

Whare Kaupapa Atawhai/ Conservation House 18 Manners Street Te Aro, Wellington 6011 doc.govt.nz

Ref: OIAD-5387

24 July 2025

Tēnā koe

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation (DOC), received on 26 June 2025, in which you asked for:

"Second Pre-Feed

We were told the helicopters would not fly above 15 knots. Tomorrow and next day it is likely that they will be 20 + knots of winds

Can you explain?

Can you please explain where the first pre-feed took place - i.e. which area?

Can you also explain where the second pre-feed will take place - i.e. which area?"

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

Please note that the weather forecast for 27 June 2025 was for light winds at the start of the day, building to 20 knots later in the day. With the non-toxic pre feed bait application only requiring approximately 5 hours of flight time a decision was made to proceed, understanding that flying would stop if wind exceeded the wind threshold. Pre feed bait application was completed by 14:50 in average wind speeds of 8-10km/h with gusts to 13km/h.

Regarding where the first and second pre-feeds took place; I am sharing with you the notification fact sheet. Pre feed was applied to the '1080 to Zero' eradication trial area as displayed in the first map in the attached notification fact sheet.

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

Ben Reddiex

Director National Programmes
Department of Conservation

Ben Rulcher

Te Papa Atawhai

