) Table: <i>Land exchange criteria – freshwater table</i>	Released in full
57	4 September 2025 – 8 September 2025	Email string: <i>RE: Tukituki Water Security Project Treaty Obligations Table for Review</i>	Released in part

58	1 September 2025 – 4 September 2025	Email string: <i>RE: Values assessment and treaty obligations Tukituki Water Supply Project</i>	Released in part
59	28 August 2025 – 3 September 2025	Email string: <i>RE: resourcing for Tukituki Water Supply FT project – Land exchange/substantive application</i>	Released in part
60	3 September 2025	Email: <i>RE: Fast Track discussion – Tukituki Water</i>	Released in part
61		(Attachment and) External Guidance: <i>External Guidance for Conservation Values Assessments for land exchanges under the Fast-Track Approvals Act 2024 (Current 18 August 2025)(Draft)</i>	Released in full
62	15 August 2025 – 3 September 2025	Email string: <i>Fast Track discussion – Tukituki Water</i>	Released in part
63	21 August 2025 – 3 September 2025	Email string: <i>RE: Tukituki water project team - legal</i>	Released in part
64	15 August 2025 – 3 September 2025	Email string: <i>Fast Track discussion – Tukituki Water</i>	Released in part
65	26 August 2025 – 3 September 2025	Email string: <i>Tukituki Water Storage – Follow Up Actions</i>	Released in part
66	1 September 2025 – 3 September 2025	Email string: <i>RE: Values assessment and treaty obligations Tukituki Water Supply Project</i>	Released in part
67	15 August 2025 – 3 September 2025	Email string: <i>Fast Track discussion – Tukituki Water</i>	Released in part
68	3 September 2025	Email string: <i>Tukituki and [Redacted] applications</i>	Released in part
69	10 July 2025 – 22 August 2025	Email string: <i>Fast Track discussion – Tukituki Water</i>	Released in part
70	22 August 2025	Email: <i>Customer Invoice 1800020526 – Department of Conservation</i>	Released in part
71	22 August 2025	(Attachment and) Tax Invoice <i>DEPT_1600020526_2026</i>	Released in part
72	19 August 2025	Email: <i>Fast-track RTI – Tukituki Water Security Limited – Pre-lodgement initial deposit</i>	Released in full
73	15 August 2025	(Attachment and) Request to Invoice: <i>Request to Invoice (Fast Track) – Tukituki Water Security Project</i>	Released in part

74	10 July 2025 – 12 August 2025	Email string: <i>Fast Track discussion – Tukituki Water</i>	Released in part
75	11 August 2025	(Attachment and) Letter: <i>Fast-track Application – Pre-lodgement Consultation Request</i>	Released in full