

ENQ-35517-M5M0F2



4th
8 April 2019

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T. Benseman

Via: fyi-request-9553-68bfb4af@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Benseman

I refer to your email, received by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) on February 9 2019, in which you asked for the following information:

"copies of all reports you have regarding the 2018 aerial application of compound 1080 toxin in the Mapara area of the North Island of New Zealand."

Your request has been treated as a request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

There is one report on the 2018 aerial application in the Mapara area: *Operational Report for Possum, Ship rat Control in the Mapara Management Area, 25 August 2018 – 6 September 2018*. This report can be found on the EPA's website at:

<https://www.epa.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Documents/Hazardous-Substances/1080-reports/1080-Operational-Reports/2018-Waikato-Mapara-Report.pdf>.

As this report is already publicly available, I am refusing your request under section 18(d) of the OIA (the information requested is or will soon be publicly available).

The mapped area of the aerial application is also on our website at:

<https://www.epa.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Documents/Hazardous-Substances/1080-reports/1080-Operational-Reports/2018-Waikato-Mapara-Map.jpg>.

In December 2018, the EPA announced an inquiry into the aerial 1080 operation of 6 September 2018 at Mapara. As this inquiry is still underway (it is likely to be complete by the end of May 2019), I am unable to respond to your statements concerning the death and burial of cattle, food products, the dog owner, or compensation.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this decision by the Ombudsman. You can contact the Ombudsman on 0800 802 602, or by email at info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us via ministerials@epa.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Allan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr Allan Freeth
Chief Executive

Environmental Protection Authority