



OIA25-0100

18 March 2025

D. Greenhalgh
fyi-request-30109-04fe3522@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear D. Greenhalgh

Thank you for your email of 17 February 2025 requesting information relating to Compliance officers employed by Fisheries New Zealand, Biosecurity New Zealand, Te Uru Rākau – New Zealand Forest Service, and Food Safety New Zealand. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested the following:

I would like to request the following information in relation to enforcement/compliance offices employed by Fisheries NZ, Biosecurity NZ, Te Uru Rakau, and Food Safety NZ:

- *Uniform guidelines for officers, with images of rank insignia if possible.*
- *Rank structure for officers, with images of rank insignia if possible.*
- *National and Northland-specific organisational charts for enforcement/compliance roles.*

Please note with regard to the organisational charts, I am not seeking the names of the people currently holding these roles, just the titles of the roles and how they relate to each other in the regional hierarchy.

I understand these may be operationally sensitive documents, so if any information is deemed not to be exempt from release, I ask this be redacted as opposed to the documents being withheld in full, if possible.

Fisheries New Zealand

Fisheries New Zealand Fishery Officers' uniform can consist of field overalls (exempt from epaulettes), knitwear, V neck jersey or heavy-duty field jersey, polo shirt, long or short sleeve shirt, cargo trousers, uniform issues belt, black socks, MPI field jackets and wet weather apparel.

The rank structure for Fisheries Compliance is Fishery Officer – Senior Fishery Officer – District Manager – Regional Manager. Rank Insignia are provided to you as Appendix One.

Fisheries Compliance staff are spread across the country sitting in eleven districts that are grouped into three regions as per the organisational structure. Fisheries Compliance organisation chart is provided in Appendix One. Fishery Officers report into the District Managers as per this document and are located at the offices within the following link:
<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/contact-us/mpi-fisheries-offices/>.

Biosecurity New Zealand (BNZ)

BNZ Compliance Officers' uniform can consist of BNZ Cargo Uniform, BNZ Polo shirt or MPI Overalls depending on the specific compliance activities being conducted otherwise they can be non-uniformed when in office.

Rank structure for Biosecurity Compliance Officer's is Compliance Officer – Senior Compliance officer – Team Manager Compliance. Please note, BNZ does not currently utilise rank slides for these roles.

The BNZ organisation chart is provided in Appendix One. Please note, the current team also includes a Team Manager Compliance role, which is not listed in the organisation chart.

Te Uru Rākau – New Zealand Forest Service

Te Uru Rākau – New Zealand Forest Service maintains a team of Forestry Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) Compliance Officers. The rank structure for an ETS Compliance Officer is Compliance Officer – Senior Compliance Officer.

Te Uru Rākau – New Zealand Forest Service does not have a uniform for the ETS Compliance Officers as the roles are not field based and are instead based in Auckland and Wellington Offices. Please note, while the roles are not based in the field, all Forestry ETS Compliance officers are warranted and can enter properties under the Climate Change Response Act 2002.

Te Uru Rākau – New Zealand Forest Service also maintains a national team of Forestry Officers in the Indigenous Forestry team who regulate Part 3A of the Forests Act (1949) and maintain the same rank structure as ETS Compliance Officers. This is a field-based regional team covering the entire country based out of Rotorua, Christchurch, and Dunedin. Compliance work comprises half of their role which also includes technical advisory work. The team typically wears branded polos/jackets while completing their compliance duties.

The Te Uru Rākau – New Zealand Forest Service organisation chart organisation chart is provided in Appendix One.

New Zealand Food Safety (NZFS)

NZFS Food Compliance Officers are warranted non-uniformed staff. Food Compliance Officers do wear soft shell MPI branded jackets when undertaking compliance work in the field, to be easily identifiable as NZFS representatives. As non-uniformed staff, Food Compliance Officers are not visually ranked, and no rank insignia are available.

The rank structure for a Food Compliance Officer is Food Compliance Officer – Senior Food Compliance Officer – Principal Food Compliance Officer – Regional Manager – National Manager.

The Food Compliance Officers, in the Food Compliance Services team within NZFS, are spread across the country with offices in Auckland, Hamilton, Tauranga, Napier, Wellington, Nelson, Christchurch and Dunedin. The NZFS organisation chart is provided in Appendix One.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M Morehu', written in a cursive style.

Michelle Morehu
Director Government Services