



25/07/2017

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Dear Andy

Thank you for your Official Information Act request to the Department of Conservation, dated 24/07/2017. You requested the following: *pig kill records for the annual Auckland island pig-hunting programme for the last 5 years and the current best estimate number of pigs remaining on the Island.*

Your questions and our responses are listed below:

1. *Provide pig kill records for the annual Auckland island pig-hunting programme for the last 5 years.*

There has been no annual Auckland Island pig-hunting programme or any pig-hunting programme in the last 5 years, so there have been no recorded kills.

2. *Provide current best estimate number of pigs remaining on the Island.*

It is not known what the exact density of pigs are remaining on the island, however there has been various population estimates. Colin Clarke (*pers comm*) in 1996 estimated no more than 1500-2000 pigs and Saunders (Saunders & Kay 1991, Saunders 1993) estimated between 860-1080 pigs. The current Southland Murihiku Conservation Management Strategy gives a figure of 1000.

Determining a population estimate will fall within the scope of the planning for any eradication attempt.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Harry Maher'.

Harry Maher  
Director Operations (Acting)  
Southern South Island  
Department of Conservation