

27 September 2024

Stephen Prendergast  
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Tēnā koe Stephen

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation, received on 31 August 2024, in which you asked for:

1. *A copy of any/all applications (including Concession Application Form 5a) received*
  - i. *Jordan Watson,*
  - ii. *and/or any representative of Watson's companies (including, but not limited to: Here's Golden Limited, The Watson Project Limited)*
  - iii. *and/or any representative of Watson's How to Dad/How to Dad NZ social media channels*
  - iv. *and/or any other directly related party e.g. Pure Tūroa Limited or its agents pertaining to the approval/granting of a permission for Watson to commercially film in the Tongariro National Park and/or on Tūroa Ski Field in August 2024.*
2. *A copy of any/all internal and external communications, emails etc (including any/all attachments) between:*
  - i. *DOC and Jordan Watson,*
  - ii. *DOC and and/or any representative of Watson's companies ((including, but not limited to: Here's Golden Limited, The Watson Project Limited)*
  - iii. *DOC and/or any representative of Watson's How to Dad/How to Dad NZ social media channels*
  - iv. *DOC and/or any other related party eg Pure Tūroa Limited including their agents pertaining to the possibility of and/or any subsequent approvals relating to the granting of permission by DOC for Jordan Watson to commercially film in the Tongariro National Park and/or on Tūroa Ski Field in August 2024.*
3. *Copies of any/all internal and external communications (including any/all attachments) since 5 April 2024 between*
  - i. *DOC and Ruapehu Alpine Lifts / or Agents*
  - ii. *DOC and Pure Tūroa Limited / or Agents*  
*which discuss commercial filming in the Tongariro National Park by a third party inside a ski field concession area.*

4. *Copies of any/all internal and external communications (including any/all attachments) since 5 April 2024*
  - i. *DOC and Ruapehu Alpine Lifts*
  - ii. *DOC and Pure Tūroa Limited*

*which discuss commercial filming in the Tongariro National Park by a social media influencer who is being hosted and paid (whether paid directly or in kind) by either Ruapehu Alpine Lifts and/or Pure Tūroa Limited to film inside ski field concession areas for their own personal social media channels e.g. Jordan Watson and his How to Dad/How to Dad NZ channels.*
5. *Copies of any variations or amendments made to Concession Document 109883-SKI, since 5 April 2024 which negate any of the requirements as outlined in Section 55 Filming including, but not limited to, the need for a third party to obtain: “the Grantor’s prior approval for any other filming such as marketing or commercial filming by, and for, and third parties, any this parties is required separately (e.g. ski equipment brands, advertisements or television shows).*

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

I regret that I am not able to provide you with the information you seek, and your request is refused in full subject to Section 18(e) of the Official Information Act – since the information requested does not exist. For context the Department has not had any communication with Jordan Watson or any representatives of his companies. We can also confirm that:

- there have been no variations or amendments to Concession document 109883-SKI relating to filming.
- we do not hold any internal/external correspondence which discusses commercial filming in the Tongariro National Park by a third party inside a ski field concession area.

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 Official Information Act.

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

Nāku noa, nā



Phillippa Fox  
Director Regulatory Authorisations  
Department of Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*