

13 March 2024

Cameron Waugh
fyi-request-25761-d81a200c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Cameron

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation (DOC), received on 17 February 2024, in which you asked for:

Could you please provide me with the reasons behind both the restriction on archaeological information and the limitations on public access to the ruins in Waipoua Forest? Additionally, I am keen to learn about any specific protocols or regulations governing access to archaeological findings in New Zealand, particularly those pertaining to Waipoua Forest.

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

We have interpreted the 'ruins' as Papatia, which encompasses a stonework network within Waipoua. Papatia is not on DOC land, it is on Te Roroa lands. We suggest contacting Te Roroa on permission and protocols for accessing their whenua.

We have no current knowledge of any archaeological site on conservation land or waters where information is embargoed or withheld.

The Waipoua Forest reports, including that of Michael Taylor's from 1988, are publicly available from the Joan Maingay Collection in the Whāngarei Public Library and can be viewed online at: <https://whangarei.recollect.co.nz>.

If you would like to discuss this response with us, please Stephen Soole, Kauri Coast Operations Manager, by email to ssoole@doc.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā



Sue Reed-Thomas
Regional Operations Director, Northern North Island
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai