

10 January 2024

Penny Sparks

fyi-request-24756-20cae44f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Penny

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation, received on 12 December 2023, in which you asked for the following information in relation to a notice of the closure of Goldie Bush published on 4 December 2020:

Can you please give a full list of where this was published please. Where may i view the formal notice of closure. Can you please provide a link to it.

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

Context

In your request you disclose that you hold a copy of my response to “Scott P” who requested information about the Mokoroa Falls Track and Unformed Legal roads in Goldie Bush (ref OIAD-3568). In my response I provided context for the closure of Goldie Bush, and as you already hold that I will not repeat it.

Response

Your questions and our responses are listed below:

1. *Can you please give a full list of where this was published please. Where may i view the formal notice of closure. Can you please provide a link to it.*

The public notice was published in the *New Zealand Herald* on 4 December 2020. I have located an image of the public notice. This image is listed in the table below and accompanies my response as Attachment 1 (Item 1).

I am not able to provide you with an online link to the public notice as it is from three years ago. You may be able to access an online copy of the 4 December 2020 edition of the *New Zealand Herald* via the public library network.

In reviewing my advice to “Scott P” dated 12 December 2023, I note we advised that we also published the notice in local newspapers (OIAD-3568). On further investigation I can confirm that the advice was incorrect and we have identified that it was only published in the *New Zealand Herald*.

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	4 December 2020	Image of public notice	Released in full

- I can find an informal press release on your site. But it does not give the section/clause of the reserves act which has closed Goldies Bush. If it is not in the formal notice, can you please provide the document which shows which specific part of the law, under the reserves act was used to close the Bush.*

The two scenic reserves that together comprise “Goldie Bush” were closed pursuant to sections 55(1)(a), 55(1)(b) and 55(1)(f) of the Reserves Act 1977. Section 55 of the Reserves Act can be viewed at this link:

<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1977/0066/latest/DLM444730.html>

Section 55 of the Reserves Act does not specifically require the closure of a scenic reserve to be publicly notified. The Department arranged for the publication of a public notice about the closure to ensure that the public were informed. We also issued a media release, which you advised that you have viewed on our website.

Advisories

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

If you would like to discuss this response with us, please contact Stefan Sebregts, Senior ranger Heritage and Visitors, by email to ssebregts@doc.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā



Andrew Baucke
Regional Operations Director, Auckland
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai