



OIA 18-E-0580

5 October 2018

Graham Carter  
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Te Rapa  
Hamilton 3240

Dear Graham

Thank you for your Official Information Act request to the Department of Conservation, dated 10 September 2018. You requested the following:

*I have had information to the effect that Tuwharetoa intend to farm trout in either Lake Taupo and Lake Rotoaira in the near future. Can you please advise if this is correct and in what manner they intend to do this? Can you please advise how DoC is involved?*

Your questions and our responses are listed below:

- 1. Can you please advise if this is correct and in what manner they intend to do this?*

The department cannot speak to the intent of Ngati Tuwharetoa. DOC is unaware of any attempts to farm trout.

- 2. Can you please advise how DoC is involved?*

Trout farming is currently illegal. The department is responsible for compliance functions relating to enforcing the Conservation Act 1987.

The restrictions on the importation and commercial sale of trout and trout products are implemented through:

- Part 5B of the Conservation Act 1987, in particular - section 26ZQ, which prohibits the sale (including barter or offering for sale) of wild trout caught in New Zealand, and
- Section 26ZI (4), which bans the commercial farming of trout.
- Section 301(a) of the Fisheries Act 1996, which does not allow the making of regulations allowing licensing of fish farms for the rearing and breeding of trout for sale.
- A 22 November 2012 Gazette notice made under the Freshwater Fish Farming Regulations 1983 lists those species that may be farmed, and the list does not include trout.

- A 2018 Customs Import Prohibition (Trout) Order which prohibits the importation of trout (alive or dead) and trout products, unless in quantities under 10 kilograms not intended for sale, except with the consent of the Minister of Conservation and subject to such conditions as may be imposed that are not inconsistent with the import prohibition.

Nāku noa, nā



Helen Neale  
Director Operations (Acting)  
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