

OIA23-0005

30 January 2023

Tony Lucas
fyi-request-21524-9b71b014@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Tony Lucas

Thank you for your email of 6 January 2023 requesting information relating to wild snakes in New Zealand. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested the following:

I request any and all information about wild snakes in New Zealand, in particular all information, documents, emails and official correspondence about snake sightings within New Zealand.


Collation of any and all information about wild snakes would unreasonably interfere with the operations of the department. The request is therefore refused under section 18(f) of the OIA, *that the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.*

We contacted you on 9 January 2023 and 12 January 2023 to seek a refinement of your request. If you are to make another request with a refined scope, we may be able to provide information in response to this. Some examples of potential refinement of the scope of your request could include:

- The number of snakes intercepted at the border and/or the number of snakes found post-border over a specific time period.
- Specific documentation - final papers/reports, or briefings regarding snake sightings in New Zealand over a specific time period.

Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise these with the Ministry for Primary Industries at Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143 or at info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely



Veronica Herrera
Director, Diagnostic and Surveillance Services