

19 October 2016

Graham Carter

By email: [fyi-request-4498-af6e9693@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-4498-af6e9693@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Graham,

**Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) – Request for information**

We refer to your email of 24 September 2016 in which you requested a response to certain questions which we have listed below:

1. Is it correct that deformed kingfish (with bulbous heads) have been released into the open sea?
2. How did these kingfish become deformed?
3. What fish food was given to the kingfish to deform them?
4. When were the kingfish released into the open sea?
5. Have any fish species been released into the open sea in the last ten years, if so, where were they released from?
6. Were hormones of some sort given to the fish or placed into the fish food?
7. What caused the kingfish heads to become deformed?
8. What species of fish is the Bream Bay Aquaculture Park New Zealand breeding, and experimenting with?
9. What participation did the Mahurangi Technical Institute and Paul Decker Manager of the Aquaculture/Research division play?

We respond to your requests as follows, using the same numbering:

Our response to requests 1 and 5 is “no”. In the light of this, requests 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 are not applicable.

In respect of request 8, we are developing commercial culture techniques for kingfish and hāpuka. Finally, in relation to request 9 we confirm that neither the Mahurangi Technical Institute nor Paul Decker have played any part in our aquaculture activities at Bream Bay.

We trust that this response provides you with the information you are seeking.

Yours sincerely



Annabelle Watson  
Senior Legal Counsel