



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

File ref: OIA: 14-E-09, LCO-01

3 February 2014

Steve Corin

fyi-request-1399-f69770a2@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Steve Corin

OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST

I refer to your emailed official information request made through the FYI website on Tuesday 14 January 2014 for the following:

“...an overview of the participants in all Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs) and Species Recovery Groups, specifically the mix between external and internal participants over the last 5 years.

The nature of Recovery/Technical Advisory Group participation is not clearly defined and therefore may not have been rigorously recorded by DOC. (Some groups have a defined membership and only the members participate, whereas for other groups participation changes from meeting to meeting and can also involve participation through email communication. Also, some groups may have 100% DOC membership but considerable external involvement as proposals by external groups are considered.) Although you have asked for an overview the information you seek cannot be provided without substantial collation and research. To provide you with a comprehensive overview of participation, including its fluctuation over the last 5 years, would involve reviewing at least 300 files. It is expected that the work to respond to your request would take approximately *100* chargeable hours at a charge of \$76 per hour after the first free hour (*\$7524* excluding GST - *\$8652.60* including GST). This would include photocopying, abstracting papers and collating them.

Therefore your request is declined under section 18(f) Official Information Act. I have borne in mind sections 18A and 18B of the Official Information Act but concluded that use of either provision would not assist in this case.

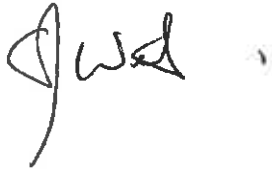
In an attempt to satisfy your request I have collated the participation from the most recent meeting of each of the Recovery/Technical Advisory groups outlining the mix of external and internal participants. I have taken advice from a range of Group leaders suggesting that this mix has not changed significantly for any of the groups in the past five years. Additionally, this advice is supported by a recent research paper

which found the average participation to be 60% internal versus 40% external for a subset of active bird species recovery groups (Ewen J.G., Adams L., and Renwick R. 2013: New Zealand Species Recovery Groups and their role in evidence-based conservation. Journal of Applied Ecology, 50, 281-285.)

If the information I have provided does not fulfil your request, could you please be specific about the information that you would like, and consider how much effort might be required to service your request.

You are entitled to seek an investigation and review of this decision by making a written complaint to an Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C West', with a small mark to the right.

Carol West
Manager, Terrestrial Ecosystems Unit, Science and Capability,
for Director-General

Overview of the mix of internal versus external participants in Recovery/Technical Advisory Groups. This information is based on the participation at the last recorded meeting for groups that have been active in the between January 2009 and January 2014.

Recovery Group	Date Updated	% Internal	% External
Chatham Is. - black robin	Jan-14	56	44
Chatham Is. - Albatross sp.	Jan-14	50	50
Chatham Is. - fantail, tomtit, warbler	Jan-14	50	50
Chatham Is. - oystercatcher	Jan-14	83	17
Chatham Is. - parea	Jan-14	50	50
Chatham Is. - petrel	Jan-14	47	53
Chatham Is. - red-crowned parakeet & Forbe's parakeet	Jan-14	54	46
Chatham Is. - shag & Pitt Is. Shag	Jan-14	43	57
Chatham Is. - taiko	Jan-14	64	36
Chatham Is. - tui	Jan-14	50	50
Chatham Is. - snipe	Jan-14	58	42
Chatham Is. - skua	Jan-14	58	42
Chatham Is. Plants	May-09	91	9
Dactylanthus taylorii	May-13	85	15
Far North Threatened plants	May-11	83	17
Frogs	Aug-13	63	37
Grand & Otago skinks	Aug-13	14	86
hihi	Apr-13	29	71
Island Eradication Advisory Group	Jan-14	100	0
kakapo	Jul-13	33	67
kaki/black stilt	Aug-13	63	37
kiwi	Aug-12	40	60
kokako	Jun-13	39	61
kowhai/ngutu/kaka	May-13	89	11
large galaxiid	Jun-08	83	17
Lizard Technical Advisory Group	Nov-13	55	45
Mauī's Dolphin	Aug-13	80	20
mohea/yellowhead	Jun-12	91	9
Muehlenbeckia astonii Petrie (shrubby tororaro)	May-07	100	0
non-migratory galaxiid	Nov-13	86	14
Orange-fronted parakeet	Aug-13	81	19
pateke/brown teal	Apr-13	57	43
pekapeka/bat	Aug-13	71	29
Powelliphanta spp. (64)	May-09	100	0
Shore Plover	Dec-13	69	31
Short-horned grasshoppers (Brachaspis & Sigaus)	Sep-10	100	0
small-leaved tree daisies (Olearia)	Jun-09	88	12
takahe	Sep-13	67	33
Threatened grassy plants of dry fertile sites	Sep-09	88	12
titi/Huttons shearwater	Aug-09	18	82
Westland black petrel	Jun-12	45	55
whio/blue duck	Aug-13	73	27